



Bluewater District School Board

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The Honourable Lisa Thompson
MPP, Huron-Bruce
807 Queen Street, Unit 3
Box 834
Kincardine, Ontario N2Z 2Y2

Dear MPP Thompson:

On behalf of Bluewater District School Board, we would like to congratulate you on your recent re-election as Member of Provincial Parliament for Huron-Bruce. We appreciate the positive working relationship we have developed and look forward to your continued support.

We would also like to take this opportunity to share with you the following policy resolution that was submitted by Bluewater District School Board, and recently passed at the Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) Annual General Meeting:

Whereas,

The financial formula for capital projects, a new school will frequently be funded based on current enrolment and community demographic data from years before the school is built

Whereas,

Future growth is not considered, which is unfortunate as a new school in a community often draws families into the area

Whereas,

It is unfortunate that portable classrooms are often required to accommodate the growth in enrolment soon after a new school is opened, as according to our school board mission, we aim to provide a quality education for every student in a safe, accepting, and caring environment,

Whereas,

OPSBA advocates for sustainable and equitable education funding, and includes new school buildings

Be it resolved, that OPSBA support and recommend that student population estimates and professionally projected enrolment data in school size be considered in the funding formula for school size when building new schools, and to use the same planning data that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and the Ministry of Finance require municipalities to use.

This resolution is, in part, due to our expectation that the yet-to-be-built replacement for Kincardine District Senior School will be over capacity. Our resolution received a high level of support from all Ontario school boards in attendance as they face the same challenge.

We ask that you follow this issue and help to promote solutions, and look forward to our continued work together to support the success and well-being of all our students.

As always, our commitment remains focused on providing a quality education for every student in a safe, accepting, and caring environment.

Sincerely,



Jane Thomson
Chair



Jan Johnstone
Vice-Chair

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