



# Bluewater District School Board

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February 26, 2020

The Honourable Christine Elliott  
Minister of Health  
Ontario Ministry of Health  
5th Floor  
777 Bay Street  
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2J3

Dear Minister Elliott:

On behalf of Bluewater District School Board, we wish to express our support for the letter of January 10, 2020 sent to you by Waterloo Region District School Board regarding concerns around the use of vaping products in our school communities.

Our board has been working proactively with our community partners at Grey Bruce Health Unit to raise student awareness and implement school-based cessation initiatives related to vaping and tobacco use. This important work aligns with the goals and evidence-based strategies identified by School Mental Health Ontario to promote student-engaged, developmentally appropriate mental health learning, and ensure schools are equipped with accessible prevention and early intervention services.

We echo the perspectives shared by Waterloo Region District School Board regarding the growing threat posed by vaping to student health and well-being. We also support their request for an increase to the minimum age for the sale of tobacco and vaping products, while prohibiting the sale of flavoured vaping products.

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

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Jan Johnstone in black ink.

Jan Johnstone  
Chair

Handwritten signature of Jane Thomson in black ink.

Jane Thomson  
Vice-Chair

cc: The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
The Honourable Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education  
Grey Bruce Health Unit  
Ontario Public School Boards' Association  
Chairs of Ontario English Public School Boards

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