



Bluewater District School Board

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Sent by email: stephen.lecce@pc.ola.org

November 26, 2021

The Honourable Stephen Lecce
Minister of Education
315 Front Street West, 14th Floor
Toronto, Ontario M7A 0B8

Dear Minister Lecce:

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, we are reaching out with some questions regarding the recently released Ministry of Education memorandum, 'Next Steps for De-streaming: Grade 9 Course Codes and Descriptions for the 2022-2023 School Year'.

Our board recognizes and supports the intent of de-streaming, which is to remove barriers and equalize opportunities for all students to achieve success. With the ministry's direction to de-stream all Grade 9 courses effective September 2022, we want to ensure a successful transition for our students.

Grade 9 Applied and Academic courses currently have different class size limits. Will the ministry consider funding smaller class sizes in Grade 9, and ensure additional staff training and funded resources in the classroom to ensure de-streaming is a success for all students? To best support students in a de-streamed environment, teachers will require professional learning, resources, and the new science curriculum in a timely manner to effectively implement these changes in September 2022. It is imperative that our students and staff feel supported and valued during this transition.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and any opportunities you provide for school boards to collaborate with the ministry to implement de-streaming.

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 Jane Thomson in blue ink.

Jane Thomson
Chair

Handwritten signature of Jan Johnstone in blue ink.

Jan Johnstone
Vice-Chair

cc: MPP Bill Walker, Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound
MPP Lisa Thompson, Huron-Bruce
MPP Jim Wilson, Simcoe-Grey
Andrea Horwath, NDP Leader, Official Opposition
Ontario Public School Boards' Association
Union Presidents (Bluewater Local)
Chairs of Ontario English Public School Boards

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