

DELIVERED BY EMAIL: Stephen.Lecceco@pc.ola.org

December 19, 2022

The Honourable Stephen Lecce
Minister of Education
438 University Avenue, 5th Floor
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2A5

Dear Minister Lecce:

Re: Halton District School Board (the “Board”), Oakville Trafalgar High School (“OTHS” or the “School”)

The undersigned is the solicitor for Mr. Scott Miller, Ms. Celina Close and Ms. Julia de Winter, parents of students at OTHS. The undersigned is also a parent of a student at OTHS.

Minister Lecce, we know you share our concern about maintaining a high and consistent standard of education for our students, without disruption.

With that in mind, we write further to the ongoing disruption and threats of violence at OTHS caused by one teacher’s inappropriate workplace attire.

As the Ontario College of Teachers wrote in its report to you dated October 14, 2022, *“Employers and school administrators have the primary responsibility to enforce their own policies and procedures”*.

The Board, however, appears to have declined to enforce its standards of conduct and dress in respect of the teacher in question.

Our letter to the Board of today’s date, containing further details, was also sent to you.

While we are hopeful of a constructive response to our letter, we ask for your ongoing oversight.

In particular, we respectfully ask that you consider exercising your authority under Section 303(2) of the *Education Act* to direct the Board to implement a teacher dress code at OTHS.

The provision provides:

“A board shall direct a principal to establish a local code of conduct if the board is required to do so by the Minister, and the local code must address such matters and include such requirements as the Minister may specify.”

A policy pursuant to the above provision may be effective in eliminating any ambiguity with expectations of teacher attire.

We thank you for your attention to this matter and would be happy to discuss it further with you.

Yours very truly,

BANDHU LAW PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

Per: 

Rishi Bandhu

Copy to:

Curtis Ennis, Director of Education, Halton District School Board

Parents of Oakville Trafalgar High School