Draft letter to Principals and/or Superintendents from Parents

Dear INSERT PRINCIPAL OR SUPERINTENDENT NAME,

I’m writing to you as a concerned parent of [one/two students] in [INSERT SCHOOL NAME]. Few things matter more in our education system than ensuring the safety and wellbeing of every student. Over the past year, our schools have experienced an unprecedented wave of hate and division, with Jewish students disproportionately targeted by hate-motivated incidents.

SELECT ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING

Last year, our school experienced several incidents including:

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As parents, we would like to know the status of the investigations into these incidents, what resources the school will be given to seriously address antisemitism, what corrective action has and is taking place, and what mandatory training staff in the school will receive on antisemitism this year.

OR

Educators and administrators have struggled to respond adequately, and the resulting silence has not only eroded public confidence but has also placed our most vulnerable students at risk. I worry that numerous children do not feel safe, welcome and included in our schools. They feel as though they need to hide their identities in order to avoid hate and bullying.

It’s vital that the school take immediate action to ensure that incidents, aimed at fostering a climate of fear and insecurity, do not occur. Namely:

1.        Walkouts and protests: Students chanted for the destruction of Israel and harm to “Zionists,” creating an atmosphere of fear for Jewish students and others unwilling to participate. While students may have the freedom to leave class, school leadership must set a tone that prioritizes education and clearly communicate to parents that learning belongs in the classroom.

2.        Imagery distorting the map of Israel: Maps labeled as “Palestine” or bearing “watermelon” colors incite fear of genocide and erasure for Jewish students. These inaccurate depictions must not be tolerated in our schools—whether on walls or apparel.

3.        The use of unreliable and biased sources: Educators have relied on discredited resources like Al Jazeera when teaching sensitive topics. This not only contravenes board policy but also violates the standards set by the Ontario College of Teachers. The use of Ministry-approved resources is essential for ensuring a balanced and fact-based education.

As a parent who values public education, I am an engaged and willing partner to help improve our schools for the benefit of all students. Please do not hesitate to ask for help. As this is a matter that affects student safety, there is urgency in responding quickly. I look forward to hearing from you by the end of the week.

Sincerely,

INSERT YOUR NAME  
PHONE NUMBER