

The Honourable Stephen Lecce Minister of Education

June 7, 2021

Dear Minister Lecce,

Halton District School Board (HDSB) Student Trustees, along with members of the HDSB Student Senate Equity Sub-Committee, asked the Board of Trustees to share a letter they have written promoting centralized funding, procurement and distribution of menstruation products for all schools across Ontario. The ultimate goals of this advocacy are to:

- destigmatize menstruation,
- decrease school absenteeism due to menstruation, and
- provide a safe environment for students to procure menstruation products as required, through an equitable access to these products at all schools.

The advocacy helps to expand on the work of many school boards who make free menstruation products available but in limited locations and sometimes on an ad hoc basis due to budget constraints.

In the letter, students share key findings from a pilot initiative that was undertaken in four schools across the HDSB. I encourage you to please read and consider the attached letter from the students and respond directly to them.

The HDSB Board of Trustees supports this student-led initiative and their advocacy which aligns and further supports safe and inclusive schools as well as student mental health and well-being initiatives.

Sincerely,

Andréa Grebenc

Chair of the Board of Trustees

Halton District School Board

Street Address: J.W. Singleton Education Centre • 2050 Guelph Line, Burlington, Ontario L7P 5A8 Mailing Address: J.W. Singleton Education Centre • P.O. Box 5005, Stn. LCD 1, Burlington, Ontario L7R 3Z2

Phone: 905-335-3663 | 1-877-618-3456 Fax: 905-335-9802

Cc: The Honourable Ted Arnott, MPP, Wellington-Halton Hills Jane McKenna, MPP, Burlington Parm Gill, MPP, Milton Stephen Crawford, MPP, Oakville Effie Triantafilopoulos, MPP, Oakville North-Burlington