



The Corporation of The Town of Amherstburg

August 26, 2020

VIA EMAIL

Ron LeClair, Chairperson of the Board
Greater Essex County District School Board
Email: ron.leclair@publicboard.ca

RE: Support for Increased Provincial Funding

At its meeting of August 24, 2020, Council passed the following recommendation for your consideration:

“That Administration BE DIRECTED to send correspondence in support of the Greater Essex County District School Board – Chairperson of the Board’s recommendation regarding Support for Increased Provincial Funding to allow the Board to offer the health and safety standards the school communities and municipal residents deserve.”

Enclosed is a copy of the Greater Essex County District School Board Correspondence for convenience and reference purposes.

Regards,

Tammy Fowkes
Deputy Clerk, Town of Amherstburg
(519) 736-0012 ext. 2216
tfowkes@amherstburg.ca

Cc:

Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario

Email: premier@ontario.ca

Honourable Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education

Email: stephen.lecce@pc.ola.org

Taras Natyshak, MPP

Email: tnatyshak-co@ndp.on.ca

Chris Lewis, MP

Email: chris.lewis@parl.gc.ca

Robert Auger, Town Solicitor, Legal and Legislative Services/Clerk - Town of Essex

Email: rauger@essex.ca

Jennifer Astrologo, Director of Corporate Services/Clerk - Town of Kingsville

Email: jastrologo@kingsville.ca

Agatha Robertson, Director of Council Services/Clerk - Town of LaSalle

Email: arobertson@lasalle.ca

Kristen Newman, Director of Legislative and Legal Services/Clerk - Town of Lakeshore

Email: knewman@lakeshore.ca

Brenda Percy, Municipal Clerk/Manager of Legislative Services - Municipality of Leamington

Email: bpercy@leamington.ca

Laura Moy, Director of Corporate Services/Clerk - Town of Tecumseh

Email: lmoy@tecumseh.ca

Mary Birch, Director of Council and Community Services/Clerk -County of Essex

Email: mbirch@countyofessex.ca

Valerie Critchley, City Clerk – City of Windsor

Email: clerks@citywindsor.ca

Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

Email: amo@amo.on.ca

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Greater Essex County District School Board

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August 14, 2020

VIA Email

Mayor Aldo DiCarlo
Town of Amherstburg
271 Sandwich Street South
Amherstburg, Ontario N9V 2A5
Email: adicarlo@amherstburg.ca

Dear Mayor DiCarlo:

The Greater Essex County District School Board has been working earnestly to meet the needs of our students, their families and our staff with a comprehensive plan to reopen schools for the 2020-21 school year and we could use your assistance.

Our primary goal is to minimize risks and increase safety for everyone while continuing to provide the service and success that our families demand and our students deserve. However, our Board of Trustees is adamant that the model conceived and decreed by the Ontario Ministry of Education is unsafe for students and staff. Their guidelines require *a full, 5 day per week schedule for elementary students* (Grades K-8).

Physical distancing is an essential measure to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus and under this design and with current level of funding provided, it will be impossible to ensure that students and staff can maintain the appropriate, safe spacing. Many elementary classes will have more than 15 students plus at least one adult in the room. A class size of no more than 15 students would be much more reasonable and provide an acceptable level of safety. But to do that, we require more financial support.

We are asking that you, as a leader in your municipality, back our efforts to have the Ministry of Education, through the provincial government, provide a substantial increase in funding that will allow us to offer the health and safety standards our school communities and your municipal residents deserve.

I am at your disposal to discuss ways in which you may support our efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron LeClair", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Ron LeClair
Chairperson of the Board