THE ONTARIO FEDERATION OF HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS, INC.



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Sam Hammond President Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario 136 Isabella Street Toronto ON M4Y 0B5

Dear Mr. Hammond:

RE: Education Funding Model

Thank you for your letter outlining ETFO's recommendations to the Ministry of Education following the report, Shortchanging Ontario Students: An Overview and Assessment of Education Funding in Ontario.

The Ontario Federation of Home and School Associations (OFHSA) is an organization of volunteer members that have been actively working alongside our partners in education for over 100 years to ensure that the education, health, safety and social well-being of children and youth are a priority for all in this province.

OFHSA members agree that the education funding model continues to reflect a gap in funding for elementary and secondary students. OFHSA members are concerned about adequate funding and have clearly stated that funding gaps must be rectified to provide high quality education for every student in the province of Ontario. OFHSA's policies call for the *inequities of education throughout the country be eliminated* (1964) and more specifically, for the *elimination of the disparity between the elementary and secondary per capita grant ceilings.* (1991)

Further, OFHSA agrees that a comprehensive, evidence-based review of the education funding formula should be performed regularly to determine its effectiveness in supporting high quality public education in Ontario. The current funding formula does not accurately recognize student growth areas in that while funding is stable, our school populations and learning exceptionalities continue to shift. OFHSA members are concerned that the education funding model does meet the intent of providing high quality education to students.

Thank you for continuing to hold the Ministry of Education accountable for investing in quality education for the next generation. The responsibility of all stakeholders concerned with public education is to work together to ensure that the priority of our education system is to meet the needs of students. Appropriate financial and staffing resources must be available to obtain "The Best for Each Student" in public schools in Ontario.

Yours sincerely,

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President

The Best for Each Student