



51 Stuart Street, Hamilton, ON L8L 1B5

Telephone: 905.308.9563

Email: info@ofhsa.on.ca

Web: www.ofhsa.on.ca

December 4, 2017

Bruce Rodrigues,
Deputy Minister,
Ministry of Education,
900 Bay Street, Mowat Block
Toronto ON M7A 1L2

Dear Deputy Minister:

RE: Transformation Steering Committee

The members of the Ontario Federation of Home and School Associations (OFHSA) wish to congratulate the Ministry of Education on the success of the *Achieving Excellence* vision and further initiatives to change the culture and climate of education in Ontario.

Now that the Transformation Steering Committee (TSC) has begun their work with partners to review curriculum and assessment in order to define the changes necessary to provide a more robust definition of student success, OFHSA is ready to respond to the call for input and feedback as a member of the TSC.

While we are very pleased to see the formation of the TSC, OFHSA members are troubled by the absence of *recognized parent groups* in the composition of the committee as outlined in the Draft Terms of Reference. Existing parent organizations such as ours, with a long history of involvement and experience, are committed to the next steps to support student achievement, equity and well-being.

OFHSA is committed to “**The Best for Each Student**” at every level of the education system. We request the inclusion of *recognized parent groups* in the TSC membership. Bringing parent voice to the table gives the opportunity to hear our collective input, experiences and resources regarding education in Ontario.

We recognize your commitment to the publicly funded education system in Ontario and its ability to meet the needs of today's students. We believe that all stakeholders have important perspectives that need to be heard as we are partners in the process of promoting new initiatives and supporting student achievement, equity and well-being.

We look forward to attending consultation sessions and providing input as a member of the Transformation Steering Committee.

Sincerely,

Eugema Ings
President

The Ontario Federation of Home and School Associations is a province-wide parent group, advocating for students in public education. Our members believe that parents are willing and active partners with those responsible for administering programs, delivering services, and making decisions which affect children and youth. A not-for-profit organization, OFHSA is made up of volunteers who give their time and efforts to support thousands of students who attend public education facilities in Ontario.