

To: ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local Members
From: Craig Smith, President, ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local (ETFO TVTL)
Date: October 13, 2023
Regarding: **TVDSB Message Regarding Antisemitism and Islamophobia**

The following message was sent to all TVDSB employees last evening:

We have heard concerns from our community about the potential for an increase in Antisemitic and Islamophobic acts of hate in our schools and in our communities. We want our students, staff, families and community to know that we take these matters very seriously.

Hate has no place in Thames Valley, and we are committed to addressing all forms of discrimination in schools and workplaces, including Antisemitism and Islamophobia.

Following global events, Jewish, Muslim, Israeli and Palestinian-identifying students, families and staff are particularly vulnerable. TVDSB will be vigilant tomorrow and always in addressing incidents of Antisemitism and Islamophobia.

Thames Valley will continue to maintain regular contact with local law enforcement to prioritize the safety and well-being of all students, staff and families.

Students and families can report incidents of hate, bullying or other concerns directly to their school principal or through TVDSB's anonymous online reporting tool.

Supports are available for students and staff in each of our schools and workplaces. Please reach out to members of the school team to request assistance if you are concerned about a student and would like to talk about support.

Please reach out to your direct supervisor if you have any further questions.

It is a good and clear message and one that the ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local supports.

That said, specific concerns regarding student or worker safety must be reported to the principal immediately. In the event of an imminent or direct threat to students and/or staff, Teachers should contact the police and then advise administration that they have done so.

For more information regarding this *Communiqué* please contact the Local office by phone at 519-474-3150, or by email at etfotvtl@etfothamesvalley.com