Communiqué

Urgent Attention Required.

To: ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local Members

From: Craig Smith, President, ETFO Thames Valley Teacher Local (ETFO TVTL)

Date: December 3, 2021

Regarding: Summary of Meeting with Deputy Minister of Education/Affiliates (Shared with Local Presidents)

Presidents, we had a brief meeting with the Deputy Minister today. The following items were discussed:

1. The Deputy Minister provided an update on the Ministry's review of masking requirements. Based on the review of their evidence, they are maintaining status quo on their masking requirements for children and educators.

2. Dr. Tepper provided an update on the Ministry's FAQs re rapid testing. The document should be ready to be distributed to the system by tomorrow or Monday at the lastest.

3. The Affiliates asked about the recent release of PPM 144 on anti-bullying. There was no consultation with the Ministry Initiatives Committee or the Provincial Working Group on Health and Safety on the document. The Ministry advised that they commenced discussions on the rewrite of the definition of bullying last year and that conversations did occur at that time. The Ministry's goal was to update the definition to include cyberbullying.

4. The new contact/chair for the PWGHS is Dr. Tepper.

5. The Affiliates raised the issue of the Sexual Abuse Prevention Program. The Ministry was asked for a response to the concerns that were raised at our last meeting. The Deputy Minister indicated that they have reached out to the OCT to ask some questions about how many staff are registering etc. The Affiliates continued to express concern about how educators will complete this requirement. More information will be provided at the next meeting.

6. The Affiliates asked if the Ministry had given any thought to prioritizing educators for the booster shot. The Ministry indicated that there was no discussion on this right now.

Sharon O'Halloran
General Secretary

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

c. *ETFO TVTL Released Officers*
Terry Card, President, ETFO Thames Valley Occasional Teacher Local