



September 29, 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians:

As we begin this new school year with high hopes for a return to more normal times, the school board continues to face certain challenges to school operations related to the after-effects of COVID-19.

Among these challenges is an ongoing province-wide shortage of certified teachers and educational assistants, at a time when school enrolments are rapidly increasing.

These shortages were a concern pre-COVID and have unfortunately continued.

As a result, in some schools, there are not enough teachers to cover all the classrooms.

Our school board staff have been working diligently since late summer to interview and hire new teachers and educational assistants and we hope to have all classrooms covered with permanent teachers by the first week of October.

Specifically, board staff have taken the following steps to address the shortages:

- Continuous recruitment and interviewing of qualified applicants
- Fast-tracking onboarding activities
- Person to person contact with qualified applicants
- Removal of technical barriers for applicants

As we continue to find solutions to the staffing shortages, we thank you for your ongoing patience, understanding and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Tyrone Dowling (he/him)  
Director of Education  
Waterloo Catholic District School Board  
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