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Hon. Minister Lecce
Ministry of Education
315 Front Street, 14th Floor
Toronto, Ontario M7A 0B8

October 5, 2020

Dear Honourable Minister Lecce,

I am writing with respect to a request from Integration Action for Inclusion (IAI) regarding support for students with disabilities during the pandemic.

IAI are champions for inclusive education and have been a driving force in this province in ensuring that all children can achieve their full potential within our public school system.

They are rightfully concerned that children with high support needs will be left behind during this pandemic. Children who once had access to specific supports in the classroom, are no longer receiving them while learning from home.

I understand that this government has many competing interests right now, but it is critical that all students receive paraprofessional support through school boards or nursing care where needed. Students must be able to reach their full potential whether inside or outside of the classroom.

IAI's request is timely, as classes have begun and both parents and children are struggling without the assistance that they need. We cannot let students with disabilities get left behind. Equity must be key in adapting our public education system during these challenging times.

I appreciate you taking the time to consider this important issue, and I am happy to discuss in further detail at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mike Schreiner".

Mike Schreiner
MPP, Guelph