

The Eastern Townships School Board Voices It's Disappointment with the Government's Bill on Religious Symbols

Magog, April 3, 2019 – The Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB) wishes to express its disappointment with the Provincial Government's proposed legislation concerning the prohibiting of authority figures in the public service from wearing religious symbols, this including teachers and school administrators.

The ETSB has always prided itself on offering its students and personnel the opportunity to learn and grow in an inclusive environment, that celebrates and supports diversity. This inclusive approach strives to ensure a compassionate quality learning environment that respects each individual's uniqueness, not only in our pedagogical approach but also in teaching students the importance of tolerance, respect and acceptance for all.

Since 2000, the ETSB has embraced technology in the classroom that has opened up the world to our students and exposed them to the richness of cultural diversity. We also have a vibrant International Student Program, that welcomes students from many cultural backgrounds that enriches our schools and communities with their diverse backgrounds.

"The ETSB has strived to offer an environment that celebrates each individual for their uniqueness and to create opportunities for our students and staff to go beyond the walls of the classroom to learn about different cultures and people. This new legislation inhibits a freedom of expression of cultural and religious diversity, thereby, sending the wrong message in learning about and embracing our differences," declared Chairman, Michael Murray.

The Eastern Townships School Board provides educational services for students in the Estrie and Montérégie areas with 20 elementary schools, three high schools, two adult education centres, two vocational training centres, a distance education and an international student program. We offer students the advantage of studying in a bilingual environment, led by caring adults and supported with a comprehensive technology initiative that is student focused.

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Source:

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