



R.R. #1, 1059 Queen's Bush Road  
Wellesley, ON N0B 2T0  
**519 656-2830**

January 31, 2014

Dear parents/guardians,

As you all know, it is that time of year when we have skating trips planned for all of our students at the Wellesley arena. Our past practice has been that it was recommended that students wear a helmet, but it was not mandatory. The Waterloo Region District School Board is constantly reviewing the policies and procedures and we have just received a directive from the Board regarding skating activities. **Please note that effective immediately, the Waterloo Region District School Board requires that all staff and students (JK-12) wear CSA approved head protection designed for skating during all skating activities.**

We have been informed that in order to go skating, people must wear a Canadian Standards Association (CSA)-approved head protection for skating activities while on the ice. CSA-approved hockey-style helmets bearing CSA certification or identification are required. Bicycle or ski helmets are not permitted for skating activities as they are not designed and tested for this purpose.

The Waterloo Region District School Board continues to place safety as a high priority for all of our staff and students. We believe that adopting this mandatory helmet policy will help protect students and staff during skating activities.

We have a number of skating outings planned in the immediate future, and many of our students do not have CSA-approved hockey helmets. We did a survey of students to see how many have hockey helmets. More than half of our school population does not have a CSA approved helmet. This creates several challenges for us in terms of having our students go skating. The school currently has a number of skates that we can loan, but we are not equipped with helmets.

**It is with sadness that we will have to cancel skating outings for the remainder of this season. We hope that interested students and families will be able to head out to local arenas to participate in the community skates as an option.**

**The money that families have paid for skating will be refunded in full. Your refund will be included in the report card envelope that you students will be receiving on February 10.**

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Sincerely,

Brian Morgan, Principal