October 10, 2023

Dear Wellesley families,

I am writing to you as I recognize the direct and indirect impacts of the traumatic events taking place in Israel and Palestine. Our school community is saddened and concerned about the impact on WRDSB students, staff, families and others in communities we serve.

It is not uncommon for young people, and adults, to experience a range of emotions and to have questions about challenging world events. News and information shared through local and international news and social media may increase feelings of uncertainty and it is important our response to these events be compassionate, understanding and supportive as these events can have a profound impact on the children and young people we care for and staff we work alongside each day.

Please be assured we will continue to use a trauma-informed and responsive approach to support students and families and to maintain a safe and welcoming school environment. At WRDSB, we are committed to ensuring everyone feels a sense of belonging at school and work.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child, please do not hesitate to contact me. Additional information about student mental health and well-being supports are available on the <u>WRDSB website</u>.

Sincerely,

B. Beney

Principal Wellesley P.S.