

GroundUpWR fully supports the Waterloo Region District School Board's (WRDSB) [Open Letter in Response to WRDSB Parent Concerns](#). We support that schools must provide students with a safe environment to be their whole, truest selves. This means schools must be free from hate, racism, xenophobia, transphobia, and homophobia.

The WRDSB's open letter addresses questions raised by parents concerning collection of student information, gender identity, and books available in schools. Ground up WR agrees that these questions are accusatory and inflammatory and veiled attempts to target 2SLGBTQIA+ children and families.

GroundUpWR region fully supports WRDSB's response to these questions: that data is important to ensure schools are well resourced to support students, that schools must be safe for students to express their gender identity and that transgender students have the right to be known by their true gender, and that books and other resources available in schools should be inclusive and address discriminatory biases.

All students and families must feel supported, safe, welcome, and respected in the WRDSB. To do so, the public school system must actively oppose all forms of bigotry including white supremacy, transphobia, and homophobia. We feel that staying silent in the face of these accusatory and inflammatory questions would allow this bigotry to grow.

**We ask that you join us in supporting the WRDSB's open letter to actively and loudly oppose such bigotry in the WRDSB through:**

1. **Sharing the WRDSB's open letter to make sure it remains public.** Considering the media attention given to the accusatory and inflammatory questions, it is essential that the WRDSB's response be shared widely. [Open Letter in Response to WRDSB Parent Concerns](#).
2. **Organize a Community Support Group for your local school.** Advocate and support equity initiatives for students and staff. You can also connect with grassroots groups like GroundUPWR to support our regional campaigns.
3. **Monitor the meetings online or in person.** We need more people paying attention and spreading the word. If you are thinking of attending in person, please bring a friend and connect with our team.
4. **[Signing up to delegate at a WRDSB meeting](#) to speak in support of the WRDSB's open letter.** We need more community voices supporting the hard work staff are doing to ensure safe, affirming and celebratory schools. If you are thinking of delegating please connect with our team so we ensure you have the support you need.