



Bill Torrens  
Superintendent of Student Achievement, Program  
Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board  
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April 05, 2019

Dear Parents, Guardians and Caregivers

**RE: Transforming Learning Everywhere – 1:1 Devices for Students**

As you may be aware, HWDSB launched Transforming Learning Everywhere four years ago, which provided, as a pilot project, 1:1 iPad devices for students in Grades 4-8 at eight elementary schools, (Adelaide Hoodless, A.M. Cunningham, Cathy Wever, Dr. Davey, Glen Brae, Memorial City, Prince of Wales, and Queen Victoria).

We have been studying the pilot project in the eight elementary schools closely. After four years, our evidence shows that 1:1 devices do not significantly impact engagement and learning compared to class kits, which are used across the system.

The direction from our Board of Trustees is to provide device kits in Grades 4 to 8 in all elementary schools beginning in September. This means that the Transforming Learning Everywhere elementary 1:1 initiative will end in June 2019.

Your child will continue to have access to digital tools in the classroom through the classroom kits, just not their own individual devices. We will support the school in making the shift to kits. We are also developing a new 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning strategy to communicate how we are preparing your child to learn and grow to their full potential in a diverse world.

We remain committed to preparing all of our students for a future that requires skills such as digital fluency, critical thinking, problem-solving, and a strong foundation in literacy and math.

If you have any questions about the move to classroom kits, please speak with your school principal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Torrens", is placed above the printed name.

Bill Torrens  
Superintendent of Student Achievement, Program