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February 16, 2010

Cathy Curry, Chair  
Ottawa Carleton District School Board (OCDSB)  
133 Greenbank Road  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K2H 6L3

**By e-mail to: cathy.curry@ocdsb.ca**  
**Re: Final Report of the Review of the Elementary Alternative Program in the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board**

Dear Ms. Curry,

The Glebe Community Association (GCA) discussed the above-noted report submitted to the OCDSB Education Committee at its January 22, 2010 Board meeting and would like to express its support for the continued alternative program designation for Lady Evelyn Alternative School.

Families living in the Glebe are fortunate to have a number of options for schooling all within walking distance. These options include English and English gifted, French Immersion and Catholic schools at the elementary, middle and secondary levels. In addition, Glebe students can access the alternative learning options currently available at Lady Evelyn as the Glebe is within Lady Evelyn's catchment area. We view these schools as community schools which contribute to the health and welfare of all individuals living in the Glebe.

The alternative programming available at Lady Evelyn offers children a different approach to learning, which may be more appropriate for some children than that offered at other schools. The planned elimination of the designation at Lady Evelyn represents a reduction of choice in education for Glebe area families. The GCA strongly supports the availability of educational choices within the community.

Eliminating the alternative designation for Lady Evelyn could also have unintended negative impacts on Glebe area students and schools. In addition to reducing the choice available to families, a number of students from the Glebe currently attend Lady Evelyn and would be required to change schools. This would be problematic for some schools in our neighbourhood which are currently overcapacity.

Based on these broad community impacts, GCA Board members supported a motion to encourage OCDSB Trustees to support the alternative program designation which would result in Lady Evelyn continuing to offer an important educational choice within the community.

Should you have any further questions, please feel free to contact myself or the GCA Education Committee Chair, Christine McAllister, at [christinemcallister@rogers.com](mailto:christinemcallister@rogers.com).

Sincerely,

*original signed by*

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