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NEWS

PARENT CALLS FOR MORE DIVERSITY AMONG TEACHING STAFF

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A local parent is calling on the Halton Catholic District School Board (HCDSB) to take a hard look at the makeup of its staff.

Tolani Fetepigi delegated at the Nov. 16 meeting and told trustees she has noticed a lack of minority representation at her children's Oakville schools. She requested information on the demographics of teaching and non-teaching staff as well as a report that outlines the board's efforts in recruiting minority talent in the last five years.

"We need Black teachers, Black guidance counsellors and Black non-teaching staff to adequately represent the student de-



Graham Paine/Metroland

The Halton Catholic District School Board will be addressing a parent's concerns about a lack of diversity among its teachers.

mography and the Halton community at large," said Fetepigi. "Research has shown that children flourish when they have people in authority whom they are culturally aligned too. Students of colour believe teachers of the same race hold them to higher expect-

tations and are more culturally sensitive."

The parent argued that the presence of BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and people of colour) staff would help to provide a safe space for students of

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