

Pilon, Janet

Subject: In-School Speech Therapy Service CONCERN - MEDIA - UPDATED

From: Szczotka Malwina

Sent: Thursday, November 19, 2020 8:27 AM

To: Pilon, Janet <Janet.Pilon@hamilton.ca>

Subject: In-School Speech Therapy Service CONCERN - MEDIA - UPDATED

Good morning,

Due to the lack of inaction in helping my son receive in-school speech therapy services, which sound research and evidence explains he needs for his neuro-motor speech disorder I have taken it upon myself to contact the media regarding this rather challenging situation. Children like my son should not be looked over because they are good enough right now. He needs speech therapy so that he continues to be good enough. My own son is not 100% intelligible to both my husband and myself, that should be enough for him to receive in-school speech services, let alone a neurological diagnosis that has been confirmed by 3 developmental pediatricians and a neurologist. This system is broken and needs to be improved. I will continue to advocate and I will continue to fight for my son and his right to in-school speech services. It is time Hamilton followed suit with Niagara and considered the weight of a diagnosis when deciding who receives in-school speech therapy and an apraxia diagnosis holds a lot of weight.

The photo below includes a quote from a very well-known young man in the Apraxia community and what he states is 100% true. I am not being over-dramatic, Theodore really does need speech therapy. I have attached a link to the article for you to read at your leisure. While this is a local newspaper, I have been informed that it will be being picked up by The Hamilton Spectator and am I being encouraged to reach out to other media outlets as well.

[https://urldefense.com/v3/ https://www.sachem.ca/news-story/10265616-binbrook-mother-frustrated-with-lack-of-speech-assessment-for-son/ ;!!JB7FzA!dTZZJ3gxXqAD8YkYNroqek-BImrMwlzzJgck6p0-hvV6OMX_doRXHWF46NKEB-](https://urldefense.com/v3/https://www.sachem.ca/news-story/10265616-binbrook-mother-frustrated-with-lack-of-speech-assessment-for-son/;!!JB7FzA!dTZZJ3gxXqAD8YkYNroqek-BImrMwlzzJgck6p0-hvV6OMX_doRXHWF46NKEB-)
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**“Verbal Apraxia (CAS)
is a neurological speech
disorder that requires
speech therapy for speech
progress. Caregivers
aren’t over-dramatic
when they say their child
NEEDS speech therapy.”**

**- JORDAN CHRISTIAN -
APRAXIA & MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCATE**

With thanks,

Malwina Stemmler RN, BScN, BSc, RPN