



# Prince of Wales Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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Shé:kon

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Mohawk as a Second Language (MSL) programming enhances our students' cultural awareness and improves their communication skills. When students develop the ability to communicate in their Mohawk language, they are likely to experience increased proficiency in their first language. Learning their Mohawk language will reinforce, not interfere with, the learning of English, French, or other languages.

The MSL program is not designed to make students fully bilingual; rather, the program offers students the opportunity to develop a functional command of the Mohawk language, which can be expanded through further study or through contact with other speakers of the language.

The MSL program will provide students with learning opportunities that will enable them to:

- Listen to and understand ideas and Mohawk language under study
- Express their experiences, thoughts, and feelings orally with clarity and confidence
- Read and write in the Mohawk language with growing proficiency
- Acquire and develop learning skills pertinent to language study
- Improve their use of language through study, practice, and communication
- Become familiar with the traditions, customs, social structures, history, geography, and arts of the pertinent Mohawk language family, as well as those other Indigenous communities in Canada and North America
- Develop an appreciation of the value of Mohawk language and Indigenous identity
- Link their classroom experiences with life in their community.

At Prince of Wales we offer this program to students in grade 4 to 8. This program replaces French; so when French is being instructed, the student would go to the MSL class. This equals to 200 minutes per week. If you would like your child to be part of this program, please complete the form below and return to the main office. For the 2018-2019 school year, we will continue to offer MSL classes to students from Grade 1 – Grade 3. Based on interest, we will then inform parents/guardians of how many minutes per week of instruction will be offered. If you would like your child to be part of this program, please complete the form below and return to the main office.

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Yes I would like my child enrolled in the MSL program. **Please return to the OFFICE as soon as possible.**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level for Sept 2018: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Nia:wen,  
Mr. G. Smith, Principal