

April 6, 2017

Dear Parents, Guardians or Caregivers,

As some of you are aware, we held a Transition Committee meeting on March 29, where we began the process of planning the best way to make all students feel welcome and secure at Mary Hopkins when the French Immersion program starts in September. The Transition Committee consists of parents, staff and students from Mary Hopkins and Guy Brown Elementary Schools.

In an attempt to balance the committee with fair representation from both school communities, I did not share the letter seeking members for the committee with the broad community. I would like to sincerely apologize for not communicating the meeting and providing everyone with the opportunity to be involved in the transition of students. We value the thoughts and suggestions of all parents within HWDSB, and this error in communication was an oversight on my part.

After hearing the concerns expressed by some parents about this lack of communication and limiting the opportunity for both communities to be fully involved, I would like to invite anyone interested in being a member of the committee to let your school principal know.

I would like to assure you that we are committed to an open and transparent process. Therefore, I am inviting any interested parents to attend our next Transition Committee meeting on **Tuesday, April 18, 4 p.m. at Mary Hopkins Elementary School.**

At the previous Transition Committee meeting on March 29, I informed parents of the following information:

- We have 32 students enrolled for French Immersion at Mary Hopkins for the 2017-2018 school year (27 in Grade 1 and five in Grade 2).
- We are anticipating two classes. One Grade 1 class and one Grade 1-2 combined class.
- Staffing will occur through the posting process in May. We need:
 - Two classroom teachers
 - Instruction in French for math, science and social studies
 - Instruction in English for art, drama, music, physical education and health.
- Yellow and Black bus transportation is provided for students who live further than 1.6 km from the school.



Jamie Nunn
Superintendent of Student Achievement
Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board
20 Education Court, P.O. Box 2558
Hamilton, ON L8N 3L1
905.527.5092 ext.2304

At our next meeting on April 18, I will review this information further and answer any questions that you may have.

We are excited about opening a new French Immersion program, and we need your participation and input to help your child(ren) and others make a smooth transition to Mary Hopkins.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Nunn", is placed below the word "Sincerely,".

Jamie Nunn
Superintendent of Student Achievement