

MEMO

DATE: Tuesday, November 23, 2021

TO: Elementary and Secondary Principals and Vice Principals

FROM: Yohana Otite, Human Rights and Equity Officer

SUBJECT: **Reminder:**
Invitation to School Communities: Help shape the HWDSB Human Rights Policy

As you know, HWDSB is developing a pillar human rights policy to help everyone understand their human rights, roles and responsibilities in HWDSB learning and working spaces. The human rights policy will serve as an anchor to related policies and further HWDSB's commitment to foster and maintain a culture of human rights. Please widely share the information below to your school communities.

Message to Students

HWDSB is developing a new human rights policy and you can help shape it. Come and tell us what should be prioritized to protect students' human rights by attending the virtual sessions planned for students.

Students will receive \$25 gift cards for their participation and contribution.

- **General session: November 24**, 6pm to 7:30pm- [Register here](#)
- Session for **Black students- November 25**, 6pm to 7:30pm- [Register here](#)
- Session for **Indigenous students-** Date to be decide- [Register here](#) to express interest
- Session for **Racialized Students- November 30th**, 6pm to 7:30pm- [Register here](#)
- Session for **faith-based and ethno-cultural communities- December 1**, 6pm to 7:30pm- [Register here](#)
- Sessions for **Two-spirit & LGBTQIA+ students- December 15**, 6pm to 7:30pm- [Register here](#)
- Session for **Persons with disabilities- December 16**, 6pm to 7:30pm- [Register here](#)
- Session for **Newcomer/ immigrant and/or English Language Learners-** December 9, 6pm to 7:30pm- [Register here](#)
- Session for **student senates-** December 8: 4pm to 5:30pm- [Register here](#)

HWDSB

Human Rights Office
Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board
20 Education Court, P.O. Box 2558
Hamilton, ON L8N 3L1
Email: humanrights@hwdsb.on.ca

Message to School Councils

School council members are invited to a Human Rights Policy virtual session on **December 9, 6pm to 7:30pm**. They can email humanrights@hwdsb.on.ca to RSVP, so that we can send them the Ms. Teams link to the session.

Message to Staff: Registration to staff session is open:

- **General session: November 24**, 6pm to 7:30pm- [Register here](#)
- Session for **Black staff members- November 25**, 6pm to 7:30pm- [Register here](#)
- Session for **Indigenous staff members-** Date to be decide- [Register here](#) to express interest
- Session for **Racialized staff members - November 30th**, 6pm to 7:30pm- [Register here](#)
- Session for **faith-based and ethno-cultural communities- December 1**, 6pm to 7:30pm- [Register here](#)
- Sessions for **Two-spirit & LGBTQIA+ staff members - December 15**, 6pm to 7:30pm- [Register here](#)
- Session for **Persons with disabilities- December 16**, 6pm to 7:30pm- [Register here](#)

Script to share through school announcement

All students, parents and staff are invited to join HWDSB's virtual listening sessions to share their thoughts, experiences, and suggestions on how to shape our Human Rights Policy.

Join the general session on Wednesday, November 24 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on MS Teams. Other sessions for different groups will be taking place over the next few weeks starting on November 25th. Students who participate in these sessions will receive a \$25 gift card for their participation and contribution.

Registration links can be found on the Human Rights Policy page at hwdsb.info/humanrights. If you have any questions about the sessions, contact the Human Rights Office at humanrights@hwdsb.on.ca.

Thank you for your support