

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the 2022/23 school year. On behalf of the Michaëlle Jean School Council, I hope you had a relaxing and enjoyable summer break and that your child/children are excited to be back at school!

The Michaëlle Jean School Council is a group of school community members that meet regularly with the overarching goal of improving pupil achievement and to enhance the accountability of the education system to parents and caregivers. The council organizes fun school community events, supports school activities and provides recommendations to the principal.

As we start the new school year, the council felt it important to hear from the school community to best understand how we can support your interests throughout the year. As we start to get “back to normal” following the disruptions of the past few years, there are new opportunities and challenges that the council can help advocate on your behalf.

Please take a moment to complete [this survey](https://forms.office.com/r/6q4jxZtwkW) (<https://forms.office.com/r/6q4jxZtwkW>) and let us hear your ideas. In the survey, there is also an opportunity to let us know if you are willing to help at school events and if you have an interest in coaching or participating in a school team or club. We know that everyone is interested in seeing a return of extracurricular activities and working with a teacher advisor, parents and caregivers can help make this happen. The survey is very short and will be open until Oct 21st.

All parents are welcome to attend School Council meetings and we strongly encourage you to join us – as they say, “the more, the merrier!”. Council meetings are a great chance for everyone in the school community to gather and share their thoughts and ideas. The School Council meets 4 times per year face-to-face as well as virtual monthly meetings. Information about meeting dates, and previous council minutes are posted on the Michaëlle Jean website (<https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/michaellejean>).

If you want an item added to the Council agenda, or wish to reach out to us to share your thoughts on how the Council can support the MJ school community, please send us an email at michaellejeansc@hwdsb.on.ca.

We look forward to hearing from you on the survey and to an awesome school year.

Sincerely,

Paul Hatala
Chair, Michaëlle Jean School Council