

Welcoming and Supporting Newcomer Families and Navigating the School System

Melanie Cantrell, Hasib Afzal and Rosemary Todd Sharing and discussing supports and techniques to welcome newcomer families



OCDSB Parent Involvement Committee



Parent Conference 2022
Reconnect & Renew

This workshop will explore how OCDSB schools welcome and support Multilingual Learners.

- *Have you ever wondered what the journey of a Newcomer family might be like?*
- *Do you have personal experiences as a newcomer?*
- *How do we establish and grow a sense of belonging for new students and their families?*

Acknowledgement of Algonquin Territory

We acknowledge that our learning is taking place on unceded and unsurrendered Algonquin Territory. We thank the Algonquin Nation for hosting us and recognize their enduring presence on this land.





ACTIVITY

- What is your full name?
- What is your preferred name?
- Who gave you your name?
- How do you experience your name?
- How do you think others experience your name?

Journey of a Newcomer Family

Helping Young Newcomer _____s

ACTIVITY: Turn and Talk with Neighbour

In School support

High School Guidance
Orientation/Ambassadors
Learning Support Services
OCDSB Social Workers
Free online tutoring (OCDSB)
OCISO MLOs
ESL/ELD Instructional Coaches

**Student Services Department. Secondary/High School Supports
Who You Can Contact**

Subject Teacher	Guidance <small>(Student Services Office)</small>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Review Individual Education Plan (IEP) (if applicable) ✓ Check ESL/ELD status (if applicable) ✓ Review attendance ✓ Review Graduation Summary ✓ Discuss issues with student ✓ Communicate Parent/Caregivers ✓ Consult student's other teachers ✓ Consult the Department Head 	<p style="text-align: center;">Support for: Mental Health Social Emotional Issues Pathway Planning Timetabling Transitions</p>
Learning Support <small>(Room N123, Phone *1123)</small>	Student Success <small>(Room N123, Phone *1123)</small>
<p style="text-align: center;">Support for: Academics IEPs Learning Concerns Special Education Support Transitions</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Support for: Academics Credits At-Risk, Interventions Engagement Barriers to Learning Transitions</p>



How do we welcome and support Multilingual Learners in schools?

[FRC Video](#)

How do some schools and educators communicate with families...

- School Websites

Ridgemont High School Website

- School Messenger (email)
 - OCDSB Calendars

Secondary Calendar

Elementary School Calendar

ESL/ELD Programming grades 1-12

ELEMENTARY SUPPORT



ELD



OTTAWA-CARLETON
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

ESL

English Literacy Development



- Semi-integrated class with max of 12 students;
- For newcomers with limited schooling experience;
- By recommendation only from central ESL/ELD staff and/or the Family Reception Centre.

English Second Language



- Support provided in school by ESL Teachers or ESL Itinerant Teachers

SECONDARY PROGRAMMING



ELD

English Literacy Development



OTTAWA-CARLETON
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

ESL

English Second Language



Gloucester H.S.



Ridgemont H.S.



Woodroffe H.S.



Bell H.S.



Brookfield H.S.



Glebe C.I.



CONNECTIONS



COUNSELLING CONNECT

WWW.COUNSELLINGCONNECT.ORG

CHANTAL JODOIN, MC, RP (SHE/HER/ELLE)

REGISTERED PSYCHOTHERAPIST / PSYCHOTHÉRAPEUTE AUTORISÉE
PHONE / TÉLÉPHONE : 613-233-4443 EXT./ POSTE 2200 | FAX : 613-233-3987 |

EMAIL / COURRIEL : CJODOIN@CENTRETOWNCHC.ORG



OCISO/OCDSB MULTICULTURAL LIAISON OFFICER

OCISO.ORG

[MLO REQUEST FORM](#)



CATHOLIC CENTRE FOR IMMIGRANTS

KAREN MOLINA
PROGRAMS COORDINATOR/ COORDONNATRICE DE PROGRAMMES

CELL NUMBER 613-229-8351
CATHOLIC CENTRE FOR IMMIGRANTS 219 ARGYLE AVENUE, OTTAWA, ON K2P 2H4
TEL/TÉL.: (613) 232-9634 EXT./POSTE: 394
KAREN@CCIOTTAWA.CA

WWW.CCIOTTAWA.CA



INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY SUPPORTS

[Indigenous Education \(OCDSB Website\)](#)

[Assembly of Seven Generations](#)

What is the role of the Multicultural Liaison Officer in schools?

Multicultural Liaison Officer

[Get Settled in Ontario](#)
[OCISCO website](#)
[MLO ROles and Responsibilities](#)

MLO Responsibilities

SCHOOL

- Participate in the school reception and orientation process for newcomers.
- Provide orientation to school / community programs and services
- Support families to advocate on their own behalf
i.e., educational needs of their children.
- Facilitate constructive and culturally sensitive communication between school staff and newcomer students/families
- MLOs act as a bridge between the families and the school
- Provide information to school staff about cultural and settlement-related issues

Welcoming Newcomers into the school and the community

What is welcoming?

ACTIVITY: 4 Corners

- The room is labelled with pictures
- Move to the image that you can relate to with your experiences of being welcomed
- Share some ideas with the other people in your group, to discuss: “What does welcoming feel like, sound like, look like?”
- Then discuss and decide on ideas to write on the Welcoming Strategies chart paper

Welcome Suggestions

- **Multi-language posters** throughout the school
- **Family Wall with Family Stories** throughout the school
- **Welcome Team at your school** (teachers, principals, school council, parents) for orientation and meetings involving families and MLO; find out strengths and needs of parents and students to include them at the school - *Adult Mentors*
- **Welcome Books** for parents and students
- **Parent Workshops/Coffee Break Meetings**
- **Parental involvement in the school community:** School Council; Parent Information Days/Nights; Cultural Potlucks and Celebrations; Community Field Trips; Guest Speakers/Talent Workshops using parent expertise; Parents Volunteer in the classroom
- **Resource Library** with dual language books and community resources for newcomers

QUESTIONS

Hi Mel

These speaker notes below seem to be a to do list for the presentators??? Things to Get:

Markers (Done)

Chart Paper (Done)

Tape (Done)

Name tag stickies (Done)

Resource Take Away??

Posters??

Slideshow (Mel & Rose)

Unlearn Posters (Melanie)

Translated Reg (Rose)

Forms (Rose)

Flyers/ Wordless Books (Rose)

Map of the World?

FRC Map with Pins from FRC (Rose)

Welcome sign in different languages/Dual language Projects??

About Me