

## Joining School Council

Fixit has been invited to join the School Council. Fixit has no idea what this will involve or if Fixit has the right skills and know-how to become a member. During the film, Fixit learns about the role of the Council and how Fixit might take part.

**Narrated Message** // *Councils are very important in our culture, they help us organize and govern our communities. Schools also have councils that parents can join. School Councils can give everyone a chance to improve the school community by sharing our wealth of knowledge, talent and experience. By joining a School Council we help support a flourishing school community and our children reach their highest potential.*

### IDEAS

- Parents face challenges juggling the responsibilities of daily life. We can get involved in different ways to support the Council, if we don't have much time.
- Barriers (for example, comfort with reading and writing, or speaking language) among adults can make it hard to join School Council.
- We can learn information about how to join School Council and why it is important for our children.
- We may attend one meeting as an observer, just to see what a School Council meeting is like.

## QUESTIONS FOR GROUP DISCUSSION

### Family Members

1. What are some of the messages in this film?
2. Why is it important for parents to join School Council?
3. What factors might prevent them from doing so?
4. What skills, information and support do parents need to be more likely to join the Council? What can we do as parents to help other parents to provide these things?
5. Are you a member of School Council, or have you ever been? What made you decide to join?
6. What did you get from the experience?
7. Do you have any suggestions or personal stories to share?

### School Staff and Community Leaders

1. What information do parents need about how and why to join School Council?
2. What are the factors that might encourage or prevent their participation? How can a teacher or the school help encourage parents to join the Council?
3. Are there Aboriginal families at your school that might need encouragement to join? Have you reached out to them to discuss this possibility?
4. Who are key people at your school or board who might have a positive influence in this regard?
5. What role can students play in encouraging parents to join?