## **Managing Back to School Emotions**

Back to school is an incredible time for students, staff and parents too! Many of us will experience a variety of emotions and thoughts: excitement, worry, and wonders.

All feelings are wonderfully normal and encouraged. I often ask students 'Is it possible your worries could be excitement?' to which many respond "Yes, I am excited!" Some might be feeling overwhelmed with worries, especially around the unknowns.

One strategy is to put a 'pause' on worries. In addition, Anxiety Canada has published steps for children to cope with anxiety.

Coping with Back to School Anxiety

Our adolescent learners may be experiencing similar challenges, with some adjustments to strategies to value their age and their brain under construction.

Managing school-related anxiety - McMaster Children's Hospital.

Please feel free to reach out for additional resources and/or strategies.

Grateful to be your Lakeshore Student Services Lead, Tracey Orr

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