



News Release

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Trustees Approved a Balanced Budget for the 2007/2008 School Year

Trustees approved a balanced budget totaling \$220.89 Million for the 2007/2008 school year.

Total revenues from the province are estimated at \$213.9 M. The budget estimates also include other sources of revenue in the amount of \$4.99 M. which is comprised of fees from our Native student population, Visa students and earned interest. There is a one-time draw on reserves in the amount of \$1,963,721 to assist in funding the Board's proposed capital projects and to provide program supports for students through moderating the impact of declining enrolment.

The funding changes for this new school year can be summarized into two classifications: financial support for new and expanding initiatives, and updating existing funding benchmarks.

A. Financial Support for both New and Expanding Initiatives:

- \$1.16 Million incremental increase for Primary class size reduction for junior kindergarten to Grade 3; this is the final step to fully implement the 20:1 cap in 2007-08.
- Elementary teachers preparation time funding increased to 190 minutes in the 2007-08 school year.
- Three new Grants: Program Enhancement (\$495,000), First Nations (\$295,964) and Geographic supported schools (\$0.0).
- \$500 Million Good Places to Learn Stage 3 Allocation for carrying out projects to repair school facilities under the ReCAPP asset management project plan. Board specific allocations to be provided by September 2007.
- 2% increase in fuel costs for Student transportation funding due to higher fuel prices. In addition Board's with declining enrolment will not see their transportation funding reduced. 1% increase for school utility costs.
- Community Use of Schools: Funding is provided in 2007-08 to continue the program to support and encourage community use of school facilities.

B. The Updating of Existing Funding Benchmarks:

- To support the labour framework agreement, salary benchmarks have been increased by 3.0%.

C. Funding Outside the Grants for Student Needs [GSN]

The government will support important initiatives in the following areas with additional funding:

- Literacy and Numeracy, Student Success, MISA, Parent Engagement, and others.

"This is an exciting time in education. We are pleased to be able to present a balanced budget that preserves the quality educational opportunities provided to all of the students in the public schools of Lambton-Kent," commented Chair Jane Bryce. "The Board will continue to work with the Ministry of Education implementing the initiatives aimed at improving student achievement."

The budget year runs from September 1, 2007 to August 31, 2008.

Administrative Appointments/Transfers Effective September 2007

Elementary Principal Transfers

- Isabella Beattie was transferred to the position of Elementary Principal at Harwich-Raleigh School.
- Nancy Blandford-McFadden was transferred to the position of Elementary Principal at Riverview Central School.
- Donna Easter was transferred to the position of Elementary Principal at W.J. Baird Public School.
- Ken Gregory was transferred to the position of Elementary Principal at Tilbury Area Public School.
- Brad Holmes was transferred to the position of Elementary Principal at Dresden Area Central School.
- Mark Houghton was transferred to the position of Elementary Principal at Johnston Memorial School.
- Qamar Khan was transferred to the position of Elementary Principal at Bright's Grove Public School.
- Jean Leeson was transferred to the position of Elementary Principal at Thamesville Area Central School.
- Rick MacFarlane was transferred to the position of Elementary Principal at King George VI Public School, Chatham.
- Brenda Mann was transferred to the position of Elementary Principal at Hillcrest Public School.
- Chris Moore was transferred to the position of Elementary Principal at Wheatley Area Public School.
- Sandra Perkins was transferred to the position of Elementary Principal at Queen Elizabeth II School, Sarnia.
- Lynn Sulman was transferred to the position of Elementary Principal at Gregory Drive Public School.

Elementary Principal Appointments

- John Airey was appointed to the position of Elementary Principal at Mooretown Courtright Public School.
- Mary Lynn Anderson was appointed to the position of Elementary Principal at Dawn-Euphemia Public School.
- Yvette Gilfoyle was appointed to the position of Elementary Principal at Devine Street School.
- Todd Hayward was appointed to the position of Elementary Principal at Queen Elizabeth II Public School, Petrolia.
- Beverley LeMoine was appointed to the position of Elementary Principal at Queen Elizabeth II Public School, Chatham.
- Catherine Salt was appointed to the position of Elementary Principal at Aberarder Central School.
- Todd Tiffin was appointed to the position of Elementary Principal at Ridgetown Public School.

Elementary Vice-Principal Transfers

- Carmen Lemieux was transferred to the position of Vice-Principal at Johnston Memorial School.

Elementary Vice-Principal Appointments

- Ann Balkwill was appointed to the position of Elementary Vice-Principal at Harwich-Raleigh Public School.
- Mike Elson was appointed to the position of Elementary Vice-Principal at Queen Elizabeth II Public School, Chatham.
- Janet Kershaw was appointed to the position of Elementary Vice-Principal at Lansdowne School.
- Marie Kozulak was appointed to the position of Elementary Vice-Principal at Brooke Central School.
- Joy McLean was appointed to the position of Elementary Vice-Principal at Queen Elizabeth II Public School, Sarnia.

Secondary Vice-Principal Appointment

- Jim Keane was appointed to the position of Secondary Vice-Principal at Alexander Mackenzie Secondary School.

Secondary Program Consultant Appointments

- John Esplen was appointed to the position of Secondary Program Consultant – Student Success – Pathways.
- John Ferguson was appointed to the position of Secondary Program Consultant – Student Success – Numeracy.
- Scott Richardson was appointed to the position of Secondary Program Consultant – Student Success – Literacy.
- Carole Scott was appointed to the position of Secondary Program Consultant – Technology.
- Bill Woodcock was appointed to the position of Secondary Program Consultant – Student Achievement.

Secondary Student Art Celebrated

As part of the Board's program to recognize student achievement in the Arts, six secondary students will have their artwork displayed at the Board's education centers over the next year. The artwork of Katie Cox from Tilbury District High School, Jeff Jelovic from John McGregor Secondary School, Lauren Whiteye from John McGregor Secondary School, will hang in the Chatham-Regional Education Centre. The artwork of Nicole Lawrence from Northern Collegiate Institute & Vocational School, Jen Simpson from Alexander Mackenzie Secondary School and a group of Grade 10 Students from St. Clair Secondary School, will be displayed in the Sarnia Education Centre.

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