



News Release

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Board Revises Pupil Accommodation Policy & Regulations

Sarnia - Trustees of the Lambton Kent District School Board revised the Board's policy and regulations on Pupil Accommodation to comply with the new Ministry of Education guidelines. The Ministry guidelines have very specific timelines for conducting pupil accommodation reviews, which have been incorporated into the Board's regulations. The Board also approved the School Valuation Guideline that had been developed by the Board's School Valuation Committee. The Board was mandated to develop the tool to evaluate schools in the event that that Board was to announce its intention to conduct an accommodation review of a school or schools. If the Board were to deem it necessary to conduct an accommodation review, this announcement would take place at a Board Meeting in October.

Copies of the documents will be available on the Board's website and at the Board Offices.

Ministry Mandated School Board Expenditure Guidelines

In response to the new School Board Expenditure Guidelines released in December by the Ministry of Education, the Lambton Kent District School Board undertook a review of its existing policies, regulations and practices pertaining to acceptable expenditures. Overall, the Board practices were found to be consistent with the directives of the Ministry of Education. Trustees approved changes to some existing policies and regulations and formalized in writing other practices.

Board Addressing Mould Concerns

Trustees were updated on the steps being taken by Board staff to address mould concerns identified in some of the Board's schools. Administration assured Trustees that the issues are taken seriously and that both prevention and abatement activities are underway. Board staff are working very closely with representatives from the Ministry of Labour.

Chair Jane Bryce advised, "Trustees have confidence in both Board staff and the independent consultants contracted to address the mould concerns. Staff and student safety is always our number one priority."

2007/2008 School Year Calendar Approved

Trustees approved the calendar for the 2007/2008 School Year at the Board Meeting on March 27, 2007. The calendar complies with Ministry of Education requirements and includes a minimum of 194 school days, made up of 188 instructional days and a maximum of 6 professional activity days. Ten days have been designated for secondary school examination purposes within the 194 school days. The school year will begin on Tuesday, September 4, 2007 with Professional Activity Days scheduled for September 28, November 2, November 30, 2007, February 1, April 25 and June 26, 2008.

The calendar will now be submitted to the Ministry of Education for final approval. The approved calendar will be posted on the Board's website.

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