



News Release

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Board Growth Plan Approved

Trustees approved the Board Growth Plan for the period covering the 2007/2008 school year through to and including the 2009/2010 school year. The Plan is focused on two goals.

- #1. Continuous Growth in Student Achievement
- #2. Provision of Safe Learning Environments

The goals reflect the Board's Mission and Belief Statements. They were developed from the input received from the various stakeholder groups – Trustees, Principals/Vice-Principals, Managers, Federation/Union Representatives, Student/Board Liaison Committee Members, School Council Chairs, and Parent Involvement Committee Members.

The focus remains directed at student literacy, numeracy, and improved student achievement. Each school will update their School Improvement Plan to reflect the Board Growth Plan and each department will create action plans that will allow each and every student to reach their individual potential.

October 2007 Pupil Accommodation Report

At the October 23, 2007 Board Meeting, Trustees announced the intention to commence an Accommodation Review of Devine Street Public School in Sarnia. The next step is for the Board to appoint an Accommodation Review Committee (ARC). This will take place at the November 13, 2007 Board Meeting. Membership on the Accommodation Review Committee shall include students, parents, educators, trustees, senior administrative representatives, First Nations representatives, business, community and municipal partners. They will first review and revise the School Valuation Tool to make it specific to the Devine Street School Community. Community meetings will commence towards the end of January 2008.

During the 2005/2006 school year, Sarnia Elementary School Community Consultation meetings were held to discuss possible reorganization of schools within the city of Sarnia. Considerable interest was shown for the consolidation of two or more schools to be replaced by a larger, fully equipped new school in the same part of the city. These are the two oldest elementary schools in the City of Sarnia and are located within 1.6 km of each other in the core area of the City.

Further Community Consultation Meetings were held in January and February 2007. There was unanimous support and great enthusiasm for the building of a replacement school for the students of Devine and Johnston. Possible locations were researched with the final conclusion that the best available location in the same neighbourhoods would be the current Johnston site.

The Board's proposal for the consolidation of the two schools using Capital Plan funding to build a replacement school was carefully developed and the strong business plan was submitted to the Ministry more than a year ago. A review via teleconference with Ministry staff was most encouraging yet there has been no confirmation to date.

Further information will be shared with parents/guardians, staff, students of Devine Street Public School once the Accommodation Review Committee for Devine Street School has been formed.

If you are interested in serving on this Committee, please contact the Principal of Devine Street School, Yvette Gilfoyle at 519-344-4371.

Elementary Vice-Principal Changes

Deborah Bramham was transferred to the Position of Vice-Principal at Lansdowne Public School, effective October 22, 2007.

Joyce Vlcek was appointed to the Position of Elementary Vice-Principal at the South Plympton Campus of South Plympton/Wyoming Public School effective October 22, 2007.

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