



News Release

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Errol Road Public School Receives the Premier's Safe Schools Award

The Premier's Safe Schools Awards were launched in fall 2010 to recognize safe school teams across the province. These teams have demonstrated initiative, creativity and leadership in promoting a safe and inclusive school climate.

Errol Road Public School in Sarnia has been a Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) School since 2005. PBS is a combination of effective practices that have proven successful for many children. The practices have been shown to increase the effectiveness of instructional time, while making the school conducive to learning. Their activities have led to positive changes in their school and community. Errol Road Public School is one of ten schools to receive this provincial recognition.

Student Trustees Honoured

The Board honoured outgoing Student Trustees, Emily Beacock and Mikaela Snooks, for their contributions at the Board table during the 2010/2011 school year. The Student Trustees represented 23,000 students and served as a liaison between the students and the Board of Trustees. They were members of the Student/Board Liaison Committee and provided input on student issues. The Student Trustees for the 2011/2012 school year will be Elizabeth Shepherd from Chatham-Kent Secondary School and Amy Werden from Lambton Central Collegiate & Vocational Institute

Trustees Approved a Balanced Budget for the 2011/2012 School Year

Trustees approved a balanced budget totaling \$251.8 Million for the 2011/2012 school year. The revenue forecast is based on the Grants for Student Needs (GSN) education funding model, which determines the Board's operating grants and school renewal grants provided by the Ministry of Education. There are four (4) major categories of grants to the GSN funding model, these are: Pupil Foundation Grant, School Foundation Grant, Special Purpose Grants and the Pupil Accommodation Grant.

Total revenues from the province are estimated at \$240.26 M. This is an increase of approximately \$9.6M and reflects the enhancements made to the salary benchmarks to support employee agreements, additional elementary teachers for 230 minutes a week of preparation time, additional elementary teachers to lower Grades 4 to 8 classes, support for professional learning activities for elementary teachers, additional support to expand secondary programs, improvements to Education Assistants working conditions and services for students with special education needs, implementation of the Full-Day Early Learning Program Phase 2 (7 Classrooms) and a new School Condition Improvement grant to address school building improvements. As well the Ministry increased the school operations benchmark by 2% to manage increased costs with utilities, insurance and contracts and the provided 2% increase in the transportation benchmark to offset higher fuel, capital and other operating costs and an adjustment to the funding class size benchmarks (from 8 to 12) for Native Studies and Native Language programs.

The budget estimates also include other sources of revenue in the amount of \$9.24 M. which is comprised of fees from our Native student population, Visa students, rental income and earned interest as well as \$2.34 M for the Full Day Kindergarten program. Finally there is an in-year draw on reserves in the amount of \$2,300,000 to provide assistance for Board priority student and project supports.

The 2011/2012 budget has been developed on a projected enrolment of 22,197 students which is about 459 fewer than the prior school year. A total teaching complement of 1436 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) teachers has been provided in the budget along with 246 educational assistants. The overall total staff for the 2011/2012 school year will be about 2,335 full time equivalent employees.

The budget is in compliance with Ministry enveloping requirements and Ministry class size regulations and includes an in-year allocation from Board Reserves in the amount of \$2.3M.

There are several major capital building projects included in the budget, which are funded in part by the Ministry of Education. These projects are:

- New classroom addition (2) for Errol Village Public School,
- Classroom renovations and additions to various schools for the Full Day JK/SK program,
- Queen Elizabeth II School Petrolia new classrooms & gymnasium addition,
- Naahii Ridge School new gymnasium addition.

In total the proposed Capital Buildings program comprised of the above projects and the school renewal work is projected at about \$17.7M dollars.

“Once again, the Lambton Kent District School Board is proud to present a balanced budget focused on providing excellence in education to all the public school students in Lambton-Kent,” stated Chair Carmen McGregor. “We have a number of capital projects included in the budget that will enhance the learning environments for students and staff.”

The budget year runs from September 1, 2011 to August 31, 2012.

Elementary Administrative Changes Effective September 1, 2011

- Joyce Vlcek was transferred to the position of Elementary Vice-Principal at Rosedale Public School
- Leona Hamlin was transferred to the position of Elementary Vice-Principal at Dawn-Euphemia Public School
- Bill Vermeersch was appointed to the position of Elementary Vice-Principal at Harwich Raleigh Public School

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