

Director's Bulletin

April 7, 2011

Every Student, Every Day

GRANTS FOR STUDENT NEEDS 2011/2012

As you are aware we have been planning for the 2011/2012 school year for several months now. The financial piece of this puzzle was clarified last Thursday when the Ministry of Education hosted a teleconference for all 72 school boards. At this teleconference the Ministry released funding information regarding the Grants for Student Needs (GSN) 2011/2012. Our senior financial staff and I participated in the teleconference and have subsequently received the draft technical papers from the Ministry. Ron Andruchow and Sandy Anderson have also spent time since Thursday forecasting the impact on our Board. While the Ministry has increased The per pupil funding, our overall GSNs will be reduced due to our anticipated enrolment decline. This means that we continue to examine specific envelopes to determine the funding impact and are working with staff to plan for maintaining the best quality service for the students while implementing staff reductions in selected areas. It appears that the special education funding envelope will be particularly reduced this year. I am aware that some of you have received emails and phone calls from constituents who are upset about anticipated cuts and are questioning our process. I can assure you that our Superintendents and their staff are meeting on a weekly basis to examine funding envelopes and program delivery. We are also working with our union partners to communicate staff reduction information in a timely fashion so that affected staff can make informed career decisions. Time lines are tight and we make every attempt to communicate with everyone involved throughout the process. We want you to be aware of this so that if and when you receive communication from people in the community you are informed. I ask that you refer them to their school principal or appropriate Superintendent.

Congratulations to the Chatham-Kent Science Fair Winners

I had the pleasure of attending the Chatham-Kent Science Fair on Saturday April 2 and witness the success of some of our students. Brody Ryder (1st overall) and Amanda Davidson, from Tilbury Area Public School, and Griffin Smeenk and Jill Erickson, from Thamesville Area Central School, were all winners and are headed to the Canada-Wide Science Fair in Toronto in May.



Up Coming Events

- April 14 School Council Chairs Meeting with guest speaker Annie Kidder from People for Education @ Oak's Inn Wallaceburg 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Trustee Group Picture -

The Trustee Group picture will be taken at a later date once the Board appoints a new Trustee.



Lambton Kent
District School Board

Student Achievement ✓ *Community Success*

Jim Costello, Director of Education