

MISSION STATEMENT

The Lambton Kent District School Board is dedicated to:

- ✓ access for all students
- ✓ a safe learning environment
- ✓ quality educational opportunities
- ✓ high professional standards
- ✓ fiscal responsibility.

We encourage all students to reach their individual potential.

BELIEF STATEMENTS

- ✓ Public education is an investment in all peoples and all communities.
- ✓ The safety of our school system is strengthened by embracing diversity, and respecting self, others and the environment.
- ✓ Student success is enhanced by the shared responsibility of students, staff, parents/guardians, business and community.
- ✓ Programs and services must be focused to prepare students to become contributing members of society.
- ✓ The achievement of our Mission occurs through the valued commitment and effort of our staff.
- ✓ Accountability is achieved through ongoing evaluation, open communication and continuous improvement.
- ✓ Optimal use of all available resources is essential to the achievement of fiscal responsibility.

International Student Education Program

The Lambton Kent District School Board has been involved in an international education program for many years. International students pay tuition fees for the privilege of attending schools under the Board's jurisdiction. Small numbers of these students have been part of the Board's secondary school student population for many years. Elementary students have been part of the program in Chatham-Kent for many years and this year the program expanded into Sarnia Lambton. This was the first program in Ontario to host a significant number of elementary-aged children from grades four to eight for short-term stays. The students' length of stay varies from a few weeks to the full academic year.

The purpose of the elementary-aged students' visits is to enhance social, cultural and language experiences. The objective of international students at the secondary level is primarily to earn credits for an Ontario Secondary School Diploma.

The number of International Students studying in schools of the Lambton Kent District School Board expanded significantly last year. To date during the 2006/2007 school year we have 130 students registered, 112 elementary students and 18 secondary.

The primary focus of the International Education Program has been to work with community partners to provide a safe, inviting learning environment for students from other countries who come to Ontario for a cultural, language enriched experience. As the program has grown, the advantages for students of the Lambton Kent District School Board have become increasingly evident. A key to the success of the program is the relationships that continue to flourish with the sponsors, agents, home stay parents, and staff in the host schools.



SARNIA EDUCATION CENTRE

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CHATHAM REGIONAL EDUCATION CENTRE

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If you have any questions or comments about Learning Matters, please contact Gayle Stucke, Director of Education or Trish Johnston, Executive Assistant and Communications Officer
Phone 1-519-336-1500 or 1-800-754-7125

www.lkdsb.net



Learning Matters

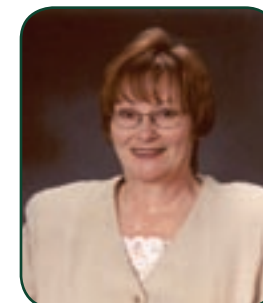
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A Message to Our Community

The Lambton Kent District School Board is committed to ongoing communication to keep parents, students, staff and community partners informed about the operations of our school system. This newsletter is intended as one avenue for us to share with you evidence of our focus on learning for all students and our emphasis on continuous improvement.

Effective programs, creative learning opportunities and successful students exemplify the goals of the Lambton Kent District School Board. During weekly school visits, I see first hand our caring and skilled staff helping students to reach their fullest potential.

The continued support of parents and community partners enable us to provide excellent academic and extra curricular experiences for our students in safe learning environments. We thank those who give their time, talents and financial support to help our students succeed.



Jane Bryce
Chair of the Board



Gayle Stucke
Director of Education

meeting challenges
sharing successes
together

Student Success

The Lambton Kent District School Board's Student Success effort is a grade 7 to 12 initiative focused on improving every student's opportunity for success in their academic program, particularly those students whose success may be at risk due to academic or other challenges.

A number of elements form the core of the Student Success initiative in our district:

- Supported transition of elementary students into grade nine by providing programs suited to student needs and abilities, and by ensuring that each student considered at-risk has a caring adult specifically identified to assist them
- A Student Success Teacher and Student Success Teams in every secondary school whose responsibility it is to track student progress and design strategies to meet individual student needs
- Expanded co-operative education opportunities to provide workplace experiences for more students
- Lighthouse projects – innovative local programs to help students stay in school by providing guidance, support, and alternative learning environments
- Pathways to Success – a guided program designed to support students and inform parents regarding academic program options and the variety of pathways available to each of the four post-secondary destinations: Apprenticeship, College, University, and Work
- Community, Culture and Caring – the focus is on creating a sense of connectedness for students and a level of engagement in learning which will diminish the risk factors contributing to students leaving school before graduation; a culture of inclusion in which diversity is celebrated; and a sense of caring and partnership with families and the broader community in support of each student's personal success

New or Expanded Student Success Projects

- Virtual Co-operative Education
 - Now in its second year, this program allows working students who have not graduated, to enrol and work toward co-operative education credits through on-line learning. Over one hundred students have been re-engaged in their learning through this opportunity, many of whom have gone on to graduate as a result.
- Multi-site Instruction by Videoconference
 - A grade 12 French course is currently being offered by videoconference to students in five secondary schools. Led by a teacher based at Ridgetown District High School, the program

includes students from Blenheim District High School, Lambton-Kent Composite School, Tilbury District High School, and Wallaceburg District Secondary School. This technology allows small groups of students in different schools to collectively access a course of study that could not be viably offered in their home school. Based on the success of this project, additional courses will be made available via videoconferencing.



Pathways to Success

The Lambton Kent District School Board has embarked on a Student Success initiative that will offer our students the opportunity to develop an educational pathway leading them toward their chosen post-secondary school destination: Apprenticeship, College, University or Work. The Pathways program is based on the principle that all destinations are of equal value. In each of the grades, from 7 to 12, students will be exposed to a curriculum that asks them to explore their interests, discover their skills, research careers that are related to their skills and interests, choose an educational program in secondary school that leads them to their chosen destination and finally develop an exit plan that is compatible with their destination. Students will be encouraged to develop "real life" workplace skills and experiences through Take Our Kids to Work, Work Experience and Cooperative Education. To facilitate student learning the Lambton Kent District School Board has developed its own Pathways website at www.step4step.ca. The website has many resources that students will use as they complete curriculum exercises. Students will work with both paper and electronic program planners as they develop their Annual Education Plans. Student Services offices across the District have been re-branded with the Pathways theme to bring a consistent message to all our students. Teacher workshops to help our staff deliver the Pathways curriculum began in October and will continue into next year.

www.step4step.ca



The Pathways curriculum is based on the following 4 steps:

- Step 1:** Know Yourself
- Step 2:** Explore Opportunities
- Step 3:** Build Pathway
- Step 4:** Get Experience

The Pathways program is being implemented in 3 Phases:

- Phase 1: Dec. 2006 – Gr. 7 & 8
- Phase 2: Sept. 2007 – Gr. 9 & 10
- Phase 3: Sept. 2008 – Gr. 11 & 12

"Step4Step ... a program to help students plan their futures"