

# Zone Township Central School

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*April Update 2021*

**A Note from our Director (please notice the April 21<sup>st</sup> deadline to register for virtual for the 2021-2022 school year):**

## Looking ahead to the 2021-2022 school year

The Lambton Kent District School Board (LKDSB) is looking forward to welcoming students and staff for in-person learning in September 2021. Our experience this year has reinforced that in-person learning best meets the needs of the majority of our students to remain engaged and be successful, as well as provides a connection and sense of belonging for them. Although there are still many unknowns about the September 2021 return to learning, the LKDSB has started planning for the 2021-2022 school year.

**All students will be registered for in-person learning for September 2021. If your child will be attending in-person learning for the 2021-2022 school year, no further action is required. If you are interested in virtual learning for your child for the 2021-2022 school year, please see the information below.**

Through recent surveys of family preferences for the next school year, we learned that for some families virtual learning may be the preferred program option for the 2021-2022 school year. LKDSB is committed to supporting students to learn in the manner that best meets their needs and circumstances and will provide virtual learning programming for both elementary and secondary students (Kindergarten to Grade 12) for the 2021-2022 school year.

**In order to support planning and staffing decisions, the LKDSB is asking families to sign-up for virtual learning for the 2021-2022 school year by April 21, 2021.**

Families must commit to virtual learning for the 2021-2022 school year by completing the form found on the board website by April 21, 2021. [Click here to access the virtual learning registration form](#) (select Virtual Learning Elementary or Virtual Learning Secondary from the drop-down menu). **Only those students who complete this form will be registered for virtual learning in September 2021. All others will be registered at their home school.**

Important Note: In order to promote stability within classrooms, enrolment in the virtual learning program is intended to be a permanent year-long commitment. Families will not be able to opt-in or out of in-person and virtual learning during the 2021-2022 school year (exceptions would be considered on a case-by-case basis and accommodation would be based on space availability and may vary school-to-school and grade-by-grade).

**For more information, please go to LKDSB's website or click:**

<https://www.lkdsb.net/Board/Community/PublicHealth/parent-guardian-resources/Pages/VirtualLearningRegistration.aspx#/=>

Zone Township Central School is in **Zone 6**. Listen to the radio for bus delays and cancellations or check <http://www.schoolbusinfo.com> for regular updates. If buses are cancelled in the morning due to fog, they **will** run in the afternoon. If buses are cancelled in the morning due to snow and icy road conditions, they **will not** run in the afternoon and parents and guardians must make arrangements for picking up students at the end of the day.

## Spring Break is Next Week

Just a reminder to families that Spring Break is April 12-16th! We are all looking forward to the break and continued spring-like weather! Stay safe over the break, Crusaders!

## School Climate Survey

Every voice counts. We want students and parents/guardians to share your thoughts about our school climate and whether you consider our school to be a safe and welcoming environment. The Lambton Kent District School Board is conducting a School Climate Survey May 3-21, 2021 to gather input from students in Grades 4-12, parents/guardians, and staff to inform program planning and support safe, welcoming and inclusive school environments.

All students in Grades 4-12 will be invited to participate in the online survey during school hours. Any parent/guardian who does not wish for their child to participate should contact the school principal prior to April 28, 2021.

Parents/guardians: You are also invited to share your thoughts on the Parent/Guardian School Climate Survey from May 3-21, 2021. The link will be distributed to parents/guardians with an email on file on Monday, May 3. The link will also be posted on our school website. Surveys will be anonymous and individualized results will be kept confidential; however, aggregated school and Board responses will be shared publicly (except in cases where individuals may be identified). It is expected the survey results will be publicly available in Fall 2021.

More information about the School Climate Survey is available here:

<https://www.lkdsb.net/Board/Community/SafeSchools/SchoolClimateSurvey/Pages/default.aspx#/=>

## Automated Safe Arrival Calls & Absence Reporting

The Lambton Kent District School Board has implemented an automated attendance messaging system for our school. The system will notify parents/guardians if your child has been marked absent and the school has not been notified of the reason for the absence. To follow-up, we will contact the parent/guardian phone numbers that we have on file and ask that you call the school to confirm the absence and provide the reason. Please note: To avoid calls and emails regarding attendance, kindly contact that school in advance to let us know your child will be absent. School voicemail messages are checked regularly.

## SchoolMessenger Troubleshooting Guide – Parent Help

Parents/guardians who create a SchoolMessenger account will be able to see general broadcasts and emergency broadcasts. Safe Arrival (Attendance) is an additional feature in the SchoolMessenger account. Parents/guardians who have created a SchoolMessenger log-in using the e-mail that matches the school's records can pre-enter absences, late arrival, and early departure for their child(ren).

For student absences that have not been pre-entered, parents/guardians can respond to the automated SchoolMessenger and explain the daily absence (within 20 minutes).

## Kindergarten Registration

There is still time to register your child for Junior Kindergarten or Senior Kindergarten for next year. Please follow the link below to register your child online:

<https://www.lkdsb.net/Elementary/Registration/Pages/default.aspx#/=>

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## Daily COVID-19 Screening Tool

⚠ The Ontario School Screening has been enhanced to keep students and staff safe.

- ✓ Anyone that has **ONE** COVID-19 symptom **must stay home** and follow directions from the screening.
- ✓ **EVERYONE** in your household should stay home if **ANYONE** has symptoms or is waiting for a test result.

Please be sure to use this live link daily when completing the screening each morning as symptoms and protocols are continuously updated. Please refer to the Ontario screening tool <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>.

## Parents and Visitors

In keeping with LKDSB's Safe Schools Policy, only staff and students are permitted in the fenced primary yard and junior/intermediate school yard during regular school hours. Parents and guardians who drop off young children are asked to do so at the gate. Parents and guardians who pick up students from the primary yard are reminded to not enter through the gate until 3:35 p.m.

## Before and After School

The Thamesville Area Early Learning Centre at Zone Township Central School (TAEELC) has openings for before and after school care from 6:00 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. However, currently there are not enough children registered to run the program. If you are interested in registering, please go online to [www.chatham-kentchildcare.ca](http://www.chatham-kentchildcare.ca). For more information contact the Thamesville Early Learning Centre at 519-692-9871.

## Parent Council/School Advisory Council

Our next meeting will be held virtually on May 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. All are welcome. This will be our final meeting of the year. Our current co-chairs will be ending their official involvement with Zone School's Parent Council due to their children graduating at the end of this school year. Therefore, we are seeking new parental involvement. Participation in this meeting is recommended. Please email [Colleen.Anderson@lkdsb.net](mailto:Colleen.Anderson@lkdsb.net) if you would like an invitation to join the virtual meeting.

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