

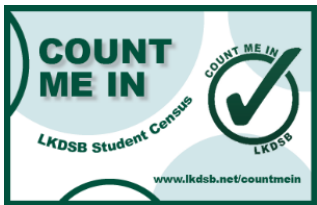


March 2022 Newsletter

School Motto: Work Hard. Be Respectful. That's our Lion Pride.

Monthly Character Traits

It is hard to believe that we are in the month of March and Spring is just around the corner! This month's character traits are Initiative and Courage. We demonstrate initiative when we recognize and do what needs to be done before being asked. Pairing that with Courage allows us to take risks and to push ourselves outside of our comfort zones to learn or do something new. Throughout the month, students will learn about initiative and courage and teachers will recognize Star Students for both character traits within their classroom and celebrate them with the whole school over the announcements.



Count Me In LKDSB Student Demographic Data Census

March 1-25, 2022, the Lambton Kent District School Board (LKDSB) will launch the *Count Me In LKDSB* Student Census to collect information to better understand our students and school communities in support of equity, inclusion, student achievement and well-being. This initiative is part of the LKDSB's commitment within its [Strategic Priority of "Inclusive Diversity: Championing anti-oppressive education."](#)

The LKDSB, as directed by the Ontario Ministry of Education and with support, is conducting a **voluntary and confidential** student census to gather demographic information (such as race, ethnicity, language, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, etc.).

[Click here](#) to download a copy of the *Count Me In LKDSB* informational document.

The *Count Me In LKDSB* Student Census will reflect information about student populations and school communities to help identify systemic barriers and bias within the education system. It will help to ensure LKDSB is providing effective programming to support student success and well-being, as well as allocate resources to where they are needed most.

The Ministry of Education requires that the census questionnaires for students in Kindergarten to Grade 8 be sent to parents/guardians to complete with or on behalf of their child. Students

in Grades 9-12 will be provided the link to the census directly and will be provided with classroom time to complete. See the list of census questions [here](#) (note: additional questions may be added based on Board and community consultation). Further instructions on how to complete the questions will be provided to assist with the administration of the census.

The data will be securely stored once it has been collected and results will be kept confidential. The data will be collected in accordance with the authority of the Education Act and the guidance of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA), [Anti-Racism Act](#), [the Ontario Data Standards for the Identification and Monitoring of Systemic Racism](#), and the [Ontario Human Rights Code](#). Also refer to the [LKDSB Protection of Student Personal Information Administrative Procedure](#).

As this is a new initiative, we recognize you may have some questions. You are encouraged to review the *Count Me In* [LKDSB Student Census website](#) and [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for more information.

If you have specific questions about your child's voluntary participation, please contact our school for follow-up.

Upcoming Events:

Spring Photos: Spring Photos will take place on March 7th. Graduating students (grade 8 and SK) that were unable to have their picture taken in January will be permitted to have pictures taken on March 7th.

Sub Days: Friday March 11th and Friday March 25th are sub days. Proceeds from sub days will be donated to the Grade 8 year-end field trip. Sub days are available through School CashOnline only. If you haven't signed up for School CashOnline, please reach out to the office for assistance.

March Break: March Break is from March 14th – 18th. We hope that everyone enjoys a fun and restful time with friends and family.

Kindergarten Registration: If you know of any families that may have missed our Kindergarten registration, please have them contact the school.

Daylight Savings: Just a reminder to "spring" your clocks ahead one hour on Sunday March 13th.

Individual Education Plans (IEPs): Our Learning Resource Teacher, Mrs. Thompson, has worked closely with classroom teachers and students to update IEPs for Term 2 for students who require accommodations and/or modifications to their regular classroom program. IEPs will be sent home on Friday March 11th and parents are asked to take some time to review your child's program as described in the IEP and sign and return the last page of the document. If you have any questions or concerns about your child's IEP, please do not hesitate to contact the school for help. Our resource teacher, classroom teachers, and school administration will be happy to help.

Reminders/Information for Parents

Dressing for Winter: Just a reminder that students go outside at least three times each day when in the building, provided the wind chill is above -18C, so please ensure that your son or daughter has appropriate hats, mittens or gloves, coat, and snow pants to keep them comfortable for at least 20 minutes at a time in the cold temperatures. If you need help with providing these items, please contact the school and we would be happy to help with getting these items.

End of Day Dismissal Routines: Thank you for always keeping the classroom teacher informed of changes to end of day dismissals. Please also be sure to keep the office informed of these changes as sometimes homeroom teachers are away, and messages do not get communicated to the office.

Labelling of Clothing: Each year countless items end up in our Lost and Found - ultimately many of these items are never claimed. Any unclaimed items will be donated to various community agencies in need. Labelling your child's clothing is the BEST way to ensure that "found" items can be returned to the rightful owner.

Cell Phones and Electronic Devices: All electronic devices, such as cell phones, media players, digital game devices, computers and cameras are not to be used while the student is on school property before, during, or after school without the permission of school personnel and only for educational purposes. If a student carries a cell phone, he/she is responsible for the cell phone at all times. At no time will students use electronic devices for digital, audio or video recording without permission from the teacher. The school is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen property.

Inclement Weather: East Lambton School is in Zone 1. Please listen to local radio stations, visit www.schoolbusinfo.com, or download the My SBI Mobile App to receive updates on bus delays or cancellations due to inclement weather or other. Busses in the morning that have been cancelled in the morning due to inclement weather **will not** return students to school in the afternoon. If parents drive students to school in the morning, they are responsible to pick their children up and take them home in the afternoon. Busses that have been cancelled in the

morning due to fog *will* operate in the afternoon and to return students to their homes. *Please remember to call the school if your child will be absent due to bus cancellations.*

Playground Equipment: The Ontario School Board Insurance Exchange advises the closure of school playgrounds due to the following reasons:

Freezing temperatures - At temperatures below 0 deg. C, very few types of protective ground surfacing remain resilient enough to offer any degree of protection to a falling child - regardless of depth. If the ground cover is frozen, the play equipment is NOT safe for use.

Snow build-up - Snow can cause two problems on a play structure - first, it can make play surfaces very slippery; secondly, it can create suffocation hazards if the openings at the end of tube slides or similar structures become closed in by drifting snow.

Ice or freezing rain - As noted above, ice or freezing rain can make play surfaces, hand grips and stairways very slippery, increasing the risk of slip and fall injuries.

Clothing - Winter clothing is much different from normal clothing. Synthetic materials, such as nylon, reduce sliding resistance, particularly on plastic slide beds. This can increase the travel speed on this equipment to a dangerous level, and if combined with frozen ground cover, as described under Item (1), can increase the chance of injury. Winter clothing is also very bulky and is more likely to have drawstrings or hooks and clips which can become entangled in components of the equipment. All scarves should be kept inside of the child's coat.

Please remind your child to not use the playground equipment during non-school hours for these safety reasons.

Thank you for your dedication and diligence in completing the Daily Covid School Screenings. We know your mornings are busy already, and we appreciate you taking the time to review this each day! Please continue to do so, and follow the instructions given if symptoms arise.

<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>