

## **Q&A About Great Lakes Secondary School (GLSS)**

### **What are the basic facts about GLSS?**

- Established in September 2016 as a consolidation of Sarnia Collegiate Institute and Technical School (est. 1922) and St. Clair Secondary School (est. 1961).
- Address (effective August 19, 2019): 340 Murphy Road, Sarnia, N7S 2X1
- 815 students, 57 teachers, 86 staff (including teachers)
- 9% of the student population self-identifies as indigenous
- Online
  - Website: <http://glss.lkdsb.net>
  - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Greatlakesss/>
  - Instagram: [https://twitter.com/great\\_lakesss](https://twitter.com/great_lakesss)
  - Twitter: [https://twitter.com/great\\_lakesss](https://twitter.com/great_lakesss)
- Recent \$24.5 million addition and renovation.
- Mascot: Wolfpack
- School Colours: light blue, silver, and black

### **What's available in terms of technology courses?**

- 22 courses in the areas of Computer Engineering, Communications, Construction, Horticulture, Technological Design, Manufacturing, Transportation

### **What's available in terms of health and physical education?**

- 13 courses in physical education, fitness, weight training, special education leadership, recreation leadership, kinesiology

### **What's available in terms of the arts?**

- 3 courses in drama
- 9 courses in instrumental, stage band, and vocal music
- 5 courses in visual arts including crafts, ceramics, drawing and painting

### **What speciality programs are available?**

- Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM)
  - Bundles of courses, certifications, and work experiences with a focus in arts and culture, construction technology, health and wellness, horticulture and landscaping, and transportation
- International Education
  - Eighteen students (2018-19) from nine countries studying for three to ten months.
- 5 courses English as a Second Language (ESL) and English Literacy Development (ELD)
- 4 courses in Spanish
- 4 courses in Ojibwe
- 2 Alternative Learning and Life Skills Program (ALLP) classes
- Dual Credits
  - Courses that are taken at neighbouring Lambton College that count for high school credit and college credit
- Co-operative Education

- Exploration of the world of work by spending half days working for local companies
- Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP)
  - A co-operative education program that leads to becoming a registered trade apprentice
- eLearning
  - courses available online

**What support programs are available?**

- Dedicated student success room and full-time student success teacher
- Two learning resource teachers and two learning resource rooms
- First nations room staffed by a full time native cultural worker
- Social worker
- Mental health and addictions nurse
- Sexual health services nurse
- Psychoeducational clinician
- The Catherine Wilson Library (largest library collection and circulation in the LKDSB)
- Breakfast/lunch program

**What clubs are available?**

- Art Club
- Christian Fellowship
- Choir
- Concert Band
- Intramurals (lunch time athletics)
- Jazz Band
- Key Club (student service club)
- PAIRS (student leadership)
- Student Council (student leadership)
- Student Wellness Council
- Visionaries Club (Equity and Inclusion)
- Yearbook and Photography

**What athletics are available?**

- Badminton
- Basketball
- Baseball/Softball
- Cross Country
- Curling
- Football
- Golf
- Hockey
- Rugby
- Soccer

- Swimming
- Tennis
- Track and Field
- Triathlon
- Volleyball
- Wrestling

**What are some special events that take place?**

- Chain of Caring
- Tunes at Noon – lunchtime student music performances
- Canned Food Players – staff drama and music performances
- Senior geography camping trip to the Bruce Peninsula
- International Trip (2019-20: New York City)
- Math competitions
- Music Nights (vocal and instrumental assemblies)
- Musical
- The Revue
- Awards Night and Graduation
- Great Lakes Idol (vocalist competition similar to American Idol)

**Tell me more about the new location?**

Beginning September 2018, Great Lakes will operate at 340 Murphy Road and enjoy new or renovated facilities including

- 550 seat auditorium
- Two visual arts rooms
- Science lab
- First Nations room
- Instrumental music room and vocal music room
- Learning Commons (Library)
- Cafeteria
- Weight room
- Fitness/Wrestling room
- Horticulture room and Greenhouse
- Manufacturing Technology room
- Grade 9 integrated technology room
- Computer engineering room
- Second foods room
- Two special needs classrooms and amenities
- Upgraded heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system
- Main office
- Elevator
- Expanded parking

**What is the boundary for the school?**

- Generally, the school boundary is south of the 402 and west of Mandaumin Road. For specific information, click on the address eligibility function at <https://www.schoolbusinfo.com/>
- Students outside of the school boundary may attend Great Lakes provided there is room.

**Who is eligible for LKDSB provided school busing?**

- Students who live 3.2 km or further from the school and who live within the school boundary. For specific information, click on the address eligibility function at <https://www.schoolbusinfo.com/>
- Students ineligible for transportation may apply for a courtesy seat, which may be granted for one year if there is a bus in the area with room on it.
- Several students purchase a student bus pass and use city provided transportation.

**My child has an Individual Education Plan (IEP)? Should he or she attend Great Lakes?**

- Great Lakes has programs for students who are able to access grade nine applied or academic courses. A locally developed course in grade nine mathematics is available for students who are very weak in mathematics. Students with IEPs who require curriculum modifications are encouraged to attend Alexander MacKenzie Secondary School. Parents are encouraged to ask their child's grade eight teacher for advice in terms of the appropriate grade nine program.
- Great Lakes has two learning resource teachers and a student success teacher that work with students and the classroom teachers to support student learning.