

# TECUMSEH PUBLIC SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 2020

## FROM THE OFFICE

Welcome back to all of our returning Timberwolves and a warm welcome to all of our new students! We are so excited to be welcoming you back to school. We hope that all of our Tecumseh Public School families have remained safe and well during our time apart. We have missed our students and look forward to beginning a new school year with you all!

This school year will be different from previous years, but what remains the same is our staffs commitment to ensuring that your children feel safe, welcome and enjoy their time at school. Our team will be working to ensure that all students understand necessary changes and protocols that have been implemented due to Covid-19. We recognize that there is a lot of learning for everyone but are confident that we can navigate these waters together.

There are many important details included in this newsletter around our school re-opening and daily procedures. It will be helpful to save this newsletter, should you have any questions down the road. For additional information about the LKDSB's Reopening Our Schools Plan, please visit the [LKDSB website](#). Please communicate any relevant information with your child's emergency contacts.

## STAFF UPDATES

FDK

Sherry Coffell/Lindy Sheehan Rm 123

Anna Kennedy/Stephanie Russell Rm 129

Elizabeth Mariconda/Coline Trinetti Rm 131

Primary

Jodi Mandeno ~ Gr 1 Rm 111

Barb Brady ~ Gr 1 Rm 116

Mary Park/Liz Ericson ~ Gr 2 Rm 124

Kelly Hackett ~ Gr 2/3 Rm 114  
Colleen Archer ~ Gr 3 Rm 115  
Kendall Haskell ~ Gr ¾ Rm 103

#### Junior

Kayla Peltier ~ Gr 4/5 Rm 201  
Shelby Sims ~ Gr 5 Rm 203  
Nadene Hunter ~ Gr 5/6 Rm 202  
Lisa Pieta ~ Gr 6 Rm 206

#### Intermediate

Val Volland ~ Gr6/7 Rm 205  
Karen Walker ~ Gr 7 Rm 211  
Judy Rountree ~ Gr 8 Rm 215  
Brodie McPhail ~ Rm 213  
Mary Podlacha Rm 134

#### Curriculum Partners

Stacey Rowsome ~ French/Prep  
Nicolle Evans - French/Prep  
Shane McEvoy - Gym/Prep

#### Resource

Sue Bond (+Guidance)

Jordan Ray (+Prep)

#### EAs

Kyle Rasburg  
Dia Clayton  
Nicole Houston  
Pam Renaud  
Deb Warnock  
Dan Ryan  
Cristina Haskell  
Laurie Frain  
Jessica Salive

#### Office Staff

Yvette Caron - Secretary  
Receptionist - Linda Orr  
Jenn Kranenburg - Vice Principal  
Tracy VanDenBossche - Principal

#### Custodians

John Branco - (Day)  
Mary Ann Myers

Heather Bennett  
Tammy McGonigle

We welcome Ms. McPhail, Mrs. Peltier and Ms. Ericson to our staff this year! Congratulations to Mrs. Markovich who has retired, we know that she will be enjoying lots of time both on the lake fishing and on the golf course. We wish Mr. Hope all the best as he has moved to Tilbury Area Public School this year, where he will be the Physical Education Teacher. We say farewell to EA's Mrs. Gillfoyle, Ms. Szabon and Ms. Weiringa and to ECE Mrs. Lynch. We also wish Mr. DeRidder, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Millar, Mr. Burnett, Mr. Garthshore and Mrs. Caetano all the best as they will be joining the staff at the virtual school.

## THANK YOU!

A huge thank-you is extended to our custodial staff who worked diligently this summer during some very hot and humid weather conditions to welcome us back to a clean, shiny, and safe environment. Thank-you also to our staff for their work in setting up bright and inviting classrooms. Our school is beaming!



## SCHOOL HOURS

9:15 am - 3:35 pm

In order to provide our students with as much space as possible while outdoors, and to physically distance, we have staggered our nutrition and outdoor breaks. All students will have a 20 minute nutrition break and a 20 minute outdoor break each morning and each afternoon. Please connect with your child's teacher for their specific daily schedule.

## STUDENT ABSENCE

If your child is going to be absent from school, please call the school at **519- 354-2480**. When you leave a message, include the first and last name of your child, his/her teacher, and the reason for your child's absence and when he/she will return to school. Thank-you in advance for your assistance with reporting any absences. Notes and phone messages are of great assistance to the office staff.

## MORNING ENTRY AND DISMISSAL

**Students should not arrive before 9:00 am** (15 minutes before the morning bell) and **students will proceed to their entrance door directly and enter their classroom**. Students will move to their entrance door regardless of transportation, bus, drop-off, before-school programming, or walking. As students are expected to proceed directly to their classroom, staff supervision will not be available on the playground.

There is a parking lot on the west side of the school that is for parent/visitor use before and after school. All parents are asked to meet their children at their designated pick-up spot as identified in the email sent to you by the school. Please do not idle along the side of the building as that space is designated for school buses. **In order to assist with smooth dismissal procedures, please pre-register for a parking pass if you will be picking your child(ren) up by car on a daily pass.** Parents/Guardians: Please share school arrival/dismissal information with emergency contacts for the student.

**Please note: To maintain cohorts and contact tracing, parents/guardians will not be allowed to enter schools at this time, except in case of emergency or a pre-arranged appointment time.**

In order to maximize physical distancing and allow for safe dismissal procedures, we ask that parents and guardians refrain from picking up students between 2:45 - 3:35 pm. If you will need to pick up your child(ren) early, please arrange for pick up prior to 2:45. Please allow a minimum of 30 minutes when calling the office to arrange for early dismissal.

## APPOINTMENTS

If a student leaves school property during the school day (such as for a pre-scheduled appointment), the student will return to school the next day following the completion of the

Students will not be permitted to leave the school at lunch breaks, to go home or to the store for lunch.

## DAILY SCREENING

Parents/guardians are required to assess their children daily and report whether they are experiencing any signs of illness and are expected to keep them home if they are.

**Parents/guardians should refer to the *Daily Screening Questionnaire for Parents/Guardians/Students Before Attending School* to perform daily screening of their children before arriving at school.**

All students who are experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19 must not attend school and should seek appropriate medical attention as required, including getting tested at a COVID-19 testing centre. The closest testing centre to our school is **47 Emma Street, Chatham, On.**

**Note: Refer to the *School Safety Protocols and the Daily Screening Questionnaire for Parents/Guardians/Students Before Attending School* for more information.**



TEACHING AND LEARNING

PARENT/GUARDIAN DAILY STUDENT  
SCREENING FOR POSSIBLE SYMPTOMS OF  
COVID-19

A vital required element of the Lambton Kent District School Board's COVID-19 Safety Plan is student self-screening. Please use this checklist to perform daily screening of your child, before your child arrives at school. The list of symptoms below are based on the COVID-19 Reference Document for Symptoms (Version 5.0 – May 25, 2020).

Does your child have any of the following symptoms of COVID-19: (Identify any/all that are not related to seasonal allergies or pre-existing medical conditions)

- Fever
- New onset of cough
- Chills
- Unexplained fatigue
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Runny nose
- Stuffy or congested nose
- Lost sense of taste or smell
- Difficulty breathing
- Difficulty swallowing
- Pink eye
- Digestive issues (nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, stomach pain) or
- For young children; sluggishness or lack of appetite

## FACE MASKS

Students in Grades 4 to 12 will be required to wear non-medical or cloth masks indoors in school, including in hallways and during classes. Outdoor times like recess can be used as

opportunities to provide students with breaks from wearing masks as long as the students are organized to remain within their cohorts. Students in Kindergarten to Grade 3 will be encouraged but not required to wear masks in indoor spaces. Masks are also mandatory in bus lines and on the bus for Grade 4-8 students.

Students are encouraged to practice wearing masks and learn what type of mask is most comfortable for them. Parents/guardians should provide non-medical masks or cloth masks for their children to wear to school. The LKDSB will provide backup non-medical masks for students who do not have their own. Face coverings that provide a tight seal at the chin and nose and cover the mouth are permitted (a gaiter for example), whereas face coverings that do not provide a tight seal at the chin and nose and cover the mouth are not permitted (a bandanna for example).

For some students with special needs, or significant medical conditions, wearing a mask may be problematic. Families should work with the school to determine if your child may be exempt from wearing a mask. Parents/guardians can expect that there will be time spent in class during the first days of school reviewing the proper use of masks, hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette.

## HOW TO SAFELY WEAR A NON-MEDICAL MASK OR FACE COVERING

	Wash or sanitize your hands before and after touching your mask.		Don't reuse masks that are moist, dirty or damaged
	Make sure the mask covers your nose, mouth and chin. It should feel comfortable without any gaps.		Don't touch your mask while wearing it and use string/ear loops to take it on or off
	Ensure that your mask is made with at least 2 layers of fabric		Avoid wearing the mask around your neck and always cover your mouth and nose.
	Store reusable masks in a clean paper bag between use		Don't share your mask with others
	Wash reusable masks when they become soiled or wet		Don't leave a used mask within reach of others
	Please discard disposable masks in garbage cans properly		Don't forget to continue to physically distance 2 metres while wearing a mask

 [www.ckpublichealth.com/covid19](http://www.ckpublichealth.com/covid19)  
519.355.1071 X 1900  
[covid19@chatham-kent.ca](mailto:covid19@chatham-kent.ca)

 Chatham-Kent  
Public Health

## LUNCH AND FOOD SERVICES

Students will be required to bring their own food. Students will eat their lunch with their class in a designated area. Students will not be allowed to share any food.

At this time we will not be offering any special food days until further notice.

**Students will not be permitted to leave school property during lunch.**

Students should bring labelled refillable water bottles; water fountains will be closed but water filling stations will be accessible. If you do not have a refillable water bottle, please contact the school.

## ALLERGIES

Please be aware that some students and staff that have an allergy to nuts and to shellfish which includes shrimp, peanuts, peanut butter, peanut oils, peanut bi-products, sesame seeds and other tree nuts. Exposure to these kinds of nut products – even trace amounts - could result in a life-threatening reaction. Shellfish and nut products are not to be sent to school, as our goal is to provide a **“peanut and nut aware environment”**. While we appreciate the generosity of our parents, please be aware that treats sent to school may not be distributed if there is any concern of nut contents or exposure.

## MEDICATION

Medication, both prescription & non-prescription, should not be administered to students by school staff. Specific criteria must be met for staff to administer prescription medication when it cannot be administered at home. An **“Authorization for the Administration of Oral Medication”** form, (available from the office), must be completed by the parent/guardian and physician, then forwarded to the Principal for each school year. This includes the administration of occasional use medications as well. Should your child have a medical need (such as diabetes, asthma, epilepsy etc.) that requires special emergency attention please inform the school and an **“Individual Medical Emergency Plan”** will be put in place. **Please notify the office by phone or email if you require a form. You can also send a note with your child and we can send a copy home.**

## RECESS AND PLAYGROUNDS

Elementary students will have the opportunity to enjoy recess. At this time, Medical Officers of Health have advised that outdoor activity has reduced risk and that playground equipment

may be used. Classes will be assigned specific areas of the playground/schoolyard at recess. Students will practice hand hygiene before and after the break.

## STUDENT LEARNING

Classes will resume according to a conventional in-person model. When specialist teachers provide instruction to a class (such as French), students will remain in their classrooms, and teachers will move between rooms. Minimizing student movement will reduce congestion and student-to-student interaction between classrooms.

Homerooms have been assigned an outdoor learning space. Educators may chose to utilize this space for instruction. When outdoors, up to two classrooms may utilize the same physical space. Classes that may share an outdoor space have been "matched" and will remain the same each day.

For additional information about programming, read the [Reopening Our Schools plan section on Programming: Elementary](#) on the LKDSB website ([www.lkdsb.net](http://www.lkdsb.net)).

## LEARN AT HOME AND FACE TO FACE INSTRUCTION CHANGES

Parents/guardians will have limited opportunities within the school year to switch their child's school experience between face-to-face instruction and Learn at Home instruction (or vice versa). Families wishing to transfer between face-to-face learning to Learn at Home or transfer from Learn at Home to face-to-face instruction must contact their principal according to the following timelines:

- Fall date: notify school by October 22. Student begins new program type on November 16.
- Winter date: notify school by January 12. Student begins new program type on February 3.
- Spring date: notify school by March 30. Student begins new program type on April 20.

Students moving between program delivery choice (i.e. face-to-face learning or Learn at Home) should anticipate changes in teacher(s). If space is available, the LKDSB will attempt to accommodate all requests sooner than the dates above; however, this will vary from school-to-school and grade-by-grade and may not be possible. Transportation delays may also occur.

## SPECIAL EDUCATION AND SUPPORT STAFF

Teachers, Educational Assistants and other special education support staff essential for daily academic programming in the classroom will use personal protective equipment when



physical distancing is not possible. Information about Special Education staff support is available in the [Reopening Our Schools](#) plan. Should you have any specific questions about your child, please follow-up with the school.

## **VOLUNTEERS AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

We certainly appreciate the support of our many parent volunteers during the school year, however at this time, volunteers are not permitted in the building.

Sports teams are also postponed until further notice.

We will look to the CK Public Health Unit for further direction on both of these initiatives.

### **AS PER THE LKDSB CODE OF CONDUCT**

PERSONAL MOBILE  
DEVICES ARE TO BE  
USED ONLY DURING  
INSTRUCTIONAL  
PURPOSES AND AS  
PRESCRIBED BY AN  
EDUCATOR.

***Students are  
encouraged to leave  
their devices at home***

## **PEDICULOSIS CHECKS**

Sometimes students arrive at school infected with pediculosis. Spring and fall are the seasons when head lice is most prevalent in school children. Your assistance in early detection is greatly appreciated. Please check your child for head lice weekly. If you find evidence of head lice, please contact the school immediately. This will allow us to notify other

parents in the classrooms affected, so that they may check their child. Infestation by head lice is an unpleasant nuisance, but not a health problem. Head lice do not carry or spread disease. If we detect head lice on your child, you will be notified and asked to come to the school to pick up your child. We then ask that you use the necessary treatment on his/her hair. Your child(ren) are welcome to return to school when the pediculosis is no longer evident. By working together we can control the spread of head lice.

## BUS INFORMATION

During the fall we might experience some heavy fog in which there could be the potential for bus cancellations. When there are bus cancellations due to fog, buses will not run in the morning but will run in the afternoon. **Tecumseh is in BUS ZONE 7 and BUS ZONE 8.** To check for any bus cancellations during the school year, please tune into the local radio stations or the following website: [www.schoolbusinfo.com](http://www.schoolbusinfo.com)

## REGISTRATION AND VERIFICATION OF INFORMATION FORMS

A Registration Verification form will soon be sent home with each child and we ask that you review this form and note any necessary changes. If no changes are necessary, please confirm your consent at the bottom of the form for your child in regards to LKDSB media. **Please return these signed forms to the school as soon as possible.** Throughout the school year, many school activities occur and may be the subject of photographing, audio-taping, video-taping and filming. In accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, a signed release is required for the photographing or filming of student participation in these activities. In addition, the public media organization, upon notification, may be present to cover events by videotaping and filming students involved in activities which are outside of the jurisdiction of the School and/or Board.

## SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

**School Cash Online is a convenient, web-based solution that gives parents/guardians the ability to pay for student items online. Parents/guardians can make payments, print or view their receipts, and their current account history all in real-time.**

School Cash Online provides multiple payment options, including eCheck (direct withdrawal from your bank account) or "MyWallet" (virtually add funds and reload like a gift card). Please note, banking information is not saved in School Cash Online and must be re-entered for every transaction. Unused funds in "MyWallet" will be carried over to the next year for back-to-school purchases unless a refund is requested (more information about refunds will be available on the School Cash Online website once launched).

**In order to sign-up, parents/guardians must provide your child's last name, birth date and student number. Your child's student number will be on the student information profile sheet**

sent home, or please call the office at anytime for this information.


For more information please visit our school website at [www.lkdsb.net/school/tecumseh](http://www.lkdsb.net/school/tecumseh)






## STAYING CONNECTED

During the first week of every month Tecumseh Public School shares a newsletter to communicate to parents about current events. In supporting the LKDSB's initiative regarding the reduction of paper consumption and being financially efficient, **this will be the only monthly edition that will be printed and sent home.** All newsletters will be available <http://www.lkdsb.net/school/tecumseh> at the beginning of each month or at the office upon request. If your family might need a paper copy, please let your teacher know and it will go home with the youngest/only student.

Please connect to our school via Remind for updates; see the Social Media Shortcut page for information on signing up.

### Tecumseh Social Media & Contact Shortcuts



Tecumseh School Website	<a href="https://www.lkdsb.net/school/tecumseh/Pages/default.aspx">https://www.lkdsb.net/school/tecumseh/Pages/default.aspx</a>	
facebook	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/tecumsehlkdsb/">https://www.facebook.com/tecumsehlkdsb/</a> "Like" TecumsehLKDSB	
Twitter	<a href="https://twitter.com/TecumsehLKDSB">https://twitter.com/TecumsehLKDSB</a> "Follow" @TecumsehLKDSB	
Remind	Students with last name A-D <a href="https://www.remind.com/join/h99978">https://www.remind.com/join/h99978</a> or text @h99978 to 289-297-4632  Students with last name E-L <a href="https://www.remind.com/join/9ca447">https://www.remind.com/join/9ca447</a> or text @9ca447 to 289-297-4632  Students with last name M-T <a href="https://www.remind.com/join/6ca4bc">https://www.remind.com/join/6ca4bc</a> or text @6ca4bc to 289-297-4632  Students with last name U-Z <a href="https://www.remind.com/join/3c97dh">https://www.remind.com/join/3c97dh</a> or text @3c97dh 289-297-4632	   
Instagram	<a href="https://www.instagram.com/tecumsehpublicschool/">https://www.instagram.com/tecumsehpublicschool/</a> "Follow" @tecumsehpublicschool	
School	287 McNaughton Ave. W., Chatham, ON NTL 1R8 Phone: 519-354-0480	Secretary: Yvette Caron Vice Principal: Jennifer Kenenburg Principal: Tracy VanDenBosche
Daycare	Operated By: Growing Together Daycare Phone: 519-352-6554 <a href="http://www.gtbc.org">http://www.gtbc.org</a>	

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