

**WALLACEBURG DISTRICT
SECONDARY SCHOOL**



STUDENT HANDBOOK

920 Elgin Street

Wallaceburg, Ontario

N8A 3E1

(519) 627-3368

Keep Connected to WDSS & LKDSB

<http://wdss.lkdsb.net/>

www.lkdsb.net

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WELCOME TO TARTAN COUNTRY

At Wallaceburg District Secondary School we take pride in our cooperative attitude, caring community and respect for diversity. We challenge you to put forth a strong consistent effort and to take advantage of the many opportunities to get involved in school activities. Take pride in your work and your school. Remember, your personal level of growth and satisfaction are directly related to your effort and involvement.

To every student we extend our best wishes for a successful and enjoyable school year.

Mr. M. Hunt
Principal

Mr. S. Watson
Vice Principal

CLASS SCHEDULE			
SEMESTER ONE	PERIOD	SEMESTER TWO	TIME
	1		8:00 9:15
TRAVEL TIME		TRAVEL TIME	9:15 9:25
	2		9:25 10:45
LUNCH		LUNCH	10:45 11:30
	3		11:30 12:45
TRAVEL TIME		TRAVEL TIME	12:45 12:55
	4		12:55 2:10

Make Every Day Count !

**Dates to Remember
2017-2018**

Classes Begin.....	September 5
Gr. 9 Frosh Activities.....	September 11-15
Curriculum Leader Mtg.	September 12
School Advisory Council	September 13
Tartan Tour	September 14
Staff Meeting	September 19
Gr. 9 Meet the Teacher	September 21
Frosh Dance	September 21
Orange Shirt Day	September 28
PD Day	September 29
Student Photos.....	October 4
School Advisory Council.....	October 4
Terry Fox Event	October 6
Thanksgiving	October 9
Curriculum Leader Mtg.	October 10
Undergrad Awards.....	October 11
Interim Reports	October 11
Student Photo Re-takes.....	October 11
Bronze Boot.....	October 13 & 14
Staff Meeting	October 17
Parent/Teacher Interviews	October 18
PD Day	October 27
Take Our Kids to Work	November 1
Curriculum Leader Mtg.	November 7
School Advisory Council.....	November 8
Staff Meeting.	November 14
Mid Term Report Cards	November 16
PD Day	November 24
Curriculum Leader Mtg.	December 5
Grade 12 Grad Photos	December 7 -12
Staff Meeting	December 12
$\frac{3}{4}$ Term	December 21
Christmas Break	December 25-January 5
Curriculum Leader Mtg.	January 9
School Advisory Council	January 10
Gr. 9 EQAO Math	January 15-January 26
Staff Meeting	January 16
Gr. 6-8 Open House.....	January 17
Semester 1 Exam Dates	January 26-February 1
PD Day	February 2
Exam Review Day.....	February 2
Sem. 2 Classes Begin.....	February 5
Final Report Cards.....	February 6
Curriculum Leader Mtg.	February 6
Photo Day– “Friends” Photos.....	February 7
Staff Meeting	February 13
School Advisory Council	February 14

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

Arts Fest
Computer Club
Drama Club
Environmental Club
Future Elders
Gay Straight Alliance
Intramurals
Musical

Science Olympics
School Band
Student Art Show
Tech Crew
Social Issues (DARE)
Student Parliament
Student Athletic Association
Weight Room

SCHOOL TEAMS

Badminton
Basketball
Cheerleading
Cross Country
Curling
Football
Figure Skating
Golf

Girl's Rugby
Hockey
Soccer
Swimming
Tennis
Track & Field
Volleyball

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

1. Students, parents and school personnel play a significant role in fostering personal growth and promoting lifelong learning. Parents can help by encouraging regular and punctual attendance.
2. If your son or daughter has been absent, please send a signed dated note or place a phone call to attendance specifying the reason and the length of the absence. Similarly, if your son or daughter is to be excused during regular school hours, please send a signed, dated note indicating the reason and time he or she is to be excused, and whether he or she will be returning to school.
3. Parents will be contacted should a student become ill.
4. Limit the student's out-of-school activities through the week, encourage the formation of good study habits at home and insist that homework be completed. Homework and assignments will be assigned on a regular basis.
5. **Please plan your holidays so that they do not conflict with regular school days and/or examination days.** This is especially important in view of our increased emphasis on attendance.
6. Please familiarize yourself with our Code of Conduct included in this handbook. It was developed cooperatively by parents, students and teachers and presents the official policies of the school relating to all aspects of student behaviour. Revisions occur annually through our School Council.
7. See that necessary supplies such as gym equipment and student identification cards are acquired during registration. Textbooks will be supplied. The \$35.00 activity fee will support student activities, locker rental and includes a printer charge which allows free service throughout the entire school. **It is non refundable.** Some courses may require additional costs for field trips, work books and specialty supplies. Consideration will be given to any parent, guardian, or student experiencing financial hardship that may limit a student's access to participating fully.
8. Read the student dress code guidelines. Student dress is important at school. What a student wears can affect his or her attitude and the attitude of others at school. We compare school to a place of business and ask for your help in assuring that your son or daughter dress accordingly. Inappropriate clothing could result in the student being sent home.
9. If you need to reach your child for a serious matter during the school day, please contact them through the Main Office. Students should not receive cell phone calls or text messages during class time.
10. **INCLEMENT WEATHER** - even though some bus routes are cancelled, **all** facilities will remain open unless otherwise indicated and classes will run as scheduled. Town students are expected to walk to school and attend. Failure to do so is counted as an absence and a note explaining the absence is required. Radio stations and various electronic media will provide information of decisions resulting from inclement weather conditions. Buses that have been cancelled in the morning will not return students in the afternoon. Buses that have been cancelled in the morning due to fog will operate in the afternoon to return students to their homes.

If inclement weather necessitates the early dismissal of students the buses will only make one run home and will not come back at the regular dismissal time.

11. **ALLERGIES** - Student allergies are an on-going concern. Students who use epi-pens should provide the main office with one to be kept in the vault in the event of an emergency. Because of student allergies the following are not to be brought to school:
 - * latex, (balloons, gloves)
 - * peanuts, fish (due to food allergies)

We also request that perfume, cologne and other heavily scented products are not used in the school building.

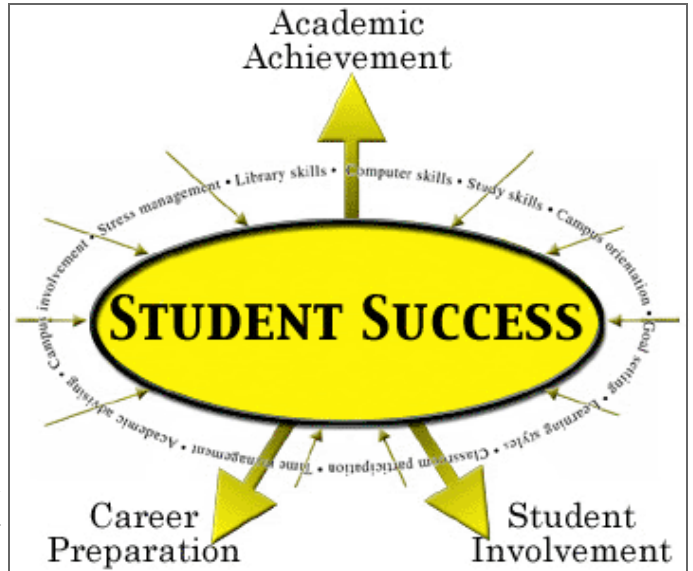
Student Success

Student Success is a Ministry of Education endorsed program, supported by the Lambton Kent District School Board and promoted at Wallaceburg District Secondary School. Student Success is a number of initiatives designed to improve student outcomes and increase credit accumulation. The ultimate goal is an increase in graduation rates and a decrease in the number of early school-leavers. The program is aimed specifically at students in Grade 9 and 10 as well as those that find themselves in their late teens having only a handful of credits toward graduation.

A program pathway is more than just the combination of courses that make up a student's Educational program. It is the underlying purpose that motivates students to make their course selections. In short, a program pathway is designed to lead a student to a particular destination.

Students have far more options than ever before.

Combining their interests, skill and strengths into a trade or profession of their liking is well within reach. Entry level positions into business and the world of work, university, post secondary training, apprenticeship, college programs, the skilled trades, vocational certification; any of these opportunities can provide personal satisfaction, a livelihood and professional challenges.



Each student, along with their family is encouraged to explore the options available long before they enter high school. Once here, the staff at Wallaceburg District Secondary School can provide the assistance, counseling and direction required regardless of any academic bumps in the road. There are many paths to the same destination. Student Success is the first step.

A student's program pathway is their educational program and reflects the goals that help motivate him or her.

Program Pathway				
A student's interests, skills, goals, needs and expectations to a successful transition	+	Appropriate courses and their curriculum expectations	+	The knowledge, skills and experiences necessary to make a successful transition to a specific post secondary destination

LKDSB CODE OF CONDUCT

The Lambton Kent District School Board *Code of Conduct* is established in keeping with the requirements of the provincial Code of Conduct and the standards of behaviour as set forth by the province of Ontario. The Lambton Kent District School Board Code of Conduct sets clear standards of behaviour in order to ensure the rights and responsibilities of all members of the school community.

W.D.S.S. promotes responsibility, respect, civility and academic excellence in a safe learning and teaching environment. All students, parents, teachers and staff have the right to be safe, and feel safe, in their school community. With this right comes the responsibility to be law-abiding citizens and to be accountable for actions that put at risk the safety of others or oneself.

Respect, Civility and Responsible Citizenship

All participants involved in the school system – students, parents or guardians, volunteers, teachers and other staff members – are included in this Code of Conduct whether they are on school property, on school buses or at school-authorized events or activities. All members of the school community are to be treated with respect and dignity. All members of the school community must:

- respect and comply with all applicable federal, provincial and municipal laws;
- demonstrate honesty and integrity
- respect and treat others fairly, regardless of race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, or disability
- respect the rights of others;
- exercise self-discipline;
- take appropriate measures to help those in need;
- seek assistance from a member of the school staff, if necessary, to resolve conflict peacefully
- respect the need of others to work in an environment that is conducive to learning and teaching
- show respect for school property; and
- respect all members of the school community, especially persons in positions of authority.

Safety

All members of the school community including students, parents and guardians, teachers and other staff members, volunteers and visitors must NOT:

engage in bullying behaviours;
commit sexual assault;
traffic weapons or illegal or restricted drugs;
give alcohol to a minor;
commit robbery;
be in possession of any weapon, including firearms or replicas;
use any object to threaten or intimidate another person;
cause injury to any person with an object;
be in possession of, or be under the influence of, or provide others with alcohol, or illegal or restricted drugs;
inflict or encourage others to inflict bodily harm on another person;
engage in hate propaganda and other forms of behaviour motivated by hate or bias;
commit an act of vandalism that causes extensive damage to school property or to property located on the premises of the school.

Students

Students are to be treated with respect and dignity. In return, they must demonstrate respect for themselves, for others, and for the responsibilities of citizenship through acceptable behaviour. Respect and responsibility are demonstrated when a student:

comes to school prepared, on time, and ready to learn;
shows respect for himself or herself, and for those in authority
refrains from bringing anything to school that may compromise the safety of others;
follows the established rules and takes responsibility for his or her own actions.

Parents

Parents play an important role in the education of their children, and can support the efforts of school staff in maintaining a safe and respectful learning environment for all students. Parents fulfill their role when they:

- show an active interest in their child's work and progress;
- communicate regularly with the school;
- help their child be neat, appropriately dressed, and prepared for school;
- ensure that their child attends school regularly and on time;
- report promptly to the school their child's absence or late arrival;
- show that they are familiar with the provincial Code of Conduct, the Board's Code of Conduct, and school rules;
- encourage and assist their child in following the rules of behaviour;
- assist school staff in dealing with disciplinary issues involving their child.

Community Partners and the Police

Through outreach, partnerships already in place may be enhanced and new partnerships with community agencies and members of the community (e.g., Aboriginal Elders) may also be created. Community agencies are resources that Boards can use to deliver prevention or intervention programs. Protocols are effective ways of establishing linkages between boards and community agencies, and of formalizing the relationship between them. These partnerships must respect all applicable collective agreements.

BULLYING

Bullying is typically a form of repeated, persistent, and aggressive behaviour that occurs in a context of a real or perceived imbalance of power between individuals. In any form, bullying adversely affects a student's well-being and ability to learn, undermines healthy relationships, and compromises the school climate.

Bullying means aggressive and typically repeated behaviour by a pupil where,

The behaviour is intended by the pupil to have the effect of, or the pupil ought to know that the behaviour would be likely to have the effect of,

Causing harm, fear or distress to another individual, including physical, psychological, social or academic harm, harm to the individual's reputation or harm to the individual's property, or

Creating a negative environment at a school for another individual, and

Behaviour occurs in a context where there is a real or perceived power imbalance between the pupil and the individual based on factors such as size, strength, age, intelligence, peer group power, economic status, social status, religion, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, family circumstances, gender, gender identity, gender expression, race, disability or the receipt of special education

Bullying behaviour may occur through the use of physical, verbal, electronic, written, or other means.

Bullying by electronic means (cyber-bullying) includes but may not be limited to:

- a. Creating a web page or a blog in which the creator assumes the identity of another person;
 - b. Impersonating another person as the author of content or messages posted on the internet;
- Communicating material electronically to more than one individual or posting material on a website that may be accessed by one or more individuals.

Social Aggression: May be intentional or unintentional, direct or indirect. It can take many forms, sexist, racist, homophobic, or transphobic comments. If it is social or relational aggression, it is more subtle and may involve such behaviours as gossiping, spreading rumours, excluding others from a group, humiliating others with public gestures or graffiti, and shunning or ignoring. Social aggression may also occur through the use of technology.

Students are responsible to:

1. Refrain from bullying behaviour.
2. Report incidents of bullying behaviour to the principal, teachers, or other school staff.
3. Refuse to participate in circumstances involving bullying behaviour.
4. Remove themselves immediately from circumstances involving bullying behaviour.
5. Seek adult intervention for circumstances involving bullying behaviour

PROGRESSIVE DISCIPLINE

The principal or designate will use a progressive discipline strategy to address student infractions if a student has engaged in inappropriate behaviour. School leaders practice progressive discipline as part of a whole-school approach that involves a continuum of prevention programs, strategies for fostering and reinforcing positive behaviour and helping students make good choices, and age-appropriate interventions, supports, and consequences used to address inappropriate student behaviour.

A teacher or the principal or designate, as appropriate, will utilize early and/or ongoing intervention strategies to prevent unsafe or inappropriate behaviours and to guide students to more appropriate choices. For students with special education needs, this includes referring to their Individual Education Plan (IEP) and consulting with appropriate staff to determine the best possible approaches •

Interventions may include:

- Contact with student's parent(s)/guardian(s);
- Oral reminders;
- Review of expectations;
- Written work assignment addressing the behaviour, that has a learning component;
- Volunteer services to the school community;
- Conflict mediation and resolution;
- Peer mentoring;
- Referral to counseling; and/or consultation.
- Meeting with the student's parent(s)/guardian(s), student and principal;
- Referral to a community agency for counseling or intervention related to anger management, substance abuse, or other
- Detentions;
- Withdrawal of privileges;
- Withdrawal from class;
- Restitution for damages;
- Restorative practices;
- Safe schools transfer

In some cases:

- a. Suspension may be considered an appropriate progressive discipline step
- b. Contact with CAS where required
- c. Contact with police services where required

A bias-free approach is one that respects all people and groups, and reflects human rights principles. A bias-free approach helps build and foster a positive, safe, accepting, and respectful school culture and climate and helps students and their families, school staff, and other members of the school community.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE:

During any school year, there are a number of situations that can occur which require us to use Emergency Procedures. These may include a fire, a tornado warning, and a drug search by police officers or an intruder.

There are procedures for each situation that the students will practice. Although real situations are rare, students, staff, parents and visitors need to be aware of what is expected.

HOLD AND SECURE

Used for: ongoing situation OUTSIDE that is not related to the school occurs i.e. bank robbery, community tragic event, etc.

- Staff assigned to monitor exits move to their area
- Any students on athletic fields should return to the school immediately
- Exterior doors are locked and monitored by staff
- Unassigned staff to the office
- All staff and students within the school are to remain within the classrooms until further notice
- No one is allowed outside; emergency response crews are allowed to enter.
- Staff quick look, halls adjacent to classrooms cleared
- Wait for directions

SHELTER IN PLACE

Used for: when it is necessary to keep all occupants within the school to protect them from an external situation involving environmental or weather-related factors i.e. chemical spills, blackouts, explosions or extreme weather conditions

- An announcement is made to "Shelter in Place"
- All staff and students within the school are to remain within the classrooms until further notice.
- Students in hallways or washrooms must return to class immediately.
- Staff adjacent to washrooms should do a quick check.
- Students on study periods should report to an area designated by the Principal.
- All students on athletic fields should return to the school immediately to an area designated by the Principal.
- Exterior doors locked/ windows closed/ ventilation systems turned off.
- Principal determines whether to bring in students from the portables based on the seriousness of the situation.
- Assign one staff member to monitor each exit.
- Exterior doors locked/windows closed/ventilation systems turned off

Note: To safeguard students and staff inside the building, exterior doors need to remain closed during a shelter in place situation. Travel to a school through conditions requiring a shelter in place creates its own risk. Efforts to pick-up children can complicate already challenging circumstances, so parents are asked to wait until conditions improve. In the meantime, coordinated efforts to communicate ongoing updates to families and the community will be made. Once the all-clear has been given, access to the school can once again be provided.

LOCK DOWN

Used for: major incident or threat of school violence within the school or in relation to the school

An announcement is made to "Lockdown" to notify

Once inside a secure area, staff and students should:

- All students remain in classrooms; clear the halls
- Classroom doors and windows will be locked, curtains drawn, lights off
- cover the window of the classroom door;
- be aware of sight lines
- stay away from doors and windows;
- take cover if available (get behind something solid);
- communicate regarding the incident.
- Students and staff remain away from windows and doors until further notice, cell phones are to be put on quiet mode and only use them if it is necessary to communicate regarding the incident
- If in the washrooms and it is possible get to an area which can be safely locked down and if trapped, enter and lock stall and climb on toilet
- Everyone should be on the floor if gunshots are heard
- have attendance taken by a staff member;

When the potential for danger is over, an announcement of "Deactivate Lock Down" will be made to indicate it is safe to resume activities as usual and that the threat no longer exists.

- ** In Emergency Situations anyone in the building needs to respond immediately and co-operatively.
- respect the need of others to work in an environment that is conducive to learning and teaching;
- not swear at a teacher or at another person in a position of authority;

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Academic Dishonesty: is the act of gaining an unfair advantage. Students are expected to demonstrate academic honesty by relying on their own efforts and by doing their own work to the best of their ability.

Examples of Academic Dishonesty: (This is a partial list and should not be considered complete.)

- * Copying from another student or making information available to another student
- * Submitting another individual's assignment, in whole or in part, and representing it as your own
- * Preparing an assignment for submission by another student

Plagiarism is the act of taking the ideas or words of another and presenting them as your own.

- * Using direct quotations, or any section of paraphrased material without acknowledgement
- * Copying an assignment/essay from any electronic or hard copy source, or knowingly allowing one's assignment/essay to be copied by another student
- * Purchasing/accepting or distributing/selling assignments/essays in partial fulfillment of course requirements

Academic Discipline Procedure:

If a teacher suspects academic dishonesty or plagiarism they will refer the matter to their Program Leader. The Program Leader will then interview the student. Once accidental or intentional academic dishonesty or plagiarism can be established, the Program Leader will meet with the Principal to determine the appropriate course of action. Parents will be contacted. **All written assignments will be completed using prescribed format.**

Consequences for Academic Dishonesty:

Consequences for plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty will depend on the grade and academic level of the student and course. It may include, but is not limited to;

- Rewrites within a specified time limit
- Letter signed by parent(s) acknowledging the dishonesty
- Deductions for all or part of the evaluation, after revisions
- A grade of zero

ACCIDENTS

If you are involved in an accident or have been injured, report immediately to the teacher in charge.

ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION POLICY

Assessment and evaluation at WDSS is based on Ministry guidelines:

1. The primary purpose of assessment and evaluation is to improve student learning.
2. A detailed description of the assessment and evaluation process for each course will be clearly communicated to each student, early in the semester.
3. Assessment and evaluation will be based on the provincial curriculum expectations and the achievement levels outlined in curriculum policy documents.
4. Assessment is the process of gathering information from a variety of sources including assignments, demonstrations, projects, performances and tests. As part of assessment, teachers provide students with descriptive feedback that guides their efforts toward improvement.
5. Evaluation refers to the process of judging the quality of student work on the basis of established criteria.

CHANGING OR DROPPING COURSES

Once the school's timetable is completed, course changes will be permitted ONLY in very unusual circumstances. Students in Grades 9, 10 and 11 will take 8 courses each year. Students in Grade 12 who have completed 23 credits, who wish to drop a course, must request permission to do so through their guidance Counselor. Students are expected to continue in attendance in all timetabled courses until the consultation interviews and approvals are obtained. Students are considered truant if they fail to attend all assigned classes.

CELL PHONES AND OTHER PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

This category includes cell phones, digital cameras, MP3 players, CD players and other personal listening and media devices. Any devices that are brought into the school by a student are the responsibility of that student. The LKDSB is not liable for any broken, lost or stolen devices. All electronic devices must be used in accordance with the LKDSB "Acceptable Use of Technology Policy & Procedures", which can be found at www.lkdsb.net. Electronic devices must be used in accordance with classroom, school and board policies at all times. Inappropriate use of electronic devices, as determined by administration, may be subject to progressive disciplinary action in accordance with LKDSB policies and procedures.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

The following emergency response plan has been developed to assist in the management of dangerous events and situations of serious behaviour. If an emergency occurs that is not discussed below, rely on your classroom teacher for instructions. Above all, remain calm, follow instructions and use common sense.

Hydro Failure

Unless notified by officials, student attendance is mandatory. Parents will be notified as soon as possible if school cancellation is necessary. Only emergency phone calls will be accepted.

Bomb Or Bomb Threat

If a bomb is discovered - call the front office immediately. The fire alarm may sound, calling for the evacuation of the building. Follow the Fire Alarm Instructions as they pertain to your classroom. If a Bomb call is received in the front office, a fire alarm may sound, calling for the evacuation of the building.

Fire and/or Building Evacuation

On the sound of the alarm, students, under the direction of their teacher, will leave the building in an orderly manner. Please do not run and leave the building through the exit identified on the fire exit card posted in all rooms. Once outside, move away from the building. All classes will be informed where they should meet for attendance purposes and should remain in this location until your teacher instructs you to do otherwise. The signal to re-enter the school will be two short rings of the bell system.

If you are the first individual to encounter a fire, activate the nearest fire alarm and inform the office as to where the fire is located. If the office is closed, call 911 and be prepared to provide the school name and the location of the fire. Please note, it is a criminal offence to misuse the fire alarm system.

Medical

Contact the office immediately if you come across a serious injury or illness. If the office is closed, call 911 and be prepared to provide the school name and the type and location of your concern.

Physical Altercations

All students must contact a teacher and/or the office immediately if they encounter a fight. Respond only to the direction of the teacher. Any students that are being encouraged to fight should report immediately to the Principal/Vice Principal.

Tornado

Staff and students will be informed when a tornado warning is in effect. Staff and students should remain in the building during this warning period. If precautionary measures are warranted, all students, under the direction of their teacher, will be instructed to move into the corridors on the main floor of the building. Once assembled in your designated area, stay clear of all glass and leave a path down the centre of the aisle.

Violent Intruder

If a staff member encounters a violent intruder or someone brandishing a fire arm or dangerous weapon, calmly assess the situation and go directly to the nearest classroom or telephone. Provide the front office with as much information as possible as to location, description of intruder etc. A general P.A. announcement will be made instructing staff “to secure their areas”. Stay calm, move away from the sight lines of the door, remain in the classroom and await instruction from the office P.A.

DRESS CODE

In an effort to support and provide a healthy and respectful academic learning environment for our school community, the following dress code has been developed in partnership with staff, students and parents.

While at school, or attending school related functions, students are expected to use good judgment in selecting the clothes that they wear and take pride in their appearance; dressing cleanly, neatly and appropriately whenever attending or representing WDSS.

Inappropriate dress includes, but is not limited to:

- Suggestive and revealing clothing including tube tops, halter tops, muscle shirts, or beach attire.
- Tops with bare midriffs, bare backs, excessively low neck lines or see-through tops and/or exposed undergarments.
- Dresses, skirts and shorts that are excessively short.
- Hats may be worn within the halls and other communal areas but should be removed when entering classrooms unless the teacher permits them to be worn in their classroom
- Clothing displaying drug or alcohol use, sexist behaviour, vulgarity, profanity, violent or racist images.
- Bandanas or identifying symbols, logos or clothing items must not be worn or displayed as per Safe School Legislation.
- Coats and backpacks are NOT allowed in classrooms.

ADMINISTRATION, TEACHING STAFF AND SUPPORT STAFF HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY TO REQUEST A CHANGE OF CLOTHING IF THE DRESS CODE IS NOT BEING FOLLOWED.

FEES

Consideration will be given to any parent, guardian, or student experiencing financial hardship that may limit a students' access to participating fully.

GUESTS

All visitors to the school must report to the main office to obtain permission to be in the school. If a visitor refuses to respect our policy, please report their presence to the main office. Students are reminded that visitors are not permitted in the school on a casual basis.

GUIDANCE

College and University applications will be done online. Counselors will conduct seminars in the fall to show students how to complete and send their own applications.

Students must take responsibility to ensure that they are aware of the academic, vocational and post secondary information necessary to their future plans. Information may be attained by:

- ◆ Attending group College or University sessions provided by the school.
- ◆ Conducting research on the internet.
- ◆ Utilizing College and University calendars and other resources available in the WDSS Career Centre.
- ◆ Using resources available at the public libraries.
- ◆ Contacting post Secondary institutions.
- ◆ Visiting College & University Campuses

Scholarship and bursary information is available in the Career Centre. OSAP applications must also be completed on-line at www.osap.gov.on.ca.

Important Dates: See Guidance for dates on the following items

October 6	College Information Program—Windsor and Chatham
Mid October	Practice SAT (PSAT) @ WDSS-Cost \$20 US
November	University Information Program
Mid January	Last date for University applications to be received at OUAC for equal consideration.
February 1	Last date for College applications to be received at OCAS for equal consideration.

HEALTH NURSE

A public health nurse is available to students and staff at WDSS with the goal of promoting all aspects of good health for adolescents. Topics such as healthy eating, smoking cessation, relationships, birth control, STD prevention, immunization, clinical services, can be addressed through individual counseling. Project and lesson plan resources, and some classroom presentations are available. Services are free and confidential. The nurse will be available in the school one to two days per week or by phone at other times. To make arrangements to meet with her, leave a message in the main office, the guidance office or call the Chatham-Kent Public Health Services at 519-355-1071.

HOMEWORK POLICY

Homework is defined as learning activities assigned to students by teachers and completed during non-classroom hours.

Homework is instrumental in building lifelong learning skills. It is valuable in ways including:

1. To guide students in taking initiative and responsibility;
2. To assist students in the development of self-discipline;
3. To promote in students the sense of task commitment and time management, which will build self esteem;
4. To assist students in the development and practice of problem solving;
5. To guide students in decision-making processes and in learning to accept the consequences of not completing work;
6. To expose students to a variety of settings for learning;
7. To encourage perseverance and resource fullness in task completion;
8. To develop rapport between parents and children;
9. To give parents a clear idea of their children's areas of strength and difficulty;
10. To increase academic achievement.

Types of Homework

Preparation – advance preparation for the next day’s lesson.

Practice – provides students with the needed review and reinforcement about materials or skills presented in a previous lesson.

Extension – gives students an opportunity to expand on concepts that were taught in class.

Creative – includes analysis, synthesis and evaluation where students use resources to investigate their own ideas.

Administrator’s Role

The principal will facilitate staff awareness of the policy and ensure that students and parents have access to the policy. The principal will also support the teachers in encouraging students to do their homework, as applicable.

Teacher’s Role

The teacher will vary the content and type of homework to promote students’ interest and learning as well as to acknowledge the wide range in student abilities. The teacher may include both mandatory and voluntary assignments so that students will have the opportunity to make educational choices.

The teacher will stress the importance of homework to students as outlined in the rationale section.

The teacher may assist students in being organized by requesting the use of planners or logs. Students will also get feedback from the teacher about their homework as well as opportunities for remediation.

Student’s Role

The student will be aware of the extent to which homework is a component of each course and will do his or her best to complete the homework satisfactorily and on time.

Students are responsible for ensuring that they understand what work has been assigned, when it is due and asking for assistance when they experience difficulty. All students are presented with this daily planner to assist them with time management and the organization of homework, tests and assignments

Parent’s Role

Parents should be familiar with the homework policy of the school as well as the expectations of each of the teachers involved in teaching their child. Parents should encourage their child to do their homework by helping them find a suitable workplace and ensuring that sufficient time is set aside. Parents should communicate any concerns or questions about their child’s homework to the appropriate teacher, guidance counselor or administrator.

Guidelines Governing the Amount of Homework

Because students vary in their needs, abilities, interest, involvements and family priorities, the amount of time a student can be expected to spend on the completion of class work, homework, and home study will also vary. Most students in grade 9 should spend no more than 75 minutes daily in order to complete work outside of class. This may increase to as much as 90 minutes per night in grade 10. The amount of work, which students in senior grades should do outside of class, depends on the student’s course selection and abilities. Because of the wide variations in students and programs, no uniform guideline for maximum time spent on homework by senior students is possible, but two hours per evening is not unusual.

LIBRARY

The library is open from 7:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Staff and students have unlimited borrowing privileges. Fiction, non-fiction and graphic novels may be borrowed for a three week period and may be renewed if requested. Materials from the First Nations, Métis and Inuit collection are also available for borrowing. Students will be charged a replacement fine for any lost, stolen or damaged library materials.

Computers in the library are for school and leisure use. Leisure computer use must be suitable for a school setting. Priority for computer access is given to e-learning students and classes who have booked the library. Food and drink by the computers is not permitted.

Staff and students are encouraged to utilize the resources available on the library catalogue called Destiny Quest, which can be accessed on school computers. Off-site access to the library catalogue may be found at <http://destiny.lkdsb.net/>. Students may login to Destiny Quest by using their student number for both the username and password. Please see Librarian for further assistance.

LOCKERS

1. Each student will be assigned a locker and must pay the rental charge of \$5.00 to use the locker for the school year. Students must use and will be responsible for the contents and conditions of his/her assigned locker. Students requiring a replacement lock will be charged \$5.00. **Students are not to switch or share lockers.**
2. Students are to use only the lock assigned to the locker. The combination of this lock must be on file in the Office. Keep your locker closed and locked at all times. Lockers are school property and must be maintained in good condition. Report any damage to your locker to the Office.
3. Students should not bring large amounts of money or valuables to school. If this is occasionally unavoidable, valuables should be left in the School Office and never in the change room during Physical Education periods.

PARKING

Student parking is a privilege not a right. Due to limited parking space in the immediate vicinity of the school, student parking is on a first come first served basis. Parking is also available on neighbouring streets. If you are parked in a restricted area or blocking an emergency access your vehicle will be removed at your expense.

SMOKING

Smoking on school property, including buildings and grounds is prohibited. Respecting the privacy of neighbouring homes and businesses and not smoking on, or around, their premises is also an expectation for staff and students.

Anyone caught smoking on school property will be reported to the Tobacco Control Officer at the Chatham-Kent Health Unit. Potential fines range from \$300 for the first offence to \$5000 for recurring offences. Parents will be contacted and suspensions could result.

SUSPENSION

Students under suspension are not to be on Lambton Kent District School Board property or within the vicinity of the school. Students are not permitted to access bus transportation provided by the Board or operators hired by the Board. Suspended students are responsible for all classroom work.

TECHNOLOGY FOR STUDENTS

Personal Safety

- When using the Internet, students must never give out their or anyone else's personal information such as first and last name, home address, and phone number.
- Students must report to a teacher or school administrator any message they receive that requests personal information, is inappropriate, or makes them feel uncomfortable.

Illegal Activities

- Students are responsible for respecting and adhering to the LKDSB code of behaviour, and all local, provincial, federal, and international laws. The onus is on the user to know and to comply with these laws and regulations.
- It is unacceptable for any student to attempt to gain unauthorized access to a computer network or resource databank.

System Security

- Students must respect the integrity of the computers and networks in the schools, by not altering any hardware, software or wiring configurations.
- Students must not develop, or activate programs that harass others, or attempt to infiltrate a computer system or alter the software components of a computer or a computer system. These include, but are not limited to viruses, forging

**Freedom of Information Notice to Parents
regarding
Consent for Imaging or Audio Recording of Students**

During the school year, your child(ren) will be involved in a variety of school related activities consistent with the purpose of educating students in accordance with the Education Act.

Examples may include but are not limited to:

- School Yearbook
- School Plays/Art Exhibits
- Field Days/Athletic Functions
- Science Fairs
- Annual Report of the Director
- School/Board Curriculum Presentations or Teaching Aids
- School and Class Photographs
- Public Speaking Contests
- Education Week events
- School/Board memorabilia.

In addition, public media organizations, upon notification, may be present to cover these events by photographing, audiotaping or videotaping students involved in the above-mentioned routine in-school activities.

A **Special Event Student Release Form** is required for the imaging or audio recording of specific programs or activities of the School or Board which are **not** considered part of routine activities and which may be shared outside of the jurisdiction of the School or Board.

Special Event Student Release forms will be sent home for students participating in these types of out-of-school / special Board-sponsored activities, or special projects, as they occur.

A signed release is also required for images or audio recordings to be included on School or Board websites.

Consent will be obtained each year on student profile sheets for elementary students and through the grade 8 to 9 and subsequent years' option sheet process for secondary students.

These procedures are designed to ensure the privacy of students in the school and for students within the jurisdiction of the Lambton Kent

Adult students (over 18 years of age) are also requested to inform the Principal, in writing, if they do not wish to be photographed, audiotaped or videotaped during the school year.