

2021-2022 Director's Annual Report



Table of Contents



<u>Message from Director Howitt.....</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>LKDSB by the Numbers.....</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Student Achievement and Well-Being.....</u>	<u>5</u>
Supporting Positive School Transitions	5
Graduation Rates	6
Learning Recovery Plans.....	7
EQAO Assessments.....	8
Professional Development	9
International Education	9
Exploring Career Pathways.....	10
Summer Programming.....	11
Adult & Continuing Education.....	12
<u>Equity & Inclusive Education.....</u>	<u>13</u>
Supporting Anti-Oppressive Education.....	14
<u>Building Trusting Relationships</u>	<u>15</u>
Indigenous Education.....	15
Student Senate.....	16
Parent Involvement Committee	17
<u>Business and Operations</u>	<u>18</u>
2021-2022 Budget	18
Capital Improvement Projects	19
Health and Safety	20
Staff Newsletter	20
Contract Negotiations.....	21
Energy and Environment	21
<u>Our Schools.....</u>	<u>22</u>

Message from Director John Howitt

The Director's Annual Report provides an overview of the Lambton Kent District School Board's (LKDSB) initiatives and achievements during the 2021-2022 school year to support student success.

Throughout the school year, LKDSB staff demonstrate a strong commitment to supporting student achievement and well-being. The COVID-19 pandemic continued to influence school and Board operations in the 2021-2022 school year; however, it was wonderful to see a significant return to extracurricular activities, clubs, school gatherings and in-person guest speakers and visitors to enhance student learning. I am proud of our students and staff's ability to adapt to the changing landscape of the pandemic and develop a strategy and supports for positive transitions throughout the school year. Even through the temporary remote learning period in January, our staff continued to provide engaging education and opportunities for students to connect.

The last two years of learning disruption did not steer us away from the goals and action steps outlined in the 2021-2022 Operational Plan which align with the Strategic Priorities. We also recognize that intentional efforts must be made to ensure that all students achieve academic success and well-being. We will continue to focus on improving graduation rates, learning interventions and assessments and opportunities to explore various career pathways. As we move forward, we know there is still a lot of work to do to ensure that all students are successful. We continue to build trusting relationships with students and their families, as well as their community of supports. We continue to focus on supporting all students to feel welcome, safe and a sense of belonging at school. The Student Demographic Data Census will provide new insights and provide a profile of our student body so that we can better understand their needs and be more responsive in our planning and programming.

Together, we will continue *Fostering Success for Every Student Every Day.*



LKDSB Strategic Priorities 2020/2021-2025/2026

LKDSB Senior Administration published the [2021-2022 Operational Plan](#) outlining the goals, action steps and outcomes in alignment with the Strategic Priorities.

LKDSB by the NUMBERS

number of
employees
3,358



number of
schools
62



2021-2022 Operating
and Capital Budget
**\$325.13
million**



Total Enrolment
21,539

Elementary
14,595

Secondary
6,944

Student Achievement and Well-Being

Supporting Positive School Transitions

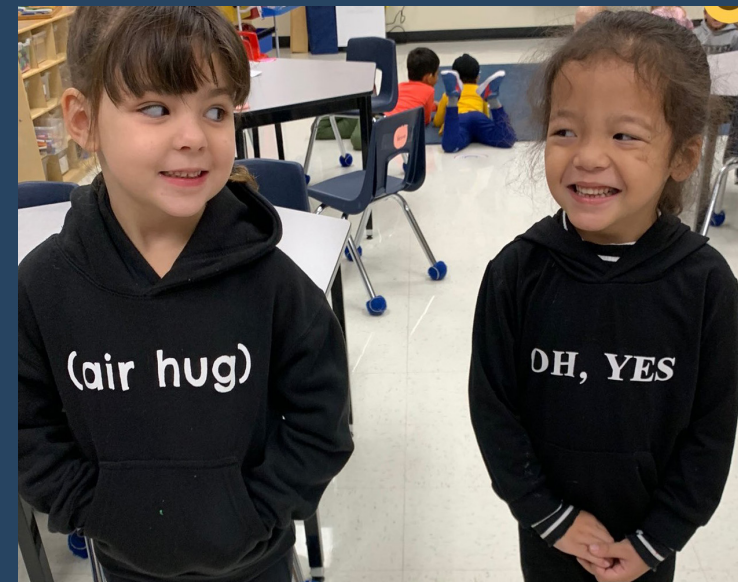
The COVID-19 pandemic continued to impact elementary and secondary schools during the 2021-2022 school year, including periods of remote, teacher-led learning January 5 to 14, 2022. At the start of the school year and with the return to in-person learning following the remote learning period, the LKDSB prioritized supports for student and family re-engagement to help students transition to in-person learning. LKDSB also provided professional development opportunities for staff to ensure students felt supported and a sense of belonging at school.

Prior to the start of the school year, schools provided Junior and Senior Kindergarten students transition supports to ensure a positive start to in-person learning for the school year. Kindergarten students and their families had opportunities to tour schools, participate in activities and ask questions of Principals, Teachers and Early Childhood Educators.

Students in Grades 7-10 were invited to participate in summer workshops held at LKDSB secondary schools in July and August to support students to learn important skills for success at the secondary level. Applied Behaviour Analysis Specialists led the day-long "Secondary School Survival Skills Summer Workshop for Students."

To support the transition from Grade 8 to 9, secondary schools established Google Classrooms and provided opportunities for orientation activities for incoming Grade 9 students. Through additional Ontario Ministry of Education funding, three Summer Indigenous Graduation Coaches, along with an Indigenous Grad Coach, were available to work with local First Nation Education Managers and school personnel to support Grade 8 to 9 transitions. Students had the opportunity to participate in a reach ahead credit, acquire volunteer hours required for graduation and participate in cultural and social events. [Read a report on student transition supports.](#)

Mental Health Professionals were available during the 2022 summer months for [mental health and well-being supports](#) for students, parents and caregivers.



Student Achievement and Well-Being

Graduation Rates

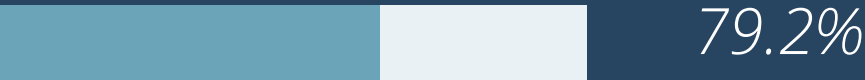
Preliminary data for 2016-2017 cohort

Four-year rate



Up from 71.7% for 2015-2016 cohort

Five-year rate



Down from 80.5% for 2015-2016 cohort but increase from 77% for the 2014-2015 cohort



There was a higher number of non-graduates still enrolled at the end of the year for the 2015-2016 cohort versus the previous two cohorts. Secondary schools continue the practice of identifying potential graduates with incomplete Literacy Requirement and Community Involvement Hours and develop plans to address these graduation requirements.

Student Achievement and Well-Being

Learning Recovery Plans

- Tutoring support programming - Supports focus on small groups of students, flexible access to tutoring during the school day, evenings, and weekends for families, prioritizing foundational learning skills, and collaboration with community partners. LKDSB received \$919,900 for tutoring support from April to August 2022 as part of Ontario Ministry of Education's learning recovery funding.
- Early literacy development with primary students - From April to August, elementary students had access to intervention and assessment teachers during the school day; tutoring on evenings and weekends; community support; and summer opportunities. Fifteen intervention and assessment teachers are currently assessing word recognition skills and reading comprehension in each elementary school.
- Online tutoring - LKDSB offered free online reading sessions for students in Kindergarten to Grade 4. The tutoring aims to help students improve their reading confidence, skill levels and provide supports individualized to their learning needs.



- Secondary student supports during April to June were focused on literacy and numeracy. Secondary teachers supported students during the school day in class by working with small groups of students (six or fewer students in a grouping).
- Support has been provided in Grade 9 de-streamed math and Grade 9 and 10 applied English classes throughout the district. During the month of April, 250 students received numeracy support and 90 received literacy support.

[Read more about the LKDSB's Spring and Summer 2022 Learning Recovery Plan.](#)

Student Achievement and Well-Being

EQAO Assessments

The 2021-2022 school year marked a return to Education Quality and Accountability Office's (EQAO) provincial assessment administrations, which had been paused for the previous two years. These provincial assessments – the Assessment of Reading, Writing and Mathematics, Primary and Junior Divisions (Grades 3 and 6), the Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics and the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) – were administered in a new mode of delivery (online) and new assessment model (multi-stage computer adaptive model) which differ from the prior paper-based assessments.

LKDSB recognizes that the COVID-19 pandemic and related learning, socio-emotional and well-being impacts due to school year disruptions may have influenced students' performance on the 2021-2022 EQAO assessments. In all areas, including Grade 3 and 6 reading, writing and mathematics, Grade 9 mathematics and the OSSLT, the LKDSB is below the provincial results. The LKDSB remains focused on increasing student mathematics and literacy achievement.

Results are also available on the [LKDSB website](#).

	Reading		Writing		Mathematics	
2021-2022	Grade 3	Grade 6	Grade 3	Grade 6	Grade 3	Grade 6
LKDSB	60	79	51	76	50	33
Ontario	73	85	65	84	59	47

2021-2022	Grade 9 Mathematics	OSSLT
LKDSB	33.6	76.4
Ontario	52.3	82.1

Student Achievement and Well-Being

Professional Development

- Professional learning opportunities were provided for staff to create conditions for success for all students in academic courses including teaching in multi-level classrooms. Particular supports were provided to assist with the successful implementation of the Grade 9 de-streamed math course across the district in 2021-2022.
- [ReLaunch 2022 virtual conference](#) was held August 29-31, 2022 and provided professional learning in the areas of number talks; building and maintaining positive classroom cultures; phonemic awareness; inclusive classrooms; math curriculum and instruction; embedding Indigenous voices in elementary classrooms; science of reading; encouraging student talk in the classroom; mental health; supporting French and English Language Learners; and fostering collaborative learning commons.



International Education



100 students



24 countries

In collaboration with the Municipality of Chatham-Kent and the City of Sarnia, LKDSB co-hosted welcome activities for international students in September 2021.

Student Achievement and Well-Being

Exploring Career Pathways

Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) programs are offered at all 12 secondary schools. LKDSB has over 680 secondary students engaged in SHSM Programs including: Agriculture, Arts & Culture, Construction, Energy, Environment, Hospitality & Tourism, Health & Wellness, Horticulture and Landscaping, Information and Communication Technology, Manufacturing and Transportation. Three secondary schools applied for and were granted new sectors for the 2022-2023 school year: Ridgetown District High School (Construction), Chatham Kent Secondary School (Transportation) and Lambton Central Collegiate & Vocational Institute (Manufacturing).

Both Lambton College and St. Clair College offered dual credit courses in a college-teacher-led online learning format during 2021-2022. For many of the courses the colleges distributed experiential kits to help emulate the face-to-face experience as much as possible (for example: make-up and hair kits for the aesthetics course, baking kits for the baking course, etc.).

LKDSB had six applicants to the OYAP Level 1 Dual Credit Apprenticeship in Welding at Lambton College last year and all students were successful.

Grade 11 and 12 students are engaged in SHSM Programs, including:



CONSTRUCTION



HEALTH & WELLNESS



HOSPITALITY



MANUFACTURING



ARTS & CULTURE



TRANSPORTATION



HORTICULTURE



INFORMATION



AGRICULTURE



Student Achievement and Well-Being

Summer Programming

There was a significant increase in elementary students participating in summer learning programs. In comparison to the previous year during which 95 students participated, there were 244 students from 46 school locations engaged in numeracy and literacy camps held online using the videoconferencing tool, Google Meet. Parents and guardians also were able to attend the virtual classes each day with their students. Elementary French support was provided during the 'Camp Franco Fun' summer learning experience where students from the English and French Immersion program participated together in small groups online and enjoyed hands-on activities including arts, cooking, and culture.

[Learn more about 2021 elementary summer programs \(pages 50-51\).](#)



Secondary Summer Learning

The LKDSB continued to be a leader in offering both online and in-person programs to more than 1,000 students of which almost 400 were students from school boards across the province. Online programs included full credit, upgrade, credit recovery, and college dual credits. In-person programs included Indigenous land-based learning in Walpole Island First Nation - Bkejwanong Territory and Kettle & Stony Point First Nation, summer co-op, horticulture, special education credit, and the Walpole Island summer school. Fifty Grade 8 students were able to reach ahead to earn a high school credit.

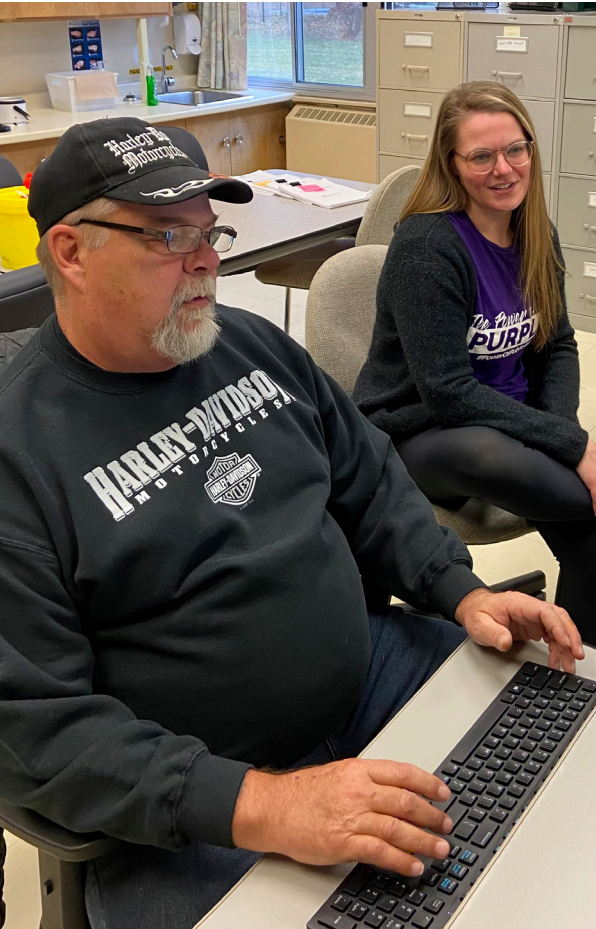
[Read a report on LKDSB's secondary summer learning program.](#)



Student Achievement and Well-Being

Adult & Continuing Education

Adult & Continuing Education had more than 1,700 learners registered in 2021-2022. Learners in adult programs ranged from ages 18 to 78, with 100 learners over the age of 50 years old.



- Adult Non-Credit English as a Second Language (ESL) – Working in partnership with the YMCA of Southwestern Ontario (Sarnia) and Adult Language and Learning (Chatham), seven classes of ESL were offered allowing newcomers to develop the necessary skills in English for citizenship, employment, and further education.
- Literacy and Basic Skills (LBS) – 226 learners completed an LBS program at one of seven sites throughout the LKDSB. With an average age of 31, about 80 percent of learners begin without a diploma and utilized LBS as preparation for a graduation pathway. LBS also provided support to learners in preparation for college entrance, employment testing and readiness, trades and apprenticeships, soft skills, and computer skills.
- Adult Credit – Credit support was provided to learners at 11 sites including four First Nations. There were 791 Prior Learning Assessment Recognition assessments completed, allowing learners to receive equivalency credits for a variety of education, work, and life experiences. Learners completed self-study and eLearning courses from a menu of 60+ courses. Two classes of Adult School Within a College (SWAC) provided learners with both high school and college credits along with a college experience. Two classes of Adult Co-op provided learners working full-time with a pathway to graduation. There were 150 learners who graduated in 2021-22.
- International Language Elementary – More than 2,000 hours of international language instruction was provided to 248 elementary aged students in the languages of Arabic, Greek, Korean, Malayalam, Mandarin, Turkish, and Urdu.

Equity and Inclusive Education

During March 1-April 8, 2022, LKDSB launched the *Count Me In LKDSB Student Demographic Data Census* to collect information to better understand our students and school communities in support of equity, inclusion, student achievement and well-being. The LKDSB, as directed by and with the support of the Ontario Ministry of Education, conducted the voluntary and confidential student census to gather demographic information (such as race, ethnicity, language, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, etc.). The 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. During the 2022-2023 school year, the LKDSB will report aggregate data to the community and develop action steps.



Recognizing Dates of Significance

Throughout the school year, LKDSB recognizes dates of significance to the Board and school communities. Here is a list of a few dates that were recognized in 2021-2022:

- [Asian Heritage Month and Jewish Heritage Month in May](#)
- [Black History/African Heritage Month](#)
- [Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week](#)
- [Education Week – May 2-6](#)
- [International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia – May 17](#)
- [Mental Health Week – May 2-6](#)
- [National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day – September 30](#)
- [National Human Trafficking Awareness Day](#)
- [National Indigenous History Month](#)
- [National Indigenous Peoples Day – June 21](#)
- [National School Bus Safety Week and Driver Appreciation Day – October 18-22](#)
- [Pride Month](#)
- [Staff and Volunteer Appreciation Day – October 5](#)
- [Welcome Week – September 10-19](#)

A monthly Inclusive Diversity Newsletter was distributed throughout the school year. Information about Dates of Significance are incorporated into the newsletter.

Equity and Inclusive Education

Supporting Anti-Oppressive Education

LKDSB staff completed required Ministry of Education training and support was provided to school administrators on the implementation of the [Ontario College of Teachers Professional Advisory on Anti-Black Racism](#). Mandatory training was provided to administrators and Board Office staff, and voluntary training was also available for clerical staff during summer 2022.



An audit of secondary learning resources is ongoing with a focus on supporting anti-oppressive and anti-racist perspectives. Several schools participated in a culturally responsive and relevant pedagogy project. Revised assessment and evaluation guidelines were introduced in 2021-2022 to remove systemic bias from instructional, assessment and evaluation practices and dismantle discrimination and inequity in classrooms. There will be ongoing professional learning for the implementation of the guidelines.

In February 2022, LKDSB launched an Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee which includes representation from throughout the school board and the committee continues to meet monthly.

Virtual Learning

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the LKDSB supported virtual learning environments for both elementary and secondary students. Elementary students were registered as McNaughton Avenue Public School students and secondary students were registered as Lambton Kent Composite School students.

- 2,028 elementary
- 904.75 secondary

Building Trusting Relationships

Indigenous Education

In partnership with the four First Nations within its catchment area, Aamjiwnaang First Nation, Eelūnaapéewi Lahkéewiit (Delaware Nation), Kettle & Stony Point First Nation, and Walpole Island First Nation – Bkejwanong Territory, LKDSB is building capacity and encouraging further understanding and education about Indigenous ways of knowing, world views and histories. The LKDSB is committed to promoting the success and well-being of self-identified Indigenous students. As an education system, LKDSB understands it plays an important role in promoting and supporting Indigenous rights, histories, knowledge, cultures, and perspectives. Additional information and resources are available on the [Indigenous Education website](#).

Indigenous Liaison Committee

The [Indigenous Liaison Committee](#) (ILC) is comprised of the LKDSB First Nation Trustee, an appointed Trustee, and the local four First Nation Education Representatives who meet monthly with the Board's Superintendent of Education with responsibilities for Indigenous Education, the LKDSB Indigenous Lead and school administrators, except for December and March. Since March 2020, the monthly meetings have been held virtually. Discussions are currently occurring about returning to a previous practice of rotating meetings amongst four First Nations and local schools. In addition to addressing priorities of First Nations, LKDSB and the Ministry of Education, ILC is a shared space to have conversations about the reality of school for Indigenous students, strengthen relationships between LKDSB, First Nations and schools and showcase the learning about Indigenous history and culture. Each month administrators are invited to submit an electronic report about how Indigenous Education is embedded in the curriculum at their school.



Building Trusting Relationships

Student Senate

Student Senators worked closely with the Student Trustees to provide a broad perspective on issues that face students in LKDSB schools. Student mental health and well-being continues to be a priority area of focus for Student Senate. LKDSB Mental Health Lead provided information to Student Senate about the role and supports available in schools. Student Senate was also consulted on the Voluntary Student Demographic Data Census and participated in conversations about equity and inclusive education.

[Learn more about LKDSB Student Senate.](#)



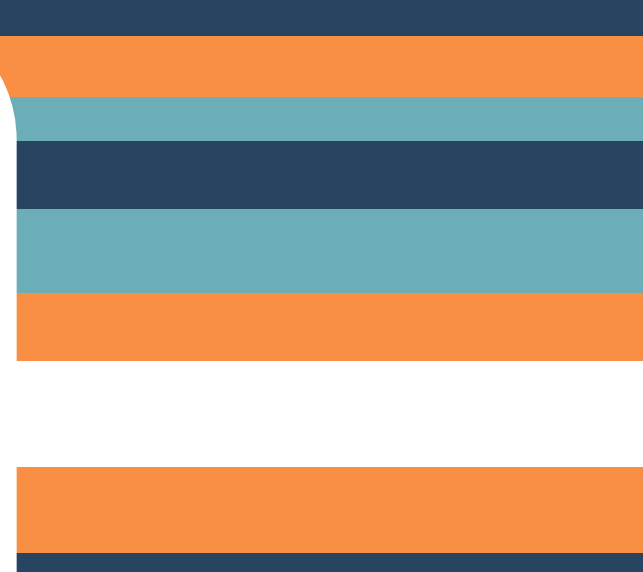
Building Trusting Relationships

Parent Involvement Committee

The LKDSB's Parent Involvement Committee meets four times annually and involves parent/guardian representatives from Chatham-Kent and Sarnia-Lambton school communities, as well as Public Health representatives, Trustees and LKDSB Administration. School Councils also provide an important connection between school staff, parents/ guardians, Home and School Associations and other parent/ guardian groups that may be active within the school community. [Learn more about the Parent Involvement Committee.](#)

On April 28, 2022, the LKDSB Parent Involvement Committee hosted a virtual event with Yassmin Abdel-Magied, titled "Beating Your Bias." Yassmin Abdel-Magied, a Sudanese-Australian writer, broadcaster and award-winning social advocate with a background in mechanical engineering, shared personal experiences to illustrate the impacts of gender bias in educational institutions, social structures and various other global institutions.

Throughout the school year, LKDSB shared academic and COVID-19 related updates with parents/guardians through its [website](#) and by direct messaging through phone and email.

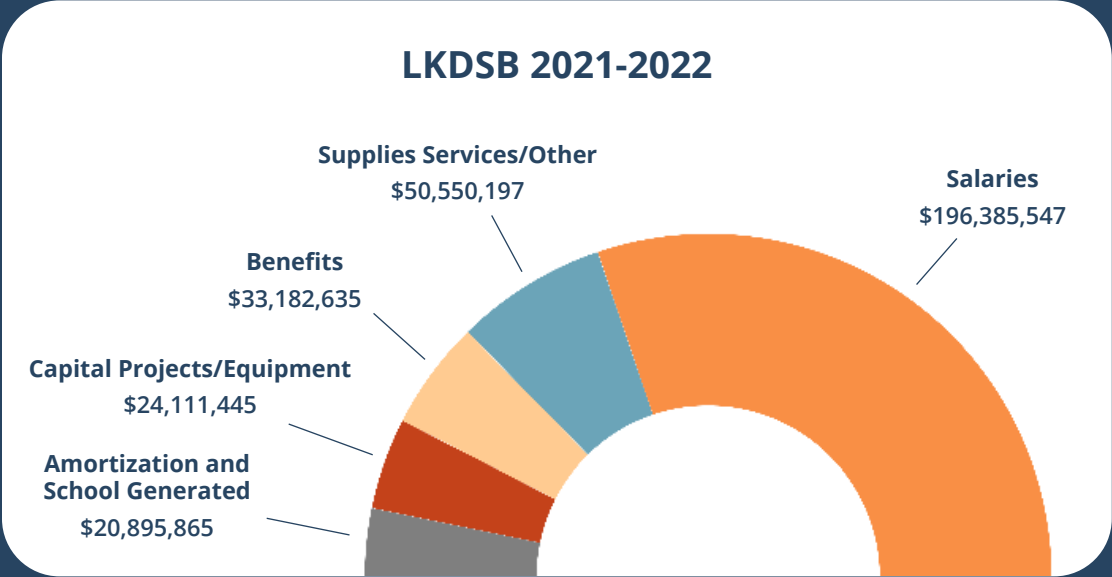


Business and Operations

2021-2022 Budget

The LKDSB is committed to fiscal responsibility and sustainability, while also maintaining quality educational programming and positive learning experiences for students. The LKDSB had a total operating and capital budget of \$325.13 million in 2021-2022.

Read more about the [2021-2022 School Year Budget](#)



Business and Operations

Capital Improvement Projects

The COVID-19 pandemic continued to have a significant impact on the 2021-2022 school year and school and Board operations. Funding provided by the [COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream](#) supported LKDSB to complete several capital projects at schools throughout the district, including air quality improvements, window replacements, water bottle refill stations and HVAC improvements.

[Read the 2022 Capital Plan](#)

In addition to larger capital projects, other capital projects occurred throughout the summer of 2022, such as outdoor classrooms, paving, flooring, window coverings, and installation of outdoor Wi-Fi. [View a presentation](#) of facility upgrades which were completed during summer 2022.

Great Lakes Secondary School

Great Lakes Secondary School hosted a grand opening of the Kim Henry - Gnaajwi Biidaabiniikwe (Beautiful Morning Woman) Room (also known as Owaanzhgan – “The Den”) and Great Lakes Secondary School Auditorium on June 16, 2022.

Forest Kindergarten to Grade 12 School

The [Ministry of Education](#) approved the acquisition of land for the location of the new consolidated [Kindergarten to Grade 12 school](#) in the Forest area. The LKDSB continues to work with the school communities through the Forest Area of Schools Transition Committee and Kettle & Stony Point First Nation to prepare for the consolidation of students at the new site.



[See a list of LKDSB Capital Projects](#)
Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program

Business and Operations

Health and Safety

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, LKDSB implemented the necessary health and safety measures to support the safe operation of schools. Hand hygiene, cleaning protocols and ventilation measures, including the HEPA units current in use in occupied spaces, were in place to support the maintenance of clean and safe school environments. Health and safety procedures from the Ministry of Education and LKDSB were provided to staff to support the safe operation of schools. Staff and administrators continue to promote the safe operation of schools in alignment with the current public health directions.

During the 2020-2021/2021-2022 school years, the LKDSB received \$15.7 million in ventilation funding (including spending from dedicated ventilation programs, federal-provincial funding, provincial renewal funding and supplemental funding from other Board sources). There were 30 projects completed in 26 schools (42% of total schools in the Board) during this time. The most up-to-date ventilation measures and an outline of school ventilation and filtration measures are posted on the [LKDSB website](#).

Staff Newsletter

To stay connected to LKDSB staff throughout the school year, the Director's Office distributed a Staff Newsletter to communicate information, resources and professional development opportunities to staff.



Business and Operations

Contract Negotiations

Throughout the 2021-2022 school year, contract negotiations continued to be an ongoing focus for the LKDSB. A collective agreement was ratified with Occasional Teachers of the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario in November 2021. LKDSB collective agreements are posted on the [LKDSB website](#).

With a goal of supporting equitable and inclusive hiring, promotion, advancement and accountability for equity and human rights at all levels, and to build diverse and inclusive workplaces with equitable outcomes for all, LKDSB updated its Administrative Procedure for Teaching Hiring Practice and updated the hiring process for Principals, Managers and Supervisors.



Energy and Environment

Under the leadership of CLASS Shared School Services' Energy & Environmental Coordinator and in partnership with the coterminous school board, representatives from LKDSB schools, Facilities Services staff and Senior Administration, participated in The [Green Team initiative](#) to help educate, inspire and empower school communities to become more environmentally friendly. This is consistent with the LKDSB's commitment to reducing LKDSB's environmental impact and engaging students, staff, Indigenous representatives, and community partners to support a greener future for education.



Our Schools

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

A. A. Wright Public School
Aberarder Central School
Bosanquet Central Public School
Bridgeview Public School
Brigden Public School
Bright's Grove Public School
Brooke Central Public School
Cathcart Boulevard Public School
Colonel Cameron Public School
Confederation Central School
Dawn-Euphemia Public School
Dresden Area Central School
East Lambton Elementary School
Errol Road Public School
Errol Village Public School
Grand Bend Public School
Gregory Drive Public School
H. W. Burgess Public School
Hanna Memorial Public School
Harwich Raleigh Public School
High Park Public School
Hillcrest Public School
Indian Creek Road Public School
King George VI Public School - Chatham
King George VI Public School - Sarnia
Kinnwood Central Public School
Lakeroad Public School
Lambton Centennial Public School
Lansdowne Public School
London Road School
McNaughton Avenue Public School
Merlin Area Public School

Mooretown-Courtright Public School
Naahii Ridge Elementary School
P. E. McGibbon Public School
Queen Elizabeth II Public School - Chatham
Queen Elizabeth II Public School - Petrolia
Queen Elizabeth II Public School - Sarnia
Riverview Central School
Rosedale Public School
Sir John Moore Community School
Plympton-Wyoming Public School
Tecumseh Public School
Thamesville Area Central School
Tilbury Area Public School
Victor Lauriston Public School
W. J. Baird Public School
Wheatley Area Public School
Winston Churchill Public School
Zone Township Central School

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Alexander Mackenzie Secondary School
Blenheim District High School
Chatham Kent Secondary School
Great Lakes Secondary School
John McGregor Secondary School
Lambton Central Collegiate & Vocational Institute
Lambton Kent Composite School
North Lambton Secondary School
Northern Collegiate Institute & Vocational School
Ridgetown District High School
Tilbury District High School
Wallaceburg District Secondary School

Board Offices

Sarnia Education Centre
Chatham Regional Education Centre

Learning Centres

Adult & Continuing Education Centre
John N. Given Learning Centre

2021



2022

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