



# Great Lakes Secondary School

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Mr. P. Wiersma Principal  
Mr. J. Gower Vice-Principal  
Mrs. C. White Vice-Principal  
Mrs. N. Harrett Office Supervisor

May 17, 2018

Dear Students and Parents of Great Lakes Secondary School,

I am communicating with you today to share that on May 17, 2018, our school community will be hosting an IMPACT day that will inform students about the importance of making good decisions to minimize the risk of injuries.

### What is IMPACT?

IMPACT is a Trauma Prevention Program created and supported by London Health Sciences (LHSC) in partnership with the Lambton Safe Roads Committee. Our presentation is designed for high school students on the social, economic, and health outcomes of risk taking behaviours. Presentations include guest speakers who share their stories and provide students with the tools necessary to make informed decisions when faced with a challenge.

The LHSC Trauma Program is committed to the prevention of injury through the delivery of injury prevention programs, advocacy for safety legislation, research and evaluation on injury prevention initiatives. Key programming that they offer include: Under the Influence (Alcohol, Drugs, Addictions), Behind the Wheel (Text, Drink or Drugs and driving), Struggle is Real (Abuse, Drama, Self-Harm and Anxiety).

Our IMPACT in-school day include many community partners alongside London Health Sciences and we are grateful for their commitment to the safety of our students.

### All of our students from grades 9 to 12 will be engaged in learning via:

- Mock accident at front of school on morning of May 17 seen by all students and staff as they enter the school. Sarnia Police Services and Sarnia Fire and Rescue are providing this visual for us as a clear depiction of the possible harm to us via distracted or careless driving.
- Two guest speakers recommended by IMPACT who will provide real life awareness on distracted driving, and risks of drinking and using drugs.
- Will have the added opportunity to visit information areas established in our gymnasium. Students will be able to engage in awareness on the prevention of injury or harm due to risky behaviours and habits. Several topics and risky behaviours discussions planned are: Alcohol and Marijuana, Partying; Distracted Driving; Drugs; and several other choices that put youth at higher risk for injury.
- Ongoing curriculum connects will happen within the weeks following this IMPACT event.

Our school will also have mental health professionals on hand for this day for any students who may need additional support during any parts of the presentation.

Should you have any questions about our IMPACT day, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Respectfully,

P. Wiersma  
Principal