



Queen Elizabeth II School

Zone 4

4079 Maple Street

Petrolia, NON 1R0

Phone: 519-882-2123 Fax: 519-882-2595

Principal: Mr. Ryan Myers

September 2023

Welcome Back!

Hello Queen Elizabeth Families,

My name is Ryan Myers and I am the principal here for the 2023 – 2024 school year again. The staff at QEP would like to welcome everyone to another exciting and educational year. After an exceptional time and enjoyable summer, our staff are looking forward to working with you and your child(ren) as we work together to make our schools a safe and inspirational place to learn. Teachers, secretaries, support staff and custodians have all been busy getting everything ready for another great start to the year. We thank the custodial staff for their hard work over the summer getting the buildings clean and shiny. We also welcome all of our new students and their families to the Knight team!

School Hours

Our school schedule is as follows:

8:10	Classes Begin	
10:10-10:30	Nutritional Break	Gr. 7/8 Outdoor Activity
10:30-10:50	Outdoor Activities	Gr. 7/8 Nutritional Break
12:30-12:50	Nutritional Break	Gr. 7/8 Outdoor Activity
12:50-1:10	Outdoor Activities	Gr. 7/8 Nutritional Break
2:30	Dismissal	



Nut Aware School/Scent Sensitive

Queen Elizabeth is a Nut Aware School. As such, we ask that people refrain from including items containing nuts in their child’s lunches. We do have children who have nut allergies in the school and we want to ensure a safe environment for them. In some cases an anaphylactic reaction will take place which is potentially a life threatening condition for students. We also ask that students, staff and visitors refrain from wearing scented products to school. This is a measure to make our environment safe for all students. Thank you for your assistance in this matter. If your child has asthma or uses an epi-pen for an anaphylactic reaction we will be sending paperwork home for you to fill out to help us support your child.

Early Pick Up

If you need to pick up your child early from school, please notify your child(ren)’s teacher and the school office.

School Visitors

All visitors must report to the office when entering into the school.

New Staff

The new school year brings changes to our staff. Our staff list is below.

Staff for 2023-2024

JK/SK FDK – Mrs. L. Mailloux/Ms. B. Burdan
JK/SK FDK – Ms. K. Davis/Mrs. S. Langford
SK/Gr.1 – Miss D. Virostek
Grade 1/2 - Mrs. B. Toner
Grade 1/2 – Miss M. Kavanagh/Mrs. A. McPhail
Grade 1/2 – Mrs. K. McKichan
Grade 3/4 – Ms. K. Anderson
Gr. 3/4 – Mrs. S. Parrish
Gr. 3/4 - Mr. Douglas
Grade 4/5 – Mrs. M. Sanderson
Grade 5/6 – Mr. J. Mason
Grade 6 – Mr. A. Hillis
Gr. 7/8 – Mr. A. Fazio
Gr. 7/8 - Mr. M. Harding
French/Prep. – Ms. R. Abrametz

French/Prep – Mrs. A. Whelan
Resource – Mrs. P. Holloway
Resource/Library/Guidance/Prep – Mrs. A. Thompson
Prep. – Mrs. J. Workman
E.A. – Ms. S. Young
E.A. – Mrs. K. Mills
E.A. – Mrs. N. Walker
E.A. – Ms. T. Amstine
E.A. – Mrs. K. Buruma
E.A. – Mrs. A. Hyatt
E.A. – Mrs. D. Stephenson
Custodian – Ms. B. Young
Secretary – Mrs. D. Strydonck
Principal – Mr. R. Myers

School Cash Online

In order to minimize the handling of cash, families are encouraged to use School Cash Online. Visit the school website to learn more about School Cash Online (click on the orange School Cash Online button).

Terry Fox

We will be participating in the Terry Fox Run/Walk at the school again this year on a date to be determined. There will be future communication regarding our plans for the Terry Fox Run.

Student Safety and Attendance

Student safety is a priority for the staff at Queen Elizabeth II Public School. We want to ensure that each child gets to and from school safely each day. As such, we ask that you help us ensure your child's safety by following the procedures below.

Regular, punctual attendance is necessary if students are to be successful. Please ensure that your children are at school every day and that they arrive on time. This includes attending on days when buses are cancelled at the school if your child is not transported by a bus to school. Please call the school or use the school messenger app when your child will be absent. To ensure the safety of all our students, you will be contacted if your child is absent and we have not heard from you. Students arriving late should sign in at the office before proceeding to class. This will allow us to confirm they have arrived at school.

Our office staff will be available from 7:30 a.m. to take your call. You may also leave a message on the attendance line. There is no longer a need to talk to school staff if your child(ren) are away as your message can be sent directly to this mailbox 24 hrs/day.

Notes from home are needed to excuse a child early from class. **Please do not leave a message on the school answering machine regarding pickup or childcare changes after 2:00 pm.** We cannot guarantee the message will be passed on in time due to the busy office environment.

Parents and students are reminded that there is no supervision available on the school grounds before 7:55 a.m. **Please do not drop off your child(ren) prior to 7:55 a.m.**

School Messenger Quick Reference Guide

How to sign up and create a SchoolMessenger account.

1. Open an internet browser and search for go.schoolmessenger.ca or download the BLUE SchoolMessenger app. Click to [Download the app for Apple devices](#). Click to [Download the app for Android devices](#).
2. Click Sign up in the upper right corner
3. Use the email address on file at the school and create a password. **Important note: You must use the same email address your school has on record.** If you wish to use a different one, please contact your school and ask them to update your email address.
4. Click Sign up. Choose your password. Select **Location as Canada**. Tap Sign Up. You will receive a verification email. From this email, click the link to verify. This will open in a browser where you will be prompted to enter your login details. Log in and confirm your details.

Phone Access and Setting a PIN

If using the LKDSB toll-free Attendance Reporting number 1 (844) 487-3695, Parents/guardians should require that a Personal Identification Number (PIN) be entered before absences can be reported or explained for their student using the SafeArrival phone system.

What if I'm not calling from my home phone number?

You will be asked to enter a phone number that is registered for your student.

Can anyone who knows my phone number report an absence using the phone system? Including my child? Yes, anyone who uses a phone that is listed in the school's system for your student or anyone who can enter a phone number that is listed in the school's system for your student can report an absence for your student.

It is strongly recommended that you set a PIN that must be entered before an absence can be reported or explained for a student. We recommend that you provide your email address so that whenever an absence is reported or updated, you will receive an email confirmation notice.

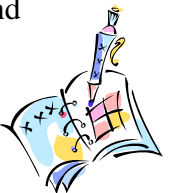
Setting a PIN

PIN settings can be set by Parents/ Guardians from the Attendance page of the SchoolMessenger app or by logging into the School Messenger Website.

On the Manage your PIN Settings screen, choose the district in which the student is enrolled (if the Parent Guardian has students enrolled in more than 1 district). The Parent / Guardian will see a list of his/her students and will be able to **tap the checkbox to request that a PIN be required** for when reporting and explaining absences for this student by phone. A 4-digit PIN can then be entered. Changes made on this screen will be saved automatically. Tap the **eye icon** to see the PIN as you enter it. Tap the **edit icon** to modify the PIN.

Parent-Teacher Communication/Planners

Teachers will have a method of communication with families. This method varies from class to class and may include the use of student planner or an electronic system such as Seesaw, Google Classroom, or Talking Points. Please take time to check your child's planner or sign-up for the class communication system.



Indigenous Education

The Lambton Kent District School Board will commemorate the impact of residential schools on Friday, September 29, 2023 – Orange Shirt Day. Students and staff are encouraged to wear orange shirts and use this day as a catalyst to encourage learning and understanding about the residential school system and the impacts that system has had on First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people. This is a meaningful way for school communities to

come together in a spirit of reconciliation and hope because “Every Child Matters”. Respectfully, flags at all LKDSB schools and facilities will be lowered on this day.

This recognition day will be part of the activities and discussions occurring during the Truth and Reconciliation Week September 26th to September 30 which will also include discussions about the truth of Indigenous treaties, languages and culture and First Nation, Metis, and Inuit land claims.

Picture Day

Picture day for our students and staff has been scheduled for Wednesday, October 4, 2023. We will provide further details as they become available.

School Holidays and Professional Development Days 2023-2024

Holidays

Monday, October 9, 2023	Thanksgiving
Monday, December 25, 2023	Winter Holiday Break
Monday, January 8, 2024	Return to School
Monday, February 19, 2024	Family Day
March 11-15, 2024	March Break
Friday, March 29, 2024	Good Friday
Monday, April 1, 2024	Easter Monday
Monday, May 20, 2024	Victoria Day

Professional Development Days

Friday, September 15, 2023	Friday, November 17, 2023	Friday, April 26, 2024	Friday, June 28, 2024
Friday, October 6, 2023	Friday, February 2, 2024	Friday, June 7, 2024	

School Bus Information

For bussing and weather information, our school is located in **Zone 4**. Busing information can be located on the website: www.schoolbusinfo.com. Should we encounter any foggy days where buses are cancelled students will be picked up by their buses at the end of the day. On snow days the buses will not run in the morning or in the afternoon. Fog and snow days are not holidays, students who do not ride the bus should attend school on these days. Teachers will continue with program if enough students are present on these days.

Getting information about school bus cancellations and delays is easy! CLASS has a mobile app that will provide subscribers with real-time notifications whenever buses are delayed by ten minutes or greater. The notifications will come in the form of alerts, which will also include service cancellations due to adverse weather conditions. For additional information about mobile app, please visit: www.mysbi.ca There is a new upgraded version of the MySBI app for weather cancellations and bus delays. The new app has improved speed and reliability but will look and function the same as our current app.

Unfortunately, the app currently installed on your phone will NOT automatically update to the new version, so all users must download the new app from the App/Google Play Store before September 29th to continue receiving school bus delay and cancellation notices. The current ‘old’ version of the app will no longer function after this date.

Student Registration Verification Forms/Notification and Permission for the Use of Student Personal Information and Walking Forms

We ask for your cooperation in verifying and changing these forms as necessary. Student verification, Notification and Permission for the Use of Student Personal Information and walking forms will be sent home in a sealed envelope. Please sign and return these forms to the school as soon as possible. These forms are used as

a way of updating our system with the most up-to-date personal information in the event that the school needs to contact home in case of an absence, emergency or school-related matter. If your phone number changes over the school year, please update it with the office. **It is very important, especially during these times, that we have current contact information.**

Consent for Authorization of Medication

If a student must take medication at school, Board policy requires us to have a Medical Physician complete a consent form. Please request the blank form from our school secretary. Students should place any medication in the teacher's hands as soon as they arrive at school.

School Council

School Council Committee elections will occur during our first meeting for the 2023-24 school year. If you are interested in running for a council position, please fill out a self-nomination form on page 7 of the newsletter and return that section to the school. If you would like to nominate an individual, please complete and return the School Council nomination form to the school. The Queen Elizabeth School Council meets at different times throughout the year. The school council is made up of a group of parent, teacher and community representatives, who wish to be involved with school related educational issues. School Council meetings will be virtual until further notice. First meeting TBA.

Student Accident Insurance

The Lambton Kent District School Board does not provide accident insurance coverage for student injuries that occur on school property or during school activities, including extracurricular sports.

The insuremykids® student accident insurance program offers three plans with a variety of benefits and affordable rates. Their most affordable plan is available for as little as \$17 per year. All plans provide 24/7 coverage. For more information or to purchase insurance, please visit www.insuremykids.com or call 1-800-463-5437.

Fresh from the Farm Fundraiser

Once again, we will be participating in the Fresh From the Farm Fundraiser. For \$22.00 you will receive 5 lbs of white potatoes, 3 lbs. of sweet potatoes, 3 lbs. of orange carrots and 3 lbs. of yellow onions. Also available will be 8 lbs. of Ambrosia apples for \$24.00. Items can only be purchased through school cash online starting on Monday, September 11 and ending October 10, 2023. This fundraiser will be delivered between Nov. 6 and Dec. 7.

Mabel's Labels

If you're thinking about ordering labels to help identify your child(ren)'s belongings, please consider using Mabel's Labels. When you enter into the website, please enter our school's name and help support our school through this ongoing fundraiser.

School Council Parent Self-Nomination Form 2023

I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a parent/guardian representative on the school council.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Business Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

I am the parent/guardian of _____, who is currently registered at
(name of student)
this school.

I am an employee of the board. YES NO (Please circle)

Candidate's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please include a brief autobiography on the back of this form.
You will be notified when your nomination has been received.



Queen Elizabeth II Public School
4079 Maple Street, Petrolia, Ontario N0N 1R0
Telephone: (519) 882-2123 Fax: (519) 882-2595

Principal: Mr. Ryan Myers

Secretary: Mrs. Dianne Strydonck

To Parents, Guardians, and Caregivers of Students in the Lambton Kent District School Board:

The Lambton Kent District School Board is committed to providing safe learning environments for all students, staff, school visitors, and community members. When a student behaves inappropriately, principals will most often employ progressive discipline strategies to help a student take responsibility for their actions, learn from their mistakes, and make better choices in the future.

In more extreme cases however, when a student's behaviour poses a potential threat to their own or others' well-being, the Community Violence Threat Risk Assessment Protocol (VTRA) supports principals in taking further steps to safeguard everyone.

The VTRA protocol outlines how a school responds immediately to threatening incidents including but not limited to: possession of a weapon or replica weapon, bomb threat or plan, verbal or written (including electronic) threats to harm oneself or others, other threats of violence, and fire setting.

The initial response team is likely to include the Principal / Vice-Principal, police, and board staff. Should conditions warrant, a Community Threat Assessment Team will be convened. This community team includes representatives of community agencies who work with schools and boards to keep our students and staff safe, such as local police and children's mental health organizations.

Parents and guardians will be notified if their child will be discussed through the Community Violence Threat Risk Assessment Protocol. If parents/guardians cannot be reached, or if they choose not to provide consent, but a concern for safety still exists due to threatening behaviour, the threat assessment may still proceed. Personal information shared throughout this process will respect and balance each individual's right to privacy with the need to ensure the safety of all.

As always, student safety is our first priority. This notification is being provided via avenues such as school newsletters, and school and board web sites as fair notice to parents and guardians of the existence of the VTRA Protocol and its application if situations warrant. If you have any questions regarding the Lambton Kent District School Board Community Violence Threat Risk Assessment Protocol, please contact your school principal as the first step.