

Greater Essex County of District School Board

Appendix B: Naming of Board Facilities

List of current and former school names and themes in the GECDSB

Reference No: P-PL-01

Current School Names

PERSON
MALE
A.V. Graham Public School (Tecumseh) – Albert V. Graham – named for community person (served as railway station agent at Tecumseh station for 32 years) – W – male
David Maxwell Public School (Windsor) – opened 1929 – named for David A. Maxwell Inspector of Schools for Essex Co. 1878-1925 – W – male
Dougall Ave. Public School (Windsor) – originally opened 1905 – rebuilt in 1990-92 – named for street on which it has been located – James Dougall was original land owner of area – became mayor of Windsor – naturalist, author – W – male
Dr. David Suzuki Public School – built 2010 – named for noted Canadian scientist and environmentalist Dr. David Suzuki (chosen without utilizing School Naming Policy: among the GECDSB themed schools – Canada’s Greenest school...name reflects environmental design / community attitude & image) – Asian – male (still living)
F.W. Begley Public School (Windsor) – original structure, named Assumption St. School was opened in 1913 – the name was changed in 1939 to Frank W. Begley Public School, after F.W. Begley a former Trustee (1922-35) with the Windsor Bd. Of Education – W – male.
General Brock Public School (Windsor) – opened originally 1914 – rebuilt in 1998 – named for War of 1812 figure, British General Sir Isaac Brock after a special meeting of Sandwich Public School Board Trustees – W – male.
M.S. Hetherington Public School (Windsor) – opened in 1960 – named for a former Principal of the Riverside Board of Education, Melvin Sloan Hetherington – W – male.
Hugh Beaton Public School (Windsor) – opened in 1929 by the former Walkerville Board of Education – named for a former Principal of King Edward Public School (1906-17) within the former board – W – male.
J.A. McWilliam Public School (Windsor) – opened 1957 – named by the Sandwich East School Board for longtime principal (1927-54), Supervising Principal and Trustee with the board, John A. McWilliam – W – male.
John Campbell Public School (Windsor) – opened 1927 – named by the Windsor Board of Education for the former Trustee (1894-1909) – W – male.
James L. Dunn Public School (Windsor) – opened in September 2022 - replacement building for Giles Campus French Immersion Public School – named for entrepreneur, activist & Trustee James Llewellyn Dunn – B – male
W.F. Herman Academy (Windsor) – opened in 2016, the amalgamation of W.F. Herman Secondary School and Percy P. McCallum Public School into a K – Grade 12 “Academy”.

Originally named W.F. Herman Collegiate Institute (1958) for the former editor of the Windsor (Border City) Star newspaper – W – male.
William G. Davis Public School (Windsor) – opened 1967 – named for the serving Minister of Education for Ontario, William Davis who would later (1971) become the 18 th Premier of Ontario – W – male.
Hon. W.C. Kennedy Collegiate Institute (Windsor) – opened 1929 – named (posthumously) for William Costello Kennedy, a Windsor businessman and politician, who served as Minister of Railways and Canals in the federal government – W – male.
Vincent Massey Secondary School (Windsor) – opened 1960 – named for the first native-born Governor General of Canada, Vincent Massey – W – male.
W.F. Herman Academy (Windsor) – opened in 2016, the amalgamation of W.F. Herman Secondary School and Percy P. McCallum Public School into a K – Grade 12 “Academy”. Originally named W.F. Herman Collegiate Institute (1958) for the former editor of the Windsor (Border City) Star newspaper – W – male.
FEMALE
M.D. Bennie Public School (Leamington) – opened 1959 – named for the school’s first principal, and longtime local educator Margaret D. Bennie – W – female.
Alicia Mason Centre (Windsor) – opened 1963 as Alicia Mason Jr. Vocational School for Girls. Built on the site of the former Cameron Ave. Public School – renamed Mason Secondary School in 1970 – currently the Alicia Mason Centre serving the Public Alternative Secondary School (PASS) and adult and continuing education – named for a former Principal of Cameron Ave PS – Alicia L. Mason (1905-1930) – W – female.
MONARCHY
King Edward Public School (Windsor) – original structure opened on site in 1906 – named for the sitting British Monarch of the day, Edward VII (1901-10) – W – male (M).
Marlborough Public School (Windsor) – opened 1930 – named (presumably) for Charles Spenser-Churchill the 9 th Duke of Marlborough (member of the British peerage) – W – male.
Prince Edward Public School (Windsor) – opened 1921 - named for the eldest son of King George V, who would become King Edward VIII before his abdication in 1936 – W – male (M).
Princess Elizabeth Public School (Windsor) – opened 1952 – named for the eldest daughter of King George VI, who that year became Queen Elizabeth II – W – female (M).
Queen Victoria Public School (Windsor) – opened 1922 – originally named Victoria Public School for its geographical location on Victoria Ave. (which was named for the daughter of James Dougall, the former owner of the property) – changed at the time of amalgamation (1998) with the Essex County Board of Education to Queen Victoria Public School after the former British monarch, to avoid confusion with Victoria Public School in Tecumseh – W – female (M).

LOCATION/GEOGRAPHY
Amherstburg Public School (Amherstburg) – originally called Richmond St. School (located on Richmond St. 1866-1967) – relocated to current Hamilton Dr. location 1967

<p>Anderdon Public School (Amherstburg) – opened in 1952 – named for the former community in which it is located (Anderdon Township -now part of the municipality of Amherstburg)</p>
<p>Belle River Public School (Lakeshore) – opened 1971 - named for the community in which it is located (currently in the municipality of Lakeshore)</p>
<p>Central Public School (Windsor) – opened in 1951 – was called “Central” during planning and construction as a placeholder (due to its geographical location in the former Sandwich West School Board) – a naming contest among students chose Central as the official name</p>
<p>Colchester North Public School (Essex) – named for location (now part of the Municipality of Essex)</p>
<p>East Mersea Public School (Leamington) – built 1966 – named for location which is on the east side of the former Mersea Township (now part of the municipality of Leamington)</p>
<p>Essex Public School (Essex) – built 2008 (replaced former Maplewood & Sun Parlor Jr. schools) – named for its geographic location after lengthy selection committee process.</p>
<p>Ford City Public School (Windsor) – opened 2016 – in the former Percy P. McCallum Public School Building (originally built in 1952 – named Milloy St. School – renamed in 1955 after former teacher & Trustee Percy McCallum) – Ford City name reflects the location in the former district of the City of Windsor – repurposes name of former school in the Windsor Board of Education from the early 20th century)</p>
<p>Forest Glade Public School (Windsor) – opened 1970 – other names considered at the name were: Forest Heights, Forest Lawn, Forest House, Forest Glen, Forest Lea, Forest Wood, Forest Hill and Forest Green</p>
<p>Gore Hill Public School (Leamington) – opened in 1954 – named for the geographic region, as it was once known – Gore is relative to Scottish / Irish heritage – a gore is a triangular piece of land.</p>
<p>Gosfield North Public School (Essex) – opened in 1969 – named for its location in the former community (currently municipality of Essex).</p>
<p>Harrow Public School (Essex) – opened 1966 – previously Harrow Senior Public School (Gr 3-8) – consolidated with Harrow Jr. PS in 2016. Named for the community in which it is located (currently part of the municipality of Essex).</p>
<p>Lakeshore Discovery School (Lakeshore) – opened in 2007 – named after the community in which it is located and the theme on which the school was based (for a period, 2005-10, the GECDSD used themes to guide the construction and identity of new schools).</p>
<p>LaSalle Public School (LaSalle) – opened in 2000 – named for the community in which it is located (which is named after an 17th century French explorer (René-Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle)</p>
<p>Malden Central Public School (Amherstburg) – opened 1950 – named for the former community in which the school is located (Malden) – currently the municipality of Amherstburg.</p>
<p>Mt. Carmel-Blytheswood Public School (Leamington) – opened 2002 (amalgamation of former Mt. Carmel and Blytheswood schools) – name reflects the previous predecessor schools, which were named after the communities in which they were located (currently in the municipality of Leamington).</p>

<p>Northwood Public School (Windsor) – opened 1958 – originally named Toronto Street School by Sandwich Township Area A School Board (presumably because of the location) – the name was changed shortly after to reflect the actual address on Northwood St.</p>
<p>Pelee Island Public School (Pelee Island) – opened 1927 – named for its geographical location.</p>
<p>Roseland Public School (Windsor) – the original structure was a small building known informally as Union School (it was shared by students from Sandwich East, South and West). On completion of an addition in 1929 it was renamed Sandwich South School # 20 – uncertain when it became Roseland Public School (in 1966 it was assumed by the Windsor Board of Education, which likely led to the name, in association with “The City of Roses”).</p>
<p>Roseville Public School (Windsor) – opened 1973 – named for neighbourhood, which derives its name from the Windsor slogan “City of Roses”.</p>
<p>Sandwich West Public School (LaSalle) – opened 1971 – named for the predecessor community of Sandwich West (currently in the municipality of LaSalle).</p>
<p>Talbot Trail Public School (Windsor) – opened in 2005 – named for its location on the Talbot Trail, an archaic transportation / trade route that connected the region to the rest of Upper Canada (which was named for Colonel Thomas Talbot an early proponent of European settlement in the region, famous for building good roads).</p>
<p>Tecumseh Vista Academy (Tecumseh) – opened 2010 – named for the municipality in which it is located. The word “Vista” is also used as a descriptor, which is both a physical and philosophical view. It is categorized as an “Academy” for its K – Grade 12 programming (i.e. not an elementary nor a secondary school).</p>
<p>West Gate Public School (Windsor) – opened in 2014 – the amalgamation of J.E. Benson Public School and Dr. H.D. Taylor Public School – named for its location on the west side of Windsor and the word “Gate” is in reference to the area’s welcoming demeanor and a reference to the slogan “Gateway to Canada” often associated with Windsor.</p>
<p>Belle River District High School (Lakeshore) – opened 1947 – named for the community in which it is located (currently in the municipality of Lakeshore). A “District” high school because it serves a large area outside the historical boundary of Belle River.</p>
<p>Essex District High School (Essex) – opened 2015 (rebuilt from 1922 structure) – named for the municipality in which it is located and the area which it serves (Essex & district)</p>
<p>Leamington District Secondary School (Leamington) – opened 2017 (replaced original building opened in 1952) – named for the municipality in which it is located and the area which it serves (Leamington and district)</p>
<p>Riverside Secondary School (Windsor) – opened 1963 – named for the predecessor community in which it was located (now part of the municipality of Windsor).</p>
<p>Sandwich Secondary School (LaSalle) – opened 1970 – named for the predecessor community in which it was located (now part of the municipality of LaSalle).</p>
<p>Tecumseh Vista Academy (Tecumseh) - opened 2010 – named for the municipality in which it is located. The word “Vista” is used as a descriptor, which is both a physical and philosophical view. It is categorized as an “Academy” for its K – Grade 12 programming (i.e. not an elementary nor a secondary school).</p>

<p>Walkerville Collegiate Institute (Windsor) – opened 1922 – named for the predecessor community in which it is located (now part of the municipality of Windsor).</p>
<p>Westview Freedom Academy (Windsor) – opened 2014 – named for its geographic location in the City of Windsor. The term “freedom” is used to express as a reflection of the area’s historical connection with the Underground Railroad and the fact that many recent immigrants to Canada have settled in the west end after escaping tyranny, oppression and conflict in their native countries.</p>
<p>THEMES</p>
<p>Beacon Heights Public School (replaced D.M. Eagle Public School) – opened in September 2024. Beacon is a light that guides or a person who inspires or encourages others. Heights is a point of excellence, heights of success which represents the community</p>
<p>Bellewood Public School (Windsor) – opened in 1968 - named as part of a synchronous naming theme at the time which reflected nature (Bellewood, Southwood, Oakwood....)</p>
<p>Centennial Central Public School (Comber) – opened in 1949 at its present location – (part of the municipality of Lakeshore)</p>
<p>Eastview Horizon Public School – opened in September 2023 – (replaced former Eastwood and Parkview Schools). A composite of the names of the two schools (Eastwood / Parkview) being combined. Geographically the new school is located in the eastern edge of the city of Windsor. Horizon is where the first signs of daylight appear as the sun rises in the east. The new school sits on the eastern horizon. In the figurative sense, a person can strive for higher goals in life “reaching beyond the horizon”.</p>
<p>Erie Migration District School – opened in September 2024 – the amalgamation of Jack Miner Public School, Kingsville Public School and Kingsville District High School into a K-12 school.</p>
<p>Glenwood Public School (Windsor) – opened 1954 – built by the Sandwich West Township School Area A school board – named as part of a synchronous naming theme at the time which reflected nature (Bellewood, Southwood, Oakwood....)</p>
<p>Legacy Oak Trail Public School (LaSalle) – opened in September 2021 – replacement for Prince Andrew Public School – named as a tribute to the area’s natural history, a sense of environmental awareness and establishes an identity for the new school to follow – the cultivation and preservation of nature and an acknowledgement of its importance in the future health and growth of our communities.</p>
<p>Southwood Public School (Windsor) – opened 1956 – named by the Township Area A Sandwich West School Board as part of an environmental theme of area schools (Glenwood, Oakwood...)</p>
<p>North Star High School (Amherstburg) – opened in 2022 – replacement school for General Amherst High School and Western Secondary School - the North Star became a symbol of hope to the Black communities on both sides of the border. It has great symbolic significance in many cultures as a metaphorical, as well as physical, directional beacon.</p>

Retired School Names

PERSON
MALE
Colbourne – named for Albert Colbourne the Business Administrator and Secretary of the Riverside Board of Education
Colonel Bishop – named for (presumably) Lt. Colonel William Avery (Billy) Bishop V.C. – Canadian WW1 hero
D.M. Eagle Public School (Tecumseh) – built 1946 – named for David Melville Eagle (former Inspector of Schools in Essex and Kent Counties)
Dr. H.D. Taylor – named for Windsor Trustee and Chair of the Board
General Amherst High School
General Byng
Gilmore School – named for person who donated the land
Gordon McGregor Public School – named for founder of Ford Canada
Harry E. Guppy – named for WBE Trustee & local businessman Harry E. Guppy
H.E. Bondy – named for the clerk of Sandwich West Township, who arranged preliminary financing for the construction of the school.
Ivor Chandler School – named for 1 st Chair of the Sandwich West School Board
Jack Cornwell School – named for “little boy hero” of WW1 – youngest person (16) to be awarded the Victoria Cross for bravery for his actions during the Battle of Jutland with the British Navy – may have been related to his hometown of Essex UK and its connection to Essex Co., Ontario
Jack Miner Public School (Kingsville) – opened in 1956 – originally known as Gosfield South Public School – name changed in 1968 after noted naturalist Jack Miner, whose bird sanctuary is located nearby
J.E Benson Public School – named for former Inspector of Schools (25 years) – founder of local Rotary Club
J.L. Forster Collegiate Institute (Secondary School) – originally named General Julian Byng, changed to honour school’s first principal J.L. Forster
John McRae – named for WW 1 poet who wrote “In Flanders’ Fields”
John O. Cahill School – named for former Reeve of Sandwich West Township
John Ross School – named for former Trustee with the Sandwich East School Board
Patterson Collegiate Institute – first known as Windsor Collegiate Institute, renamed in 1929 for former lawyer and politician J.C. Patterson
Percy P. McCallum – named for Windsor Trustee & Chair of the Board
W. D. Lowe Secondary School
Walker
William Hands Secondary School – named for former owner of land on which the school was located – William Hands (first postmaster of Sandwich)
FEMALE
Ada C. Richards School – named for former principal (1924-46)
Edith Cavell – named for a famous Red Cross Nurse in WW 1

MONARCHY
King George School
Prince Charles
Prince of Wales
Princess Anne

LOCATION/GEOGRAPHY
(The) Barrack Huts
Belle Isle School
Blytheswood School
Bridge Ave. School
Bridgeview
Giles Campus French Immersion Public School
Grand Marais Rd.
Harrow District High School
Harrow Jr. Public School
Kingsville District High School opened in 1921 named for the municipality in which it is located and the area which it serves (Kingsville and district).
Kingsville Public School opened in 1923 named for its location within the community.
Louis Ave. School
Maidstone
Malden Rd. School
Mercer St. School
Monarch School – previously King George School
Parkview Public School
Park St. School
Puce Public School
Ruthven Public School
Sandwich E. School
Shawnee Secondary School
Southwestern School
Sun Parlor Junior School
Tuscarora St. School
Victoria Public School
Walker Rd. School
Westcott School
Western Secondary School

THEMED
Cal-Tech
Centennial Secondary School

Century Secondary School
Churchwood School (Windsor Association for Retarded Children)
Concord
Eastwood Public School
Maplewood
Mayfair School – company which donated the land insisted on the name of Mayfair
Oakwood Public School

School Designations

K-8 School	Public School
Grade 9 – 12 Schools	High School Secondary School District High School District Secondary School
K-12 School	Academy District School

Terms that cannot be used

Collegiate Institute – Grade 9-12 – this is an archaic reference to a period when students chose their stream – a C.I. prepared students for post-secondary education (College or University)