

Open Minds

2020-2021



Supporting First Nations, Métis and Inuit Students

Adrian Klein

First Nations, Métis and Inuit Student Support Worker

Adrian.Klein@publicboard.ca

(519) 255-3200 ext. Ext 40151

If your child attends any of the following schools, please contact Adrian Klein.

WEEKLY	MONTHLY	AS REQUESTED	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walkerville King Edward Prince Edward Belle River Public School Forest Glade 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General Amherst Tecumseh Vista Public School Hugh Beaton F.W. Begley Hetherington Riverside 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> David Suzuki Eastwood Parkview Princess Elizabeth Amherstburg Anderdon Malden Central 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> D.M. Eagle Tecumseh Vista Secondary A.V. Graham Belle River Secondary Centennial Central Lakeshore Discovery

Highlights from last month with Adrian

Boozhoo/Sheko:ll,

I hope everyone is continuing to stay safe and healthy. The first part of the year has passed by rather quickly and we are now getting settled into the third quad. For those students who are beginning a new learning model, I hope you are adjusting well. I've been continuing to connect with students and families from my weekly and monthly support schools to provide the support needed and requested. The first part of the year was great and we had many students and families participate in the second part of the powwow fitness sessions. We learned about the different styles of dance and then incorporated those movements into a fun fitness activity. We also offered students a guided paint night with Moses Lunham. The painting was titled "Thunderbird".

MARCH

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8	9	10	11	12
Prince Edward All Day	Walkerville AM King Edward	Belle River All day	Walkerville AM Begley PM	Forest Glade All Day
15	16	17	18	19
Amherst AM Prince Edward PM	Walkerville AM King Edward	TVA Elementary AM Belle River PM	Walkerville AM TVA Elementary PM	Amherst AM Forest Glade PM
22	23	24	25	26
Prince Edward All Day	Walkerville AM King Edward	Belle River All Day	Walkerville AM Beaton PM	Forest Glade All Day
29	30	31	April 1	April 2
Riverside AM Prince Edward PM	Walkerville AM King Edward PM	Hetherington AM Belle River PM	Walkerville AM Hetherington PM	Good Friday

Support to Virtual School Students will be provided from **2:30pm-3:15pm** daily Monday to Friday unless otherwise communicated.

Virtual School Meeting Link <http://bit.ly/virtualAdrian>

APRIL

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5	6	7	8	9
Easter Monday	Walkerville AM King Edward PM	Belle River All Day	Walkerville AM Begley PM	Riverside AM Forest Glade PM
12	13	14	15	16
Spring Break	Spring Break	Spring Break	Spring Break	Spring Break
19	20	21	22	23
Amherst AM Prince Edward PM	Walkerville AM King Edward PM	TVA Elementary AM Belle River PM	Walkerville AM Beaton PM	Amherst AM Forest Glade
26	27	28	29	30
Riverside AM Prince Edward PM	Walkerville AM King Edward PM	Hetherington AM Belle River PM	Walkerville AM Hetherington PM	Riverside AM Forest Glade PM

Support to Virtual School Students will be provided from **2:30pm-3:15pm** daily Monday to Friday unless otherwise communicated.

Virtual School Meeting Link <http://bit.ly/virtualAdrian>

May

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3	4	5	6	7
Prince Edward All Day	Walkerville AM King Edward PM	Belle River All Day	Walkerville AM Begley PM	Forest Glade All Day
10	11	12	13	14
Amherst AM Prince Edward PM	Walkerville AM King Edward PM	TVA Elementary AM Belle River PM	Walkerville AM TVA Elementary PM	Amherst AM Forest Glade PM
17	18	19	20	21
Prince Edward All Day	Walkerville AM King Edward PM	Belle River All Day	Walkerville AM Beaton PM	Forest Glade All Day
24	25	26	27	28
Victoria Day	Walkerville AM King Edward PM	Hetherington AM Belle River PM	Walkerville AM Hetherington PM	Riverside AM Forest Glade PM

Virtual Support Sessions Daily 2:30-3:15

Students attending virtually in both cohort C(virtual) and D (Offline) are invited to join the virtual support Teams meetings. Students will have the opportunity to meet with their support worker for one-on-one support. This time may be utilized for academic, cultural and well-being support.

In addition to the designated time for virtual students, we can also schedule sessions for those students attending in person. The sessions are also virtual and available to students on the days I have allotted to their school.

Link to join Virtual School Session:
<http://bit.ly/virtualAdrian>

Wellness Wednesdays (Secondary Students)

Beginning in March, students will be able to join bi-weekly Teams meetings held on Wednesdays to listen and share healthy lifestyle tips. During these sessions helpful tips will be shared to help students navigate through the remainder of the school year. These sessions will also allow students to connect with peers throughout my secondary support schools. Some of the topics will include study tips, exercise, healthy eating, sleeping, among others. Students who participate will be eligible to receive a gift (relating to the topic) for attending certain sessions. If interested, please complete the registration form.

The link to join will be shared with students who register.
<http://bit.ly/Wellnesswedregistration>

Any questions please contact Adrian.klein@publicboard.ca
(519) 255-3200 Ext 40151

Story Sessions (Elementary Students)

Weekly sessions will begin in March and will be open to Elementary students throughout my support schools. During these sessions students will have an opportunity to hear stories and connect with other students across my support schools. We'll share stories, books and, at times, participate in activities to help create a better understanding of the message being shared in the story.

Sessions will begin Monday March 1, 10:30-11:30. The link will be provided to students who are interested in joining.

Brienne John
First Nations, Métis and Inuit Student Support Worker

Brienne.john@publicboard.ca

(519) 255-3200 ext. 40150

If your child attends any of the following schools please contact Brienne John.

WEEKLY	MONTHLY	AS REQUESTED	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Herman Secondary Coronation Ford City 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> David Maxwell William G. Davis PASS/Agency Kingsville Public School Harrow Public School Herman Elementary Talbot Trail 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kingsville DHS Jack Miner/Pelee Island Essex DHS & Essex Public School Colchester North Gosfield North Leamington DHS East Mersea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gore Hill MD Bennie Mount Carmel-Blytheswood Queen Elizabeth Western Maryvale Roseville

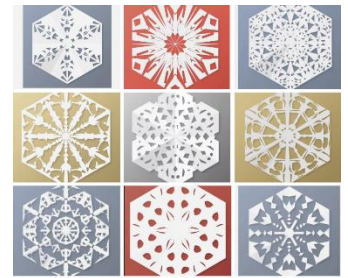
Highlights from last month with Brienne

Thank you again to all of the families who registered and participated in the Longhouse Cookie workshop in December! It was a huge privilege to share with you and create some happy memories going into the Winter break.

Throughout December and January, programming was offered across my weekly and monthly schools with activities focused on giving thanks, winter weather, and language words. Even though we were virtual, it didn't stop us from doing some virtual crafting and listening to stories.

I am continuing to work through scheduling students for virtual meetings where they can access academic, well-

being, and cultural support. We will continue offering monthly programming activities based on the time of year and what students have expressed interest in learning about. These programming activities will also be available to virtual and offline students during the days I am aligned to their schools from 2:15-3:30pm via Teams.



Please check the calendar below to make sure you know when I will be virtually visiting your schools!

March

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	2	3	4	5
Herman (AM) Ford City (PM)	System Support (All Day)	Coronation (All day)	Maryvale (AM) PASS/Davis (PM) System Support (All day)	Herman (AM) Ford City (PM)
8	9	10	11	12
Herman (AM) Ford City (PM)	System Support (All Day)	Coronation (All day) Storytelling Series with Isaac Murdoch	System Support (All day) Talbot Trail (1PM-2PM)	Herman (AM) Ford City (PM)
Daily Virtual Support Meetings: https://bit.ly/virtualFNMI Herman meetings (8-11 AM Mon/Fri): https://bit.ly/HermanFNMI				
15	16	17	18	19
Herman (AM) Ford City (PM)	System Support (All Day)	Coronation (All day)	Harrow PS (AM) Kingsville PS (PM)	Herman (AM) Ford City (PM)
22	23	24	25	26
Herman (AM) Ford City (PM)	System Support (All Day)	Coronation (All day)	Maxwell (AM) Herman E. (PM)	Herman (AM) Ford City (PM)

April

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
29	30	31	1	2
Herman (AM) Ford City (PM)	System Support (All Day)	Coronation (All day)	Maryvale (AM) PASS/Davis (PM)	Holiday – No school
5	6	7	8	9
Holiday – No School	System Support (All Day)	Coronation (All day)	System Support (All day) Talbot Trail (1PM-2PM)	Herman (AM) Ford City (PM)
Daily Virtual Support Meetings: https://bit.ly/virtualFNM Herman meetings (8-11 AM Mon/Fri): https://bit.ly/HermanFNM				
12	13	14	15	16
Spring Break	Spring Break	Spring Break	Spring Break	Spring Break
19	20	21	22	23
Herman (AM) Ford City (PM)	System Support (All Day)	Coronation (All day)	Harrow PS (AM) Kingsville PS (PM)	Herman (AM) Ford City (PM)
26	27	28	29	30
Herman (AM) Ford City (PM)	System Support (All Day)	Coronation (All day)	Maxwell (AM) Herman E. (PM)	Herman (AM) Ford City (PM)

May

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3	4	5	6	7
Herman (AM) Ford City (PM)	System Support (All Day)	Coronation (All day)	System Support (All day)	Herman (AM) Ford City (PM)
10	11	12	13	14
Herman (AM) Ford City (PM)	System Support (All Day)	Coronation (All day)	System Support (All day) Talbot Trail (1PM-2PM)	Herman (AM) Ford City (PM)
Daily Virtual Support Meetings: https://bit.ly/virtualFNM Herman meetings (8-11 AM Mon/Fri): https://bit.ly/HermanFNM				
17	18	19	20	21
Herman (AM) Ford City (PM)	System Support (All Day)	Coronation (All day)	Harrow PS (AM) Kingsville PS (PM)	Herman (AM) Ford City (PM)
24	25	26	27	28
Holiday – No school	System Support (All Day)	Coronation (All day)	Maxwell (AM) Herman E. (PM)	Herman (AM) Ford City (PM)

Virtual School Support every day from 2:15 pm - 3:30pm
Students from Cohort C (Virtual) and Cohort D (Offline packages) are welcome to join the daily Virtual School Support Teams meeting where students will have the opportunity to check in and access additional support. A reminder will be sent prior to the meetings for schools that are able to join that day. Link to join has been listed in the calendar above.

Weekly Indigenous Book Club
First Nations, Métis, & Inuit Students in Gr. 6-8 across the schools Brieanne is aligned to are welcome to join in for a weekly book club on Wednesdays from 1pm – 1:45pm where we will be reading books by Indigenous authors, exploring the topics within the books, and following up with reflections and discussions.
Link to join:
<http://bit.ly/FNMbookclub>

Individual School Programming
When we “visit” our weekly and monthly schools, we will be offering programming activities for students to engage in during their nutrition breaks. Many of the students have requested more cultural learning opportunities in general, as well as activities and crafts to go with them. Through virtual programming, I will be able to share some stories and create some fun activities to engage in. Keeping with the theme of giving thanks, the following topics will be covered from March-May (may vary depending on your school):

- Maple Syrup
- Bear Witness Day
- Planting/Food
- Kindness

Virtual and offline students can also engage in these activities during the Virtual School Support sessions by request or on the days I am aligned to their schools.

Helpful Hints for Secondary Students bi-weekly series starting in March!
Open to students in grades 9-12 across Brieanne’s schools.

As students enter into the 3rd quadmester, I wanted to provide an opportunity to connect bi-weekly and run through tips that might be helpful as you continue moving through this school year. Some topics that will be covered are studying, sleeping, eating, balance, and more. As we go through the series, students who participate will also receive gifts related to the topics of some sessions. Please register using the following link:
<http://bit.ly/helpfulhintsreg>



helpful hints virtual series

WITH FNMI STUDENT SUPPORT WORKER
BRIANNE JOHN

**OPEN TO ALL FIRST NATIONS, MÉTIS, & INUIT STUDENTS IN GRADES 9–12
AT HERMAN, LEAMINGTON DSS, KINGSVILLE DHS, & ESSEX DHS**

A bi-weekly series starting March 1st focused on tips and strategies that might be helpful as you continue moving through this school year. Some topics that will be covered are studying, sleeping, eating, balance, and more. As we go through the series, students who participate will also receive gifts related to the topics of some sessions.

Please register in
advance using the
following link:
bit.ly/helpfulhintsreg



Tyler White
First Nations, Métis and Inuit Student Support Worker
Tyler.white@publicboard.ca
(519) 255-3200 ext. 40152

If your child attends any one of the following schools please contact Tyler White.

WEEKLY	MONTHLY	AS REQUESTED	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marlborough Public School WestGate Public School Kennedy Collegiate Institute Queen Victoria Public School John Campbell Public School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lasalle Public School Northwood Public School Westview Freedom Academy Vincent Massey Secondary School McWilliam Public School Sandwich Secondary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General Brock Dougall Public School Roseland Public School Glenwood Public School Sandwich West Public School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prince Andrew Public School Bellewood Public School Giles Campus Central Public School Southwood Public School

Highlights from last Month with Tyler

Boozhoo/ Shekoli!

I hope everyone is staying as safe as possible. What an interesting and different year we have had so far. Throughout the past two months, I have continued to connect with students to continue to offer support. The Elementary Virtual Gatherings continue to grow with more and more virtual students joining to participate in different activities and to share stories they have heard. A secondary student group was started mid-January. It is a virtual wellness check in every Thursday, offering options on how to relieve stress and helpful tips to make school work and everyday activities more manageable and stress-free. We had an amazing paint night with Moses Lunham. It was a great event with a lot of awesome results! The theme of the painting was the 'bear moon'. Thank you to those who attended. Don't forget that you can contact me at any time by calling or sending an email.



March

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
15	16	17	18	19
Sandwich Secondary (AM) West Gate (PM)	Kennedy (AM) Campbell (PM)	Sandwich Sec. (AM) https://bit.ly/Virtualwednesdays Marlborough (PM)	Kennedy (AM) McWilliam (PM) http://bit.ly/SecondaryVirtualmeet	Queen Victoria (All Day)
22	23	24	25	26
Westview (AM) West Gate (PM)	Kennedy (AM) Campbell (PM)	Marlborough (All Day) https://bit.ly/Virtualwednesdays	Kennedy (AM) Northwood (PM) http://bit.ly/SecondaryVirtualmeet	Queen Victoria (All DAY)
29	30	31	1	2
WestGate (All DAY)	Kennedy (AM) Campbell (PM)	Marlborough (All Day) https://bit.ly/Virtualwednesdays	Kennedy (AM) Lasalle (PM) http://bit.ly/SecondaryVirtualmeet	Good Friday

April

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5	6	7	8	9
Easter Monday	Kennedy (AM) Campbell (PM)	Marlborough (All Day) https://bit.ly/Virtualwednesdays	Massey (AM) McWilliam (PM) http://bit.ly/SecondaryVirtualmeet	Massey (AM) Queen Victoria (PM)
12	13	14	15	16
APRIL BREAK				
19	20	21	22	23
Westview (AM) WestGate (PM)	Kennedy (AM) Campbell (PM)	Marlborough (All day) https://bit.ly/Virtualwednesdays	Kennedy (AM) Lasalle (PM) http://bit.ly/SecondaryVirtualmeet	Queen Victoria (All Day)
26	27	28	29	30
West Gate (All DAY)	Kennedy (AM) Campbell (PM)	Marlborough (All Day) https://bit.ly/Virtualwednesdays	Kennedy (AM) McWilliam (PM) http://bit.ly/SecondaryVirtualmeet	Queen Victoria (All DAY)

May

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3	4	5	6	7
West Gate (All DAY)	Kennedy (AM) Campbell (PM)	Marlborough (All Day) https://bit.ly/Virtualwednesdays	Massey (AM) Northwood (PM) http://bit.ly/SecondaryVirtualmeet	Massey (AM) Queen Victoria (PM)
10	11	12	13	14
Sandwich Sec. (AM) West Gate (PM)	Kennedy (AM) Campbell (PM)	Sandwich Sec. (AM) https://bit.ly/Virtualwednesdays Marlborough (PM)	Kennedy (AM) Lasalle (PM) http://bit.ly/SecondaryVirtualmeet	Queen Victoria (All Day)
17	18	19	20	21
Westview (AM) West Gate (PM)	Kennedy (AM) Campbell (PM)	Marlborough (All day) https://bit.ly/Virtualwednesdays	Kennedy (AM) McWilliam (PM) http://bit.ly/SecondaryVirtualmeet	Queen Victoria (All Day)

Support to Virtual School Students will be provided from **2:30pm-3:15pm** daily Monday to Friday unless otherwise communicated.
Virtual School Meeting Link: <http://bit.ly/virtualTyler>

EVENTS

<p>Upcoming Virtual sessions with Cedric Isaac Maple Tree Tapping</p> <p>Cedric Isaac from Walpole Island First Nations will be tapping maple trees to make maple syrup. When the weather begins to get a bit warmer we will do a session a week on how to make maple syrup from the start of the process right to the end. It's a great way to start off spring! Stay tuned. I will let everyone know when the sessions start. It all depends on the weather! Link to register: http://bit.ly/virtualtreetappingregistration</p>	<p>Helpful Hints for Secondary Students bi-weekly series starting in March</p> <p>Open to students in grades 9-12 across Tyler's schools.</p> <p>As students enter into the 3rd quadmester, we wanted to provide an opportunity to connect bi-weekly and run through tips that might be helpful as you continue moving through this school year. Some topics that will be covered are studying, sleeping, eating, balance, and more. As we go through the series, students who participate will also receive gifts related to the topics of certain sessions.</p>	<p>Virtual School Programming</p> <p>When we "visit" our weekly and monthly schools we will be offering programming activities for students to engage in during their nutrition breaks. There will be different activities every Wednesday for elementary students. There is also a new Thursday "check in" meeting for secondary students.</p> <p>Virtual Wednesdays Every Wednesday on Teams from 11:45-12:15: https://bit.ly/Virtualwednesdays</p> <p>Secondary Virtual Thursday from 11:45-12:15: http://bit.ly/SecondaryVirtualmeet</p> <p><i>Please contact tyler.white@publicboard.ca for more information and to ensure that you have any materials required to engage in the programming prior to attending.</i></p>
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Building Awareness

Supporting educators in teaching Indigenous content is another important priority of the Open Minds team. There have been many opportunities for teacher and student learning, here are a few...

TEACHER LEARNING...



Cultural Appropriation

Despite the well intentions of educators when integrating Indigenous content, cultural appropriation, tokenism and misrepresentation can become a problem in the classroom. All educators were provided a resource link to appropriately address this very important topic.

Resource Link: <https://sway.office.com/33WfJ9ZgZB2XGklX?ref=Link>



Infusing Indigenous Art in the Classroom

This session was designed to help teachers delve into how they can infuse Indigenous art in their classrooms in meaningful and respectful ways. You can access the information that was shared with educators at the following link. <https://sway.office.com/FzlmwE6xqlvReYqm?ref=Link>



Intergenerational Trauma

The session focused on how Intergenerational trauma impacts Indigenous students today and explored ways in which educators can create safe learning environments that improve the learning experience for Indigenous students.

Supporting Indigenous Students Within the Classroom

This session was an opportunity to share and discuss successes and challenges in the classroom when it comes to supporting safe and inclusive learning environments for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students.

Wampum and Cession Treaty PD Sessions

LKDSB Indigenous Team offered Wampum and Cession Treaty PD sessions for all LKDSB and GECDSB staff with local historian, David Plain from Aamjiwnaang. Feb.24th & March 3rd.

STUDENT LEARNING...

Elementary students



Take Action for Reconciliation

The school board purchased virtual access to this resource for all schools. The four magazine-style student books focus on Indigenous communities across Canada, the need for reconciliation and the actions people are taking to make a difference. (Grades 3-8)

Students can access the resource using the access information below.

URL: <https://slz01.scholasticlearningzone.com/resources/dp-int/dist/#/login3/student/CANF222>

Username: StudentEN

Password: TAFR123

Secondary Students



Understanding Awaadiziwin (knowledge) and its role in achieving Bimaadiziwin (life)

LIVESTREAM: March 8th at 1pm

Students will spend time learning with **Joe Pitawanakwat**. They will learn about diseases, plant medicine and its mechanism. The conversation will focus on the unique human ability to engage in reciprocal relationships with medicines themselves, and our roles and responsibilities to Aki, the land.

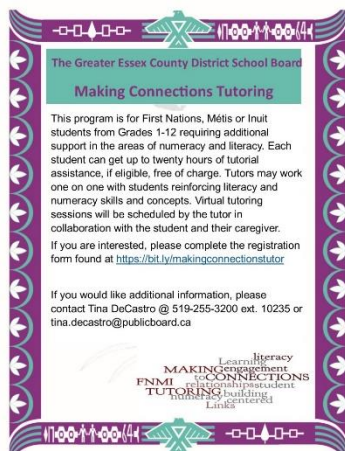
About Joe Pitawanakwat

I am Ojibway from Wiikwemkoong, married with one daughter. I am the Founder & Director of Creators Garden, an Indigenous outdoor, and now online, education based business, focused on plant identification, beyond-sustainable harvesting, and teaching every one of their linguistic, historical, cultural, edible, ecological and medicinal significance through experiences. My lectures and intensive programming is easily adaptable to make appropriate and successfully delivered to a variety of organizations. Including over 100 first nations communities, 20 Universities and 12 colleges and dozens of various institutions throughout Canada and the United States and beyond. I am currently a Masters Student in the MES program at York University, but have learned from hundreds of traditional knowledge holders and uniquely blending and reinforcing it with an array of western sciences. For more information: <http://creatorsgarden.blogspot.com>

If you have any questions and/or comments regarding these resources/sessions or would like to assist with building awareness for our educators, please contact:

Tina DeCastro tina.decastro@publicboard.ca

Additional Academic Support



Making Connections Tutoring Program

This program is open to all First Nations, Métis and Inuit students in Grades 1-12. The tutoring sessions will be done virtually on Microsoft Teams and scheduled by the family and the tutor. If you feel your child could benefit from this additional support contact Tina at tina.decastro@publicboard.ca or 519-255-3200 ext. 10235

TVO Mathify

<https://www.tvomathify.com/students>

For Grades 6 - 10

Free, one-on-one online support provided by Ontario Certified Teachers, is available to help students improve their math skills. Build math understanding and confidence with the help of a math tutor. Mathify is available during the school year, from Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sundays from 3:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Academic Support Teachers

The Greater Essex County District School Board is committed to putting in place programs and supports for Indigenous students. The current pandemic has resulted in a change in the delivery of education for all students. We have added two Academic Support teachers to our Open Minds team (Lisa Tetlich and Kaitlyn Dunn). Their role is to provide direct support to **First Nations, Métis and Inuit students in Grades 1-4** in the area of mathematics and literacy. The supports provided will vary based on mode of learning and individual student needs. Currently, they will be providing direct

support to Indigenous students attending Marlborough, WestGate, John Campbell, Ford City, LaSalle and the Greater Essex Virtual School.

Drin Gwiinzii. Good Day. My name is Lisa Tetlich. I have been a teacher for over 10 years and have recently come to the Greater Essex Country District School Board from the Northwest Territories. I was born and raised in the Windsor area and left right after completing my degree in 2007. It was there I met my husband, who is a member of the Gwich'in Nation. As a family, culture and tradition are of the utmost importance to us. I have had the privilege of being a part of different Indigenous community schools as a teacher, learning from Elders and knowledge keepers not only in my own family but also in the various communities I have served. I am eager to start building a foundational relationship of trust and understanding with students and families.



My name is Kaitlyn Dunn and I have been proudly teaching with the Greater Essex Country District school board for three years. I have been fortunate enough to work as a Support tutor for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students for the past three years and had the honour of teaching virtually at Camp Migizi this past summer! I believe in creating and fostering connections that instill confidence and empower each student to reach their highest potential. I strive to create a welcoming, safe, and inclusive environment where each student's voice is heard and valued. I look forward to learning with families and students.

VIRTUAL LANGUAGE CLASSES

ONEIDA Language Classes

Tuesday Evenings

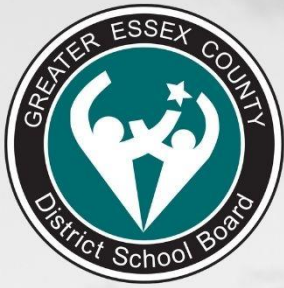
4:30pm-5:30pm

It is important that you register in advance to ensure any materials required for the classes can be sent to families in advance. <http://bit.ly/oneidaregister>

Microsoft Teams – Please go to the following link to join. <http://bit.ly/gecdsboneida>

If you have any questions, please contact StoneHorse.Moore@publicboard.ca

Please note that classes will not run if it is not a scheduled school day. (For example: Holidays)



SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP CO-OP COURSE

This credit course is open to First Nations, Métis and Inuit Secondary students.

Students enrolled in this program will participate in a Social Entrepreneurship Program that will introduce skills in human centered design and project management. Students will develop skill sets that allow them to identify, explore and solve challenges facing our communities and work toward designing a solution to be implemented during their co-op placement.

Students will be introduced to agile project management skills that support collaborative project based work in any industry and provide students with the tools and resources to make their ideas come to life.

If you are interested in learning more about this course
and are currently in Grade 10 or 11,
JOIN US!

We will be hosting live sessions that you can attend to
learn more about the program and
ask questions on **March 31, 2021:**

3pm for students **OR**
5pm for parents/guardians and students

Microsoft Teams Meeting Link
<http://bit.ly/coopcoursemeeting>

If you have any questions, please contact
tina.decastro@publicboard.ca

Engagement: Would you like to be more involved?

Students...

OPEN MINDS Student Council

Applications are now being accepted for the Open Minds Student Council 2020-2021. We are looking for First Nations, Métis, & Inuit full-time students between grades 9-12 who are responsible, reliable, and willing to dedicate time each month for the Open Minds Student Council. Being on this council is an opportunity to create change and opportunities for all Indigenous students across the Greater Essex County District School Board. It is important for us to have as many voices and perspectives sitting on this council as possible.

If you are interested and are willing to commit yourself to this, please follow the link below and complete the application: <http://bit.ly/openminds2020> If you have any questions, please contact Brienne John.

Getting Active

LANCER GAMING & E-SPORTS

E-sports refers to the world of organized video game competitions and is a new addition to the University of Windsor community. The GECD SB Open Minds Program and University of Windsor are seeking input from parents/guardians of **Secondary** students about the possibility of offering programming related to E-sports. Please complete the survey below to assist us in planning some great opportunities through this new department. Lancer Gaming from the University of Windsor will be offering an information session about this in the New Year (date TBD) and will address the responses from this survey: <https://bit.ly/gecdsbesports>

Parents/Guardians...

Indigenous Education Advisory Committee

This is an open invitation for all First Nations, Métis and Inuit Parents/Guardians

Goal and Purpose of the IEAC

The mandate of the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee (IEAC) is to advise the Board on matters relating to the education of First Nations, Métis and Inuit students.

This mandate also includes:

- ☐ Advising and assisting with the implementation of the GECD SB Indigenous Education Protocol
- ☐ Advising and assisting with the implementation of GECD SB Action Plan on Indigenous Education
- ☐ Responding to other initiatives as they arise.

Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting

If you are interested please register by completing the following online form.

<http://bit.ly/gecdsbIEAC1>

If you would like to receive electronic copies of this newsletter or other communications from the Open Minds Program please let us know by signing up to our electronic mailing list.

<http://bit.ly/FNMlelectronicmail>

Building Community/Upcoming Events



STORYTELLING SERIES

WITH ISAAC MURDOCH

Bomgiizhik (Isaac Murdoch) is from Serpent River First Nation and is of the Fish Clan. He currently resides at Nimkii Aazhibikoong, an Ojibwe language and cultural community located in northern Ontario. He loves how the people are rekindling the old ways of his people. His daughters are Waabigwan, Elaine, Nanook, and also has a son named Preston.

BI-WEEKLY VIRTUAL SESSIONS:

JANUARY 27TH 2021
FEBRUARY 10TH 2021
FEBRUARY 24TH 2021
MARCH 10TH 2021

TIME
6:30pm-
7:30pm

Registration is required: <https://bit.ly/storytelling>
ensure you receive pre-event information from your family member.

**One Session left!!!
March 10th**

SESSIONS WILL RUN 6:30PM-7:30PM. LINK WILL BE SENT TO REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS PRIOR TO THE EVENT.



Southwestern Ontario
Aboriginal Health
Access Centre



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Aboriginal Health
Access Centre

THE GECDSB OPEN MINDS PROGRAM & SOAHAC WINDSOR PRESENTS

SHARING OUR VOICES THROUGH OUR SONGS

A monthly series focused on sharing musical and cultural practices from Indigenous groups across Turtle Island.

INUK THROAT SINGING

PRESENTED BY SHINA & CAROLINE NOVALINGA

APRIL 1ST 2021, 6:30PM-7:30 PM VIA YOUTUBE LIVE

Please register in advance: bit.ly/novalingareg

Link will be provided to registrants prior to the event.



THE GECDSB OPEN MINDS PROGRAM PRESENTS

SUGARBUSH

With Cedric Isaac

Join us for this virtual series where Cedric Isaac will be sharing the steps of harvesting maple syrup from Bkejwanong Territory. This process will be broken down into episodes, but due to the nature of tree tapping, the episodes will not have set dates. Participants will be notified a week before each session.

Each support worker will contact you when these sessions are happening for your schools.

