LeMarchant-St. Thomas SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL (SAC): Minutes



September 16th, 2025

Member	Position	Present	Regrets
Moira Cavanaugh	Principal	Y	
Kim Gallivan	Vice-Principal	Y	
Kathleen (Kat) Porta	Parent Rep	Y	
Damon Cunningham	Teacher	Y	
Kim Healy	Community Rep	Y	
Maureen Mitchell	Community Rep	Y	
Hideyo Kawashima	Parent Rep		X
Karen Masry	Parent Rep	Y	
Adele Pellerin	Teacher	Y	
Pearl Michael	Community Rep	Y	
Bronwyn Burke	Vice-Chair/Parent Rep	Y	
Jen LeBlanc	Community Rep		X

Last Meeting June 17th, 2025

1. Review and approval of minutes

Motion to approve the minutes from the June 17th meeting by Kim, seconded by Kathleen

2. Additions of any other business to the agenda

Looking for a chair for SAC

3. Discussion of New Business

Election timing input: Two parents have put their names forward for the French Immersion Parent Representative positions: Rachelle Egan (present for SAC meeting) and an additional unnamed parent.

A Google Form will be created for an online, private vote.

Damon will assist Margo with preparing and uploading candidate blurbs.

Members agreed to an online vote with a 5-day voting window once the form is finalized.

4. Administration Update & Student Success Planning Discussion

Theme of the month: Friendship and Friendliness

Poster Club created a series of posters about the theme of the month and displayed throughout the school.

Stand Up Against Bullying was highlighted through lessons and activities. Kids wore pink and spoke about the importance of standing up against bullying.

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Enrollment Update

26 classrooms

635 students enrolled

Staffing Updates

- New staff joined this year, including:
 - Emma Rhino
 - Erin Collinson
 - 30% Music Teacher
 - Emma McMillin (French)
 - 50% School Counsellor.
- -Librarian resigned; role currently filled through substitutes and new hires.

Lockdown and Hold & Secure procedures reviewed with students.

- Leadership roles for Grade 6 students include:
- Announcements
- Lunch monitoring
- Library helpers
- Poster Club
- Tech Team
- Extracurriculars and programs:
- Run Club
- Cross Country (two meets: October 1 and October 8 at Gorsebrook)
- Choir
- Grade 5-6 Strings
- Grade 6 Band
- Grade 4 instrumental program starting soon (date TBD)

School Photos

- New email communication system worked better than paper notifications.
- Make-up/absentee photos scheduled this week.
- Need to select a new photographer for next year.

Music & Performances

- Musical for Grades 4-6: Annie Jr.
- Performances on April 2nd and April 23rd
- This will replace the holiday concert for Grades 4-6
- Primary-Grade 3 winter concert will take place in December.

Early Literacy Screening & Student Achievement

- Early literacy assessments are underway for Grades Primary-2.
- Results help identify students needing extra support; families will be contacted individually if intervention is recommended.
- Teacher input gathered through a Google Form.
- Grade 6 literacy and math assessments scheduled for October 6.

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Cafeteria Update

- MC Food Services is back in the cafeteria.
- New menu includes more diverse food offerings.
- Option to order a second lunch, though uptake is low
- SAC budget: **\$5,000 + \$1 per student.**
- Historically used for guest presentations, science, and music enrichment.

Student success plan

Professional Learning

- Ongoing training in:
- Phonics and phonemic awareness
- Early literacy instruction: Early literacy assessments are underway for Grades Primary–2. Results help identify students needing extra support; families will be contacted individually if intervention is recommended. Grade 6 literacy and math assessments scheduled for **October 6**.
- Readers and Writers Workshop
- Computational fluency
- Neurolinguistic learning in French
- Staff learning around the new provincial Code of Conduct and Safe School Strategy.
- Emphasis on **proactive and preventative approaches**—teaching desired behaviours instead of only responding to misconduct.
- Behaviour matrix updated to clarify expected behaviors in all school settings (e.g., shared bathrooms, playground).
- The Wellbeing Matrix continues to guide schoolwide wellbeing initiatives

Upcoming Events

- Orange Shirt Day assembly on Friday, September 26th
- **PD Day** Monday, September 29th review of new Language Arts curriculum for Grades 3–6 (implementation next year).
- Student Services planning in afternoon.
- Home Alone Program for Grade 5 will take place after the holidays.

Set date for next meeting

3Rd Tuesday of every month (excluding December and March)
October 21st – Cancelled
November 18th
January 20th
February 17th
April 21st
May 19th
June 16th