



September Newsletter 2023



Welcome Back!

Thank you to staff, students and parents for a great start back! We have had a great week, and everyone is getting into the swing of things. Even with all the heat! I hope everyone is looking forward to a fantastic year!

As we have many new families joining us, I thought I would reintroduce myself. My name is Laura Cozzarin and I have been the Principal here at Kenilworth for the last 3 years. This will be my 23rd year in education. I have previously been the Vice-Principal at Victoria Cross PS, Arthur PS and Minto-Clifford PS. As well as being the Principal at Kenilworth PS, I am also the NTIP Lead (New Teacher Induction Program) for the board. Which means I am responsible for all new teachers hired from K-12. I am married to Kevin and have 4 children ages 18, 16, 14 and 12 (3 daughters and a son). Outside of work hours, I enjoy spending time with my family and discussing our love of Disney. I look forward to meeting you all! Please reach out anytime, as I can be reached at 519 848-3320 ext 223 or laura.cozzarin@ugdsb.on.ca.

Please take a moment to read our monthly newsletters as they will share information about upcoming events and will keep you informed about the learning taking place here at Kenilworth PS.

Yours in Education

Mrs. L. Cozzarin

Please click [here](#) to read a message from Director Sovran

Upcoming Events:

Sept 22 Terry Fox Walk/Run
Sept 27 Rowan's Law Day-Wear Purple
Sept 28 Meet the Teacher Night-Food Trucks here 5-7
Sept 29 Orange Shirt Day

First fall sport for Junior students is Soccer (Sept) then in October-Cross Country.

Back to school 2023-24: School operations and health and safety information



Please see link for more information

<https://www.ugdsb.ca/blog/back-to-school-2023-24-school-operations-and-health-and-safety-information>



Communication between home and school is key. Please remember you can always reach out to your child's teacher or myself. If your child will be absent, please contact the office at 519 848-3320. Answering machine is always available!

Bussing Information

We are asking that all parents remind their child about riding the bus safely each day. This means sitting in their seats, backpacks on laps and listening to the driver. When students misbehave on the bus, a bus report is issued. We use progressive discipline in these situations. First bus report will be a call home and spoken to by the Principal and may have a school consequence (loss of recess for example). Second bus report can lead to 1 day suspension off of the bus, next bus report 3 day bus suspension, etc. Consequences will be at the discretion of the Principal. Continued bus reports can lead to bussing services no longer offered.

For more information please see transportation's website <https://stwdsts.ca/policies/>

School Organization

We currently have 96 students enrolled, which is a huge increase from last year. Our Gr ½ class is over the maximum size, so we will have to wait for direction from the board about some changes with the classes. Currently, we have 4 homeroom classrooms. We also have some new staff members. Please welcome; Mrs. Cairns as the ECE in the Kindergarten class. Ms. Heard who will be the librarian and a planning time teacher. Mrs. Siertsema as an Educational Assistant. Ms. Andrea Juhasz, our new custodian. We also welcome back Mrs. Checkley to the Gr. 5/6 class, Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Wilson will be helping us out in the office for the time being.

JK/SK	Mrs. Capell/Ms. Cairns	CYC	Ms. Forsey
Gr 1/2	Mrs. Kress	Office CoOrdinator	Mrs. Smith
Gr 3/4	Mr. Gauci	Custodian	Mrs. Juhasz
Gr 5/6	Mrs. Checkley	Lunch Supervisor	Mrs. Dykstra
Core French	Mr. Ferguson		Mrs. S. Beamish
Planning/Library	Ms. Heard/Mrs. Huber	Educational Assistant	Mrs. Stortz
Resource	Mrs. Huber		

September 2023 Message from the Human Resources Department

Re: School Organizations

Schools have built class lists based on their tentative organizations. Changes may be necessary at your child(ren)'s school in order that our Board remain compliant with Ministry parameters (see below). Any changes would be implemented by Monday, September 18th. Principals do not have the option of changing the school organization that is set by the District Staffing Committee of the Board. If changes affect your child(ren), you will be informed by the school.

Ministry of Education Parameters

- Full Day Kindergarten Class Size Average for the Board is 26 students
- 90% of Full Day Kindergarten classes with 29 or fewer students
- 10% of Full Day Kindergarten classes with up to 32 students, under certain circumstances
- 90% of the Board's primary classes with 20 or fewer students
- 10% of the Board's primary classes up to a maximum of 23 students
- Grade 3/4 classes have a cap of 23 students
- Junior/Intermediate Class Size Average for the Board is 24.5 students

School Day

Just a reminder that our school day starts at 8:40 and ends at 3:00. Nutrition breaks are from 10:20-11:00 and 12:40-1:20. Just a reminder to families that we have a boomerang lunch program at Kenilworth PS. This means all garbage brought in students' lunch pails from home go home. Students are not to put their lunch packaging in school garbage cans. Thank you for supporting our environmental initiative.



Communication-UGConnect

Do you like to stay informed? Would you like the most up to date information in the palm of your hands? If you answered yes to these questions then please sign up for the UGConnect App as this is a great communication tool between school and home.

Our main mode of communication with families will be with the UGDSB School Messenger App which is a communication

The logo for UGCONNECT, featuring the letters 'UG' in white on a dark blue background, followed by the word 'CONNECT' in white on a teal background.

tool for your smartphone. Designed to streamline communication between schools and the communities they serve, the Upper Grand Mobile app provides parents with a simple interface with up to date information including news, calendars and social media feeds. The Upper Grand Mobile App (called UG Connect) is available today for free at either the Google Play Store or at iTunes. Use the search term "Upper Grand" to find the app. Once you have the Upper Grand app on your device, go into "Settings" within the app and select Kenilworth Public School. Information from our website can be seen in the News section of the app and our calendar details will show up there too.

Paying for School Items- PLEASE REGISTER FOR SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

We will be continuing to use School Cash Online this year for safety and efficiency reasons. If the time comes that we are able to offer food days and milk again, payments will only be accepted through Cash Online. Please take a few minutes to register so you can enjoy the convenience of online shopping now and into the coming school years.

Here's How to Register for Online Payments

Step 1: Go to this website - ugdsb.schoolcashonline.com

Step 2: Register by selecting "Get Started Now" and follow the steps

Step 3: Respond to the confirmation email, select the "click here" option, sign in and add each of your children to your household account

Safe Arrival Procedures

If your child is going to be absent for any reason, please phone the school at any time and leave a message on our answering machine at (519)848-3320. If your child is absent at 8:40 AM and we have not heard from you, a call home will be made from the school. If we are unable to reach you, we will then try the emergency contact number. If this fails, we must report to the police. If you know your child is going to be away or late ahead of time, please call the school. This also applies to our end of day procedures. It is assumed all students will be on the bus, unless a phone call is made to the school from a parent/guardian.

If you will be dropping off your child(ren) in the morning we ask that you drop them off at 8:40 and if you are picking up we ask that you pick up your child at 2:50. This will help with keeping the parking lot safe during unloading and loading buses.



Meet the Teacher Night

We invite families to come to Meet the Teacher Night, taking place on Thursday Sept 28. Please stay tuned for details and time. What we can share with you is that this

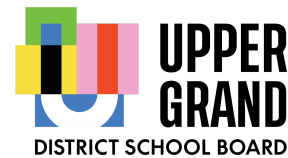
evening will be in partnership with our PATS council (School Council) as a fundraising evening involving Food Trucks. What a great way to spend the evening, meeting your child's teacher, seeing their classroom and getting a great meal!

Lost and Found

Please label your children's clothing so that lost items can be returned to your child.

PATS Meetings (School Council)

PATS (Parents Assisting Teachers and Students) meetings are an excellent opportunity for parents to become involved in school life. It is an opportunity to discuss school programs, support the purchase of resources through fundraising, and be an advisory group for the administration and staff at the school. Anyone can be involved. The School Council usually meets monthly. The next PATS meeting is **Thursday, October 5th at 6:30**. This meeting will be in person. At our first meeting members selected Meghann Dykstra and Brittany Murray to be co-chairs, Courtney Beamish as Secretary, Michelle Vallance as Treasurer/Fundraising and Jenn Vandepas as Playground Fundraising Lead.



Professional Activity Day Descriptions 2023/24

Date: September 18, 2023

Length: Full Day

Topic 1: AM - Literacy

Entity Hosting: School board

Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s): School Administrators

Description: Kindergarten to Grade 3 teachers will receive professional learning on early reading instruction, universal design for learning, and screening. to ensure educators are prepared to support their students in a manner consistent with the recommendations in the [Ontario Human Rights Commission's Right to Read](#) report for the full school year. Additionally, staff will focus on the implementation of the new

Language curriculum in grades 1 - 8 and on embedding high yield strategies in reading across the various subject curriculum areas. In Secondary schools, teachers will continue professional development on the de-streamed grade 9 course and on effective practices for teaching reading across various subject areas. Furthermore, enhancing teacher efficacy in supporting students to consolidate foundation knowledge and skills in Grade 9 destreamed English will be a focus of this professional learning time.

Topic 2: PM - Student Well-being, School Safety and Violence Prevention

Entity Hosting: School board

Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s): School Administrators and Online Learning Platforms

All staff will receive training related to *PPM 161 - Supporting Students with Prevalent Medical Conditions*. Additionally, educators will engage in continued learning regarding detection and intervention of sex trafficking related to students. Finally, staff will review procedures and policies regarding school safety and violence prevention including but not limited to emergency response, child abuse and protection, student crisis response protocols and suicide intervention.

School Emergency Response Training and Annual Drills

This is to provide you with some information regarding our emergency drills for this year. The safety and well-being of our students is our highest priority. Although we hope that an incident that requires a response from emergency personnel will never occur in our school, we must be prepared to respond quickly and effectively in case it does. All emergency drills will continue to occur this year.

Students with Life Threatening Medical Conditions

UGDSB Policy 518: Students with Life-Threatening Medical Conditions, outlines the roles and responsibilities for all in the educational community to support students with possible life-threatening medical conditions. The prevalent medical conditions covered under this policy are Asthma, Anaphylaxis, Diabetes and Epilepsy/Seizure Disorders. If your child has one of these, or any other life-threatening medical condition, please visit: www.ugdsb.ca/board/policy (and look for Policy 518) or contact the school as soon as possible. We will work with you to develop a Plan of Care to support your child. We have children in our school with potential life-threatening allergies (called anaphylaxis) to various foods and other materials. Anaphylaxis is a medical condition that can cause death within minutes. In recent years, anaphylaxis has increased dramatically among students. Although this may not affect your child's class directly, we are letting you know so that you are aware that we aim to create an allergy safe environment at our school. If your child is in a classroom with an anaphylactic child, or your child has anaphylaxis,

you will be informed by the classroom teacher. Our school has procedures in place for the prevention and management of anaphylactic reactions. If your child has health concerns of any kind, please tell your child's teacher or the office and we will take the necessary health protection steps. Thank you for your understanding in ensuring an allergy-safe environment for all of our students.

Smoke and Vape-Free Environment

The Upper Grand DSB provides a smoke and vape-free environment for its students, staff and others while on Board property, in accordance with the Smoke-Free Ontario Act and Board policy 208. This policy refers to all forms of tobacco, and any processed form of tobacco that may be smoked, inhaled or chewed, including e-cigarettes.

Smudging is the tradition of using sacred smoke from sacred medicines (e.g., tobacco and sage) that forms part of the indigenous culture and spirituality. Smudging is allowed in schools under the Smoke-Free Ontario Act. Parents will be informed using the school's usual forms of communication when smudging is going to occur in our school. Participation by staff and students is optional in a smudging ceremony. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the principal.

Report Bullying using the Online Tool

We take all incidents of bullying seriously. If your child is the victim of bullying or sees bullying behavior at school, please encourage him/her to speak with someone at school or use the board's online reporting tool. Report Bullying gives students and parents 24/7 access for reporting bullying. You don't have to identify yourself – just your school – and your message gets sent directly to the school principal for follow-up. You'll find the Report Bullying button on our school's website.

<https://webapps.ugdsb.on.ca/reportbullying>

What is the difference between conflict and bullying?

Conflict occurs between two or more people who have a disagreement, a difference of opinion or different views. Conflict between students does not always mean it is bullying. Children learn at a young age to understand that others can have a different perspective than their own, and developing the ability to gain perspective takes time and the process continues into early adulthood. In conflict, each person feels comfortable expressing his or her views, and there is no power imbalance. Each person feels able to state his or her view point. How people deal with conflict can make it positive or negative. Conflict becomes negative when an individual behaves aggressively by saying or doing hurtful things. Then the conflict is an aggressive interaction. Conflict only becomes bullying when it is repeated over and over again and there is a power imbalance. Over time, a pattern of behaviour may emerge where the person who behaves aggressively in the conflict may continue or even make it worse. The person

who is the recipient of the aggressive conflict may feel less and less able to express his or her point of view and feel more and more powerless. That is when negative conflict may turn into bullying. A school will respond to bullying and conflict differently. For example, in the case of a conflict, a school staff member may try to have the students come together to tell their side of the story and help them resolve the situation together. In the case of bullying, a principal will consider discipline, which may include suspension or expulsion.

Video Surveillance Cameras

As required by board policy, we would like to remind you that Kenilworth PS has video surveillance cameras inside and outside of our school. These areas are clearly marked with signage and video cameras are **not** being used in areas where students, staff and authorized visitors have a high expectation of privacy including change rooms, washrooms and staff rooms. Information obtained through video surveillance provides us with an additional way to enhance the protection of students, staff, the public and property. Should you have any questions please refer to the Upper Grand School Board's Video Surveillance Policy #203.

Reminder for parents/guardians: Student Accident Insurance

Parents and guardians are responsible for expenses related to student injuries on school premises or during school activities. Accidents can and do happen and the costs involved might not be fully covered by Provincial health care or employer group insurance plans.

The Upper Grand District School board is empowered under *The Education Act* to offer Accident and Life Insurance for students.

A letter from the Upper Grand District School Board will be sent home with students containing information with respect to two Programs available for the purchase of Student Accident Insurance. The Insuremykids Program is offered through Old Republic Insurance Company of Canada and the Studyinsured Program is underwritten by Certain Lloyd's Underwriters through AON Insurance.

Each program offers a variety of options, including family rates at affordable prices. The cost must be paid by the parent or guardian. Paper copies of the application are no longer available. Purchase is done directly on line or by contacting the Provider:

www.insuremykids.com or call toll free **1-800-463-5437**

www.studyinsuredstudentaccident.com or call toll free 1-833-560-0527.

For today's active children, especially those who participate in field trips, co-curricular and other school activities outside the school day, Student Accident Insurance is valuable.

What you need to know about fluoride in our drinking water

We would like to remind parents and guardians about elevated levels of fluoride in our school's drinking water. Fluoride is naturally occurring in the water from our well – it is not added to the water by the school board or municipality. The school's drinking water is tested every month for various compounds such as E. coli bacteria, and every five years the water is also tested for organic and inorganic compounds, including fluoride.

The last test for fluoride showed elevated levels in the water. High levels of fluoride in drinking water can contribute to a condition called dental fluorosis, which affects the appearance of teeth. The condition can range from small white flecks to larger white areas, and in severe cases brown pitting. Most cases are mild and cosmetic in nature.

Given the relatively small amount of water consumed at school, the school's water supply is not likely to significantly increase the risk of dental fluorosis among students. However, if the fluoride level is also elevated in the home water supply, concerns about dental fluorosis would be greater. Therefore, Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health (WDGPH) recommends that all homeowners on private well water have their water tested to determine the fluoride level.

It is our responsibility to raise public awareness of these higher levels of fluoride so you can take whatever action you believe necessary. At your child's next dental visit, please tell the dentist your child attends Kenilworth Public School. If you have any questions, please contact the WDGPH dental intake line at 1-800-265-7293 ext. 2661.