
Agenda – Education, Policy and Operations Committee Meeting

Wednesday, March 5, 2025

Limestone Education Centre

220 Portsmouth Avenue, Kingston, Ontario

Public Viewing: <https://bit.ly/LDSBEPOCMTGMar525>

Public Meeting – 5:30 p.m.

Land Acknowledgement: “The Limestone District School Board is situated on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee. We acknowledge their enduring presence on this land, as well as the presence of Métis, Inuit, and other First Nations from across Turtle Island. We honour their cultures and celebrate their commitment to this land.”

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

4. REPORTS FOR ACTION

5. REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

5.1 2025-2026 Budget Development Schedule – Superintendent Young (Pages 2-3)

5.2 Communicable and Vaccine-Preventable Disease Prevention and Management in Schools –
Associate Superintendent Gollogly (Pages 4-5)

5.3 Update on Development and Administration of See Yourself in Limestone Student Census 2025 –
Superintendent McDonnell (Pages 6-10)

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

7. NEW BUSINESS

8. CORRESPONDENCE

9. NEXT MEETING – May 5, 2025

10. ADJOURNMENT

Limestone District School Board

Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee.

Administrative Report: 2025-2026 Budget Development Schedule

Education, Policy and Operations Committee Meeting

March 5, 2025

Purpose

To provide information to Trustees on the 2025-2026 budget development schedule.

Background

The Ministry has yet to announce the details of the 2025-2026 Grants for Student Needs (GSN); however, from past experience and current discussions with the Ministry, we understand that they are working towards an announcement that will be made in April.

Last year, the GSN was announced on April 26, 2024, with the specific details and grant calculation forms being made available to school boards on April 26, 2024. The Responsive Education Program (REP) announcements were released on April 26, 2024.

It is expected, based upon prior year reporting timelines, that school boards will be required to submit their approved 2025-2026 Budget Estimates to the Ministry of Education by June 27, 2025.

Current Status

The multi-year enrolment projections prepared last year are predicting a slight increase in enrolment for 2025-2026. It is our practice to have our current enrolment and demographic data reviewed each year. LDSB updates enrolment projections in February, so that school principals and board staff can review the information in early March to begin the school staffing process for the upcoming school year.

The Budget Survey will be open from February 25, 2025, to March 21, 2025. The feedback received helps LDSB make informed budget decisions.

The following budget development schedule has been established to ensure that the board will be able to submit the 2025-2026 Estimates to the Ministry by the end of June 2025.

Limestone District School Board

Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee.

[See Yourself in Limestone](#)

Committee of the Whole- Budget Meetings

All meetings to be hybrid with in-person held at
 220 Portsmouth Ave., Kingston, Ontario

Wednesday, April 16, 2025 (7:00 p.m.) <i>Following SEAC</i>	Review of 2025-2026 Enrolment Projections, Budget Survey Review
Wednesday, May 14, 2025 (5:30 p.m.)	GSN Overview Preliminary Operating Revenue
Wednesday, June 4, 2025 (7:00 p.m.) <i>Following EPOC</i>	Preliminary Operating Expenditures/Preliminary Capital Revenue/Expenditures/Consolidated Budget Draft Budget Review
Wednesday, June 11, 2025 (7:30 p.m.) <i>Following SEAC</i>	<i>Date held if meeting required</i>

As per previous years, the budget development schedule will be provided to all committees of the Board, so that budget issues can be identified and discussed (where applicable).

Recommendations

That this report be received for information purposes.

Prepared by: Paula Carson, Manager of Financial Services

Reviewed by: Craig Young, Superintendent of Corporate Services

Krishna Burra, Director of Education

Limestone District School Board

Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee.

Administrative Report: Communicable and Vaccine-Preventable Disease Prevention and Management in Schools

Education, Policy and Operations Committee Meeting

March 5, 2025

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to demonstrate the positive working relationship that LDSB and South East Public Health have with the goal to improve student wellbeing.

Background

Under the Ontario Public Health Standards (OPHS), public health is responsible for enforcing the Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA), which requires students under 18 to be up-to-date with their vaccinations or for families to provide reasoning for valid exemptions. The South East Health Unit (SEHU) (formerly KFL&A Public Health) works closely with schools and school boards to support families in meeting these requirements, helping to reduce the number of students affected by suspensions while maximizing protection against vaccine-preventable diseases in schools.

Current Status

During the last school year, 2,783 Limestone District School Board (LDSB) students received notices in January regarding missing immunization information. Through a collaborative effort between public health and schools, including proactive communication with families and accessible school-based catch-up clinics, more than 75 percent of these students updated their immunization information before the suspension deadline in the spring. By the end of the suspension period, this increased to over 95 percent. This coordinated approach has contributed to the region achieving some of the highest immunization coverage rates in the province.

In addition to enforcing ISPA, public health delivers Ontario's Grade 7 School Immunization Program, which provides vaccinations for Human Papillomavirus (HPV), Hepatitis B (HB), and meningococcal disease. Schools support this program by assisting with the consent collection process and working with

Limestone District School Board

Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee.

[See Yourself in Limestone](#)

public health to coordinate clinic dates and spaces. In 2024, this collaboration resulted in vaccine coverage rates of 84.2% for Hepatitis B (HB), 80.4% for Human Papillomavirus (HPV), and 96.7% for Meningococcal-C-ACYW among 14-year-olds attending schools in LDSB. Our region has the highest school-based immunization coverage in the province.

SEHU is also responsible for responding to and managing diseases of public health significance (DoPHS), as outlined under the Health Protection and Promotion Act (HPPA). Under both the Education Act and the HPPA, school principals must report to public health if they become aware of, or suspect, a communicable disease within the school. Public health works closely with schools in these situations to assess and manage risks. This process may involve notifying families and staff of potential exposures, recommending risk mitigation measures such as the temporary exclusion of symptomatic individuals or enhanced hygiene protocols, and offering post-exposure prophylaxis when indicated.

Since the start of this school year, public health has worked with LDSB schools to assess 10 cases of DoPHS, including multiple cases of probable or confirmed pertussis (whooping cough), and has supported eight schools in investigating illness activity of concern. High immunization coverage continues to provide strong protection against vaccine-preventable diseases within school communities.

Although head lice (pediculosis) are commonly identified in schools, they do not cause disease or spread illness. Since lice are not a public health risk and are not classified as a disease of public health significance under the HPPA, SEHU does not assess, manage, or treat lice outbreaks in schools.

Next Steps and Communication Plan

The collaboration between schools, school boards, and public health remains essential in preventing and managing communicable diseases, maintaining high immunization rates, ensuring a safe and healthy learning environment for all students, and supporting healthy communities.

Recommendations

That this report be received for information purposes.

Prepared by: Patty Gollogly, Associate Superintendent of Curriculum and Program Services

Reviewed by: Krishna Burra, Director of Education

Limestone District School Board

Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee.

Administrative Report: Update on Development and Administration of See Yourself in Limestone Student Census 2025

Education, Policy and Operations Committee Meeting

March 5, 2025

Purpose

To provide Trustees with an update on the status of the development and administration of the See Yourself in Limestone Student Census 2025. This work supports Strategic Plan Focus: Equity and Excellence in Student Learning, Achievement, and Future Success within a Positive Culture.

Background

The Ministry of Education provides school boards with the Demographic Data Gathering allocation in the Core Education Funding (CEF). This funding allows boards to continue to collect, analyze, publicly report and use voluntary data on social identities that are related to the protected grounds under the Ontario Human Rights Code and as required under the Anti-Racism Data Standards. School boards are expected to engage in data collection process that meets local needs and improves accuracy and quality of data to use for decision-making.

The first Student Census administration took place in the late fall of 2020, after extensive community consultation beginning in 2019. The Student Census offers an opportunity to create a shared understanding of the diverse backgrounds, experiences, strengths, and needs within Limestone's school communities. The census questions ask about several aspects of student identity including race and cultural background; sexual orientation and gender; disabilities and conditions; socioeconomic status; and experiences at school.

The survey was completely voluntary, online, and was confidential. There were three versions of the survey: Grades 7 to 12, Grades 4 to 6, and Grades K to 3. Resources were provided in advance to support the administration of the survey in schools. For example, an Educator and Technical Guides. Students in Grades 4 to 12 completed the survey in class with educator support, while parents/guardians of students in Grades K to 3 completed the survey at home in consultation with their students. It should also be noted

Limestone District School Board

Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee.

[See Yourself in Limestone](#)

that several public consultation sessions occurred in the winter of 2019-2020, prior to the onset of the pandemic, to share questions and seek feedback. The response rate for Grades K to 3 was 12%. The overall response rate for Grades 4 to 12 was 76%. The overall response rate for Grades 7 to 12 was 72%. The overall response rate for the board (K-12) was 55%. The highest response rates were among students in Grades 4 to 9.

The See Yourself in Limestone Student Census 2020 Preliminary Report: September 2021 was shared with Trustees in September 2021. This report was also shared with administrators and made publicly available on the LDSB website in September 2021. The Preliminary Report provided a detailed introduction to the methodology and framework used, next steps in this project, along with Board-level summary of data, such as responses to each question in the surveys (data tables). In this first report, data was descriptive only, meaning that there was no interpretation included, and results were reported by individual question only.

A Technical Advisory Group (TAG) comprised of LDSB community interest holders and members of the Student Census Team was established in January 2022 to support the analysis of the data. All members of TAG were required to complete the First Nations principles of ownership, control, access, and possession (OCAP). During this time, the Research Team, and the Technical Advisory Group (along with a subcommittee of TAG called the Closed Group comprising of individuals who self-identify as racialized and offer guidance on the messaging, interpretation, and presentation of race-based data specifically), established priorities for analysis, identifying key variables, and working to build meaningful, empowering representation of the students and communities whose data was included. The TAG identified student sense of belonging as a priority for analysis, as belonging is a fundamental element of student engagement, agency and self-determination. TAG also identified race as the key driver for analysis in the first report to create greater understanding, improve student experience, and create meaningful, positive change.

The See Yourself in Limestone: Student Sense of Belonging report was released in April 2023. This report was the first in a series of reports and focused on student belonging and experiences at school based on race and race related data, including cultural background or ethnicity; religion; country of birth; newcomer status; and language. This report offered information on belonging indicators: experience of positive school climate; social justice education; positive representation and reflection of identity; opportunities to express and learn about cultural background; caring adults at school; treatment by adults at school; and being made to feel unwelcome or uncomfortable at school. This report was also shared with administrators and made publicly available on the LDSB website in April 2023.

The See Yourself in Limestone: Student Census Achievement Report was released in December 2023. This was the second report to analyze data from the Student Census from 2020. The focus of this report was

Limestone District School Board

Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee.

traditional measures of student achievement for all census-related identity groups and includes some information on student sense of belonging for groups who were not the focus of the first report. This report included information on achievement indicators: one caring adult at school; one adult at school expects me to do well; suspensions; reasons for absent or late; special education (IEPs); EQAO math and literacy; pathways (Applied); credit accumulation; and graduation. This Student Census Achievement Report offers the Limestone District School Board the opportunity to reflect on system practices in the future.

Over time, and through careful analysis in collaboration with students, families, staff, and community partners, the information gathered through the Student Census 2020 has helped us to identify and address systemic barriers; expand on our strengths; cultivate classrooms and schools that mitigate discriminatory biases; create more equitable outcomes and inclusive learning environments; and support student achievement and well-being.

Current Status

On May 1, 2024, Trustees were introduced to the Student Census 2025 proposed timeline, with plans to administer the second Student Census in the fall of 2025. The Student Census 2025 will provide the board with demographic, belonging and achievement data that can be directly compared to students who completed the 2020 Student Census and are still attending school within Limestone, specifically students who are currently in Grades 9 to 12+ who were in Grades 4 to 9 in 2020. All information for students in Kindergarten to Grade 4 will be new data, as none of the students in these grade ranges could have participated in the 2020 Student Census. Data from the Student Census will continue to be used to create a shared understanding of the diverse backgrounds, experiences, strengths, and needs of students within Limestone's school communities.

The Student Census 2025 survey will be completely voluntary, online, and confidential. There will be three versions of the survey: Grades 7 to 12, Grades 4 to 6, and Grades K to 3. Resources will be provided in advance to support the administration of the survey in schools. For example, an Educator and Technical Guides. Students in Grades 4 to 12 will complete the survey in class with educator support, while parents/guardians of students in Grades K to 3 will complete the survey at home in consultation with their students.

Like the 2020 Student Census, the board is taking a participatory approach to the project that involves consultation with diverse members of the Limestone community. The community consultation period, prior to the survey's implementation, is expected to take about 10 to 12 months and has begun with consultations with the Mental Health and Substance Use Leadership Committee, Indigenous Education

Limestone District School Board

Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee.

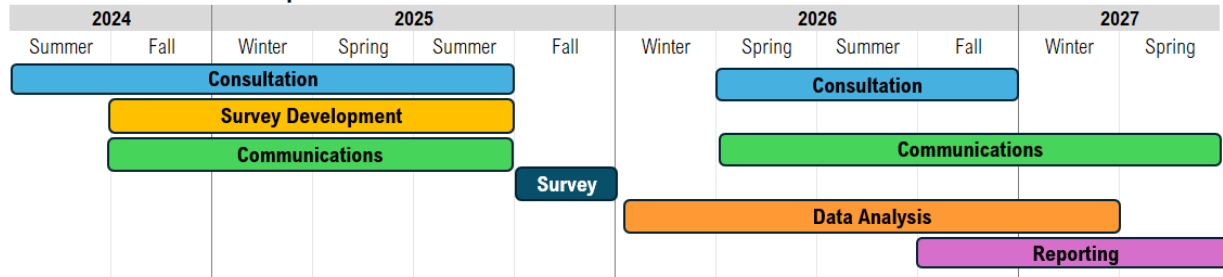
Committee, Special Education Advisory Committee, and the Community Equity Advisory Committee. A student voice day for students in Grades 9-12 was also held on February 27, 2025. Additional consultations throughout the spring will include the Parent Involvement Committee, Unions and Associations, Staff Affinity Networks, additional student consultations, as well as community partner consultations and family consultations.

TAG has also been renewed and has continued to give advice, opinions, and make recommendations in the design of methods for data collection (e.g., survey development and implementation). In the future, they will assist with analysis (e.g., determining disparities and disproportionalities among student outcomes relative to identity), and the representation of results (e.g., specifically how the information is reported and shared), and to ensure that multiple and diverse perspectives are applied to the analysis of Student Census data to minimize the risk of bias.

Next Steps and Communication Plan

The graphic below provides a summary visualization of the next steps for Student Census 2025:

Student Census 2025: Proposed Timeline



- Consultation will follow a similar path to previous cycle, with updated consultation partners. TAG has already been formed and will be renewed for this cycle with additional members.
- Survey Development will use the 2020 survey as its base, with adjustments based on consultation and findings from the previous data.
- Communications will be priority throughout the entire project cycle so that all interest holders have access to up-to-date and relevant information. Transparency is important to building trust.
- Data analysis should take less time in this cycle as we already have key variables for analysis and baseline data from the first Student Census.
- Reporting should also take less time, knowing that we need to produce comparison reports. the ARDS public reporting requirements have not changed. There may be additional reporting needs base on consultation.

Limestone District School Board

Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee.

Recommendations

That this report be received for information purposes.

Prepared by: Alison McDonnell, Superintendent of Education, Curriculum Services

Reviewed by: Krishna Burra, Director of Education

Limestone District School Board

Limestone District School Board is situated on traditional territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee.

[See Yourself in Limestone](#)