

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES IN ACTION

Learning opportunities and initiatives demonstrating commitment to
Thames Valley's Strategic Priorities and Operational Goals

TVEF Giving Tuesday campaign a great success

The Thames Valley Education Foundation's Giving Tuesday campaign raised more than \$35,000 in just one day – almost doubling the \$20,000 goal for the fundraiser.



The aim of the one-day Giving Tuesday campaign was to provide a boost to the Caring Fund, which has seen a 79 per cent increase in requests for emergency financial support so far this year.

Students and families in need of food, clothing, and transportation can access up to \$500 in emergency funding at the request of school principals.

Caring Fund requests are processed in less than 48 hours and create a bridge between a family in immediate crisis and more long-term community-based support. The Fund is also aimed at helping to ensure students can focus on learning and attend school, even during a crisis.

Since September, 300 families have been assisted with \$107,000 in emergency funding. According to Jackie Ellefson, Executive Director at TVEF, the success of the Giving Tuesday campaign will allow the Foundation to continue to help students in need and meet with the increased demand.

Thames Valley's Lisa Floyd wins Prime Minister's Award

Lisa Floyd, a math and science teacher at Lord Dorchester Secondary School, has been recognized with a Prime Minister's Award.

This prestigious award honours outstanding and innovative teachers for their remarkable educational achievements and their commitment to preparing students for a digital and innovation-based economy.

Congratulations Lisa! The 2022 Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence are accepting nominations until February 8th.



@DirFisherTVDSB

It is very important to me that I spend time in our schools — engaging with our students, understanding what they are learning, and working with our educational leaders. These school visits also help to drive the work we do as a senior team at the board.

Last month I had the opportunity to visit West Nissouri Public School in Thorndale and North Meadows Public School in Strathroy with Associate Director Culhane and Superintendent Kevin Auckland, and New Sarum Public School in St. Thomas with Superintendent Tracy Langelaan.

Thank you to all the staff and students for welcoming us into your schools and classrooms.



Indigenous students from Saunders volunteer their time at local community build

Recently, a group of First Nations, Métis and Inuit students from Saunders Secondary School participated in a community build at a local Atlohsa Family Healing Services shelter. Over a dozen students joined Stephen Merklinger, a construction teacher at Saunders, to build a much-needed fence around the perimeter of the property.

The project at Atlohsa is just one example of community builds which students have participated in – other examples include constructing Buddy Benches for Antler River Elementary School and gazebos for Standing Stone Elementary School.

The volunteer builds give Indigenous students the opportunity to connect with their community by giving back, build confidence in and learn important hands-on skills, and increase their awareness of opportunities that exist in the skilled trades.

Thank you to our students and Mr. Merklinger for bearing the cold weather and volunteering their skills for such a great cause.

Students raise \$50,000 for Canadian Cancer Foundation

Students and staff at East Elgin, Lord Dorchester, Montcalm, Oakridge and Saunders organized Relay for Life events for their school communities and raised almost \$50,000!

This is such an amazing accomplishment – especially during the confines of the pandemic – and again is proof of the generosity of our students and their families.

Thank you to everyone who participated and donated!

Primary Team at New Sarum builds literacy proficiency in students

Hear the primary educational team at New Sarum talk about learning recovery strategies they have implemented to help students work on their reading and writing skills, and how early diagnostics and Sound Walls are being used to guide programming.



JENNIFER RUSSELL
GRADE 1/2 TEACHER

Hi there, I'm Jennifer Russell.



Chair's Corner

@lapizzolato



As we draw closer to the end of 2021, I want to extend warm holiday wishes to all our students, staff and families on behalf of the Thames Valley Board of Trustees. Thank you for your partnership, co-operation and understanding throughout the past year.

The holidays are often a time of reflection and gratitude, and we want you to know how much we appreciate the contributions you make to Thames Valley's school communities. By working together, we're making a difference in the learning experiences and opportunities of all students within TVDSB.

However you choose to celebrate the holidays, we hope you have the opportunity to rest and unwind with family and friends.

Season's Greetings,

Lori-Ann Pizzolato
Chair