



Committed to the success
of every student

Trustees
2025-2026

Chair
Leah Vanderwey

Vice Chair
Donica LeBlanc

Patricia Johansen

Ron Oikonen

George Saarinen

Ryan Sitch

Trudy Tuchenhagen

Ellen Chambers

Scott Wemigwans

Student Trustee
Breanna Bruce

Indigenous Student Trustee
Eryn Genno



Lakehead District School Board Leadership | 2025-2026

Sherri-Lynne Pharand
Director of Education

Christine Jones - Executive Assistant
Kelly Stewart Doromko - Executive Secretary

Chief Academic Officer
Chief Executive Officer
Secretary to the Board
Board
Procedural By-Law
Policies and Procedures
Board and Committee Meetings
Communications
Human Rights and Equity
Partnerships
Activities Director

Executive Council
Parent Involvement Committee
Lakehead Public Schools Foundation

Kirsti Alaksa
Superintendent of Business

Simona Serrao - Executive Secretary

Business Services
Finance
Accounting
Payroll
Purchasing
Budget
Corporate Planning and Partnerships
Building Services
Capital Projects
Custodial/ Maintenance
Energy Management
Community Use
Information Technology
Transportation
Office Services
Health & Safety
Privacy Information Management

Audit Committee
Finance Committee
STSTB
Operations

CUPE Contract Management
COPE Contract Management
Non-Union Contract Management

Heather Harris
Superintendent of Education: Child Care & Elementary Education

Charity Rydholm - Executive Secretary

School Effectiveness
K-8 Program
Leading Student Achievement Lead
Literacy
Board Improvement Plan Lead
Early Years
Child Care
Indigenous Education Elementary
REA Lead
Anishinaabemowin
French as a Second Language
Core
Immersion
Research

Miiniwewinan : Indigenous Education
Advisory Committee (IEAC)
School Year Calendar

Elementary Contract Management
DECE Contract Management

Schools:
Armstrong Gorham and Ware
Claude Garton McKellar
École Elsie MacGill McKenzie
École Gron Morgan Ogden
Five Mile St. James

Jane Lower
Superintendent of Education

Charity Rydholm - Executive Secretary

Adult and Continuing Education
Student Success
7-12 Program
Pathways
Destreaming
Alternative Education
Speciality Programs (i.e. OYAP, Coop, SHSM, SCWI, IYEP, Dual Credits, Graduation Coach-es, KZ Lodge, Secondary eLearning, TSP)
Experiential Education
International Education
Student Leadership
Equity and Inclusive Education
Kingfisher
Indigenous Education Secondary
Student Attendance

Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL)
Equity and Inclusive Education Committee
Lakehead Public Schools International Board

Secondary Contract Management

Schools:
Adult Education Nor'wester View
Crestview Superior
Hammarkjold Valley Central
Kakabeka Falls Westgate
Kingsway Park Whitefish

Patti-Jo Pesola-Brunton
Superintendent of Education: Math Lead

Charity Rydholm - Executive Secretary

Renewed Math Strategy
Inform, monitor and report progress towards math achievement and improvement targets;
Lead board-wide efforts to meet targets;
Provide ongoing information to the Ministry Math Achievement Action Team
Priority Schools Support
Support development of achievement improvement plans;
Support school administration in achievement of targets
Information Technology
New Teacher Induction Program (NTIP)
Leadership Development & Succession Planning
Multi Language Learners
Elementary Hockey Academies

Schools:
Algonquin Vance Chapman
CD Howe Westmount
Sherbrooke Woodcrest

Michelle Probizanski
Superintendent of Education

Simona Serrao - Executive Secretary

Mental Health
Social Work
Attendance
Human Resources
Attendance Support
Recruitment and Retention
Disability Management
Labour Relations
Special Education
Education and Community/Program
Autism Services and Supports
Paraprofessional Supports
Collaborative Paediatric Clinic
Northern Adjustment Fund
Safe Schools
Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act

Special Education Advisory Committee
Operations

Negotiations Lead
Student Support Professionals Contract Management
Non-Union Contract Management
Social Workers Contract Management

Updated: August 2025