

November 2, 2011



DISTRICT COUNCIL

HEALTH & SAFETY REPORT

1. Monthly Inspection Reports:

The new electronic Health and Safety Inspection reporting system was rolled out at the recent mandatory Health and Safety Representative training session. These reports are now filed electronically via the E-Solutions website. All Representatives were given access codes and should be familiar with how the process works.

The new format provides an enhanced system for the Joint Health and Safety Committee (JHSC) to review inspections and search for common areas of concern across the District.

A few teething problems are to be expected and tweaks within it will probably occur until the system is functioning exactly as everyone would like it too.

Any Representative having problems with the software can seek assistance from myself,

Dave Page	OSSTF Health and Safety Representative	pageda@lkdsb.net	or either of the following
Betty Meyskens	Board Office Health and Safety Secretary	meyskebe@lkdsb.net	
Mike Dodman	CUPE	dodmanmi@lkdsb.net	

2. Health and Safety Policies and Procedures:

The Lambton Kent District School Board has demonstrated that Health and Safety in its facilities is a very important consideration. Health and Safety Policies and Procedures are in place in many departmental areas.

The Tech and Science procedures need to be reviewed. John Ferguson will be reviewing these procedures with sub-committees. It has been recommended that Tech and Science be compared, in order that they have similar procedures.

A meeting was scheduled for November 1st to review the Secondary Technology Shop Administrative Procedure.

Drama and Art Administrative Procedures are to be compiled after relevant audits by Kris Lee.

3. Training for Site Representatives

Annual Secondary Health and Safety Representative Training did take place at Baldoon Golf Course, Wallaceburg on September 29th 2011. The verbal feedback was very good from the participants.

Level 1 and Level 2 Health and Safety Certification courses are being offered. Colleagues are encouraged to seek out details etc. via P.D. Place. Some of these courses begin this month.

BASIC - JHSC Certification training is scheduled for Nov. 9, 16, 21, and 28. Kris Lee will be facilitating this training.

4. Health and Safety Audits / Visits to Schools:

Both myself and Mike Dodman (CUPE) can be made available for any monthly site inspection, should any Health and Safety Representatives feel that our presence would provide assistance.

Two secondary schools will be audited this month, Sarnia Collegiate Institute & Technical School on the 16th and St. Clair Secondary School on the 18th. Reports will follow in due course.

5. **Eye Wash Stations:**

System wide there is an issue with the placement of such stations and the water temperature feeding them. Currently the LKDSB has completed installing them in all necessary custodial areas and will continue to find ways of tempering the water supply to them on an ongoing basis.

Curricular areas were reviewed recently and the JHSC has decided that Science, Tech, and possibly Family Studies and Art areas will probably need to be fitted with suitable devices. Input from staff on this issue to determine the exact needs is always welcome. Information is sought as to what potential hazards are likely to occur in Family Studies and Art facilities. These stations are expensive to install and obviously should only be installed if hazards really do exist.

6. **Health and Safety Subject Specific Training / E-Training:**

Going forward E-Learning will be changed to “E-Training” for staff. The term E-Learning will be used for students.

My understanding is that Secondary staff is supposed to be given a half day on the first PD day in September as their time allocation to do the required yearly Health and Safety training. I am not sure if staff is receiving this time and need feedback.

An asbestos module is currently being scheduled for winter. This will allow the principals to review the current asbestos reports with their staff and then E-Training will be released.

An Advanced Ladder module is currently being worked on – this program will be changed to “Working at Heights”. The sub-committee is working on a formal written program and an administrative procedure.

Please note: No member of the teaching staff should go higher than the 10 foot rung on any ladder.

7. **Science Prep. Course:**

A Science Teacher Lab Safety workshop was held on Oct. 25th at SCITS. This workshop was for any teacher new to teaching Science this year and to Science C/L's from north schools. It was felt that notice for this workshop was very short for staff to make arrangements easily to attend.

Kris Lee facilitated the training workshop. I also attended this workshop as it is committee driven training. I was not originally invited.

8. **Violence in the Workplace:**

Risk assessments were sent out to each school following the Health and Safety Representative Training Day so that all staff had the opportunity to participate in the assessment.

At the time of writing the JHSC has not yet received the previous year's (2010-2011) summary report of risk assessment surveys.

The Committee also feels that there is a need to have a better mechanic in place to enable all staff to have input on these risk assessments, before they are handed in to the Health & Wellness Officer.

Dave Page, Health and Safety Officer
OSSTF District 10