

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Friday, October 5, 2012

Catholic Education Centre
420 Creek Street
Wallaceburg, Ontario
N8A 4C4

(519) 627-6762
1-866-336-6139
Fax: (519) 627-8230

Lambton Kent District School Board
200 Wellington Street
P.O. Box 2019
Sarnia, Ontario
N7T 7L2

(519) 336-1500
Fax: (519) 336-0992

For further information regarding this release, please contact:

St. Clair Catholic DSB
Paul Wubben
Director of Education
(519) 627-6762, Ext 241

Todd Lozon
Supervisor – Communications and Community Relations
(519) 627-6762, Ext 243

Lambton Kent DSB
Jim Costello
Director of Education
(519) 336-1500, Ext 31297

Trish Johnston
Executive Assistant and Communications Officer
(519) 336-1500, Ext 31320

EXPERT IN YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH TO SPEAK TO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN CHATHAM-KENT AND SARNIA-LAMBTON

Dr. Bruce Ferguson, a recognized expert in the field of youth mental health, will speak to secondary school students in Chatham-Kent and Sarnia-Lambton on Wednesday, October 10, 2012.

“School communities in both ends of the district have been touched by the loss and pain of suicide,” says Paul Wubben, Director of Education for the St. Clair Catholic District School Board. “Dr. Ferguson will offer some real and practical steps in helping students to recognize when they, or their friends, need help.”

“We are grateful that Dr. Ferguson has accepted our invitation to speak to student representatives in Chatham and Sarnia,” says Jim Costello, Director of Education for the Lambton Kent District School Board. “This is a significant step in helping to address an issue that is important to all of us.”

Dr. Ferguson is Director of the Community Health Systems Resource Group (CHSRG) at The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids) in Toronto. He is also a Professor of Psychiatry and Psychology at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health at the University of Toronto. He has taught psychology at Carleton University and received his doctorate in Psychology at Monash University in Melbourne, Australia.

Dr. Ferguson works to build networks and improve systems of care and support for children and families. He is an advocate for children and youth and created the CHSRG in an effort to advocate for the implementation of evidence-based interventions and standardized outcome measurement in health, mental health, social services and education and to promote and facilitate integration and collaboration in service delivery.

The event is organized by the Lambton Kent District School Board and the St. Clair Catholic District School Board with the support of the Youth Mental Health Partnership, an organization of community-based mental health support agencies and organizations from across Chatham-Kent and Sarnia-Lambton. The Youth Mental Health Partnership was formed last spring at the invitation of the school boards, to help increase inter-agency communication and awareness of services.

Dr. Ferguson will speak to students on Wednesday, October 10, 2012 at the Ursuline College Theatre, 85 Grand Avenue, W. at 8:30 a.m. and at 12:00 p.m. at the Lambton Kent District School Board Education Centre, 200 Wellington Street, Sarnia. Members of the media are welcome.