



A United Commitment to Student Well-Being: New Partnership Strengthens Mental Health Supports Across the Region

The St. Clair Catholic District School Board (SCCDSB) and the Lambton Kent District School Board (LKDSB), together with Linck Child, Youth & Family Supports in Chatham-Kent and St. Clair Child & Youth Services (SCCYS) in Sarnia, have signed a new Memorandum of Agreement to enhance coordinated mental health supports for children and youth across Sarnia–Lambton and Chatham-Kent. Aligned with the Ministry of Education’s PPM 169 and the province’s Right Time, Right Care initiative, the agreement formalizes how school boards and Child and Youth Mental Health (CYMH) agencies will work together across a tiered continuum of services.

This strengthened partnership creates a more seamless, student-centred system of care—reducing barriers, improving access, and ensuring students receive timely support. By aligning practices and sharing information (with consent), the agreement helps families avoid navigating fragmented services and ensures smoother transitions between school-based supports and community mental health care.

Key features include:

- Clear referral pathways between school mental health professionals and CYMH agencies for students requiring higher level services beyond what schools can provide.
- Standardized information-sharing procedures with consent, to reduce duplication and lessen the need for students and families to repeatedly share their stories.
- Coordinated intake and triage through community partners, including access to One Stop Talk and Youth Wellness Hub Ontario services
- Joint case management and follow-up, including coordinated return-to-school planning after hospital-based mental health care

“Strengthening our partnerships with Linck and St. Clair Child & Youth Services allows us to provide a truly responsive system of care,” said Jen Morrow, SCCDSB Superintendent of Education. “Every day, we see how deeply student learning is tied to feeling safe, supported, and understood. This coordinated approach helps ensure that no child or family has to face their mental health challenges alone, and that help is there the moment they need it.”

The partners will continue to collaborate through shared planning, annual mental health action plans, and provincial reporting requirements. Together, they remain committed to building a responsive, student-centred mental health system that supports every child and youth across Sarnia–Lambton and Chatham-Kent.



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