



## For Immediate Release

January 24, 2012

### **Bluewater District School Board Launches Strategic Plan**

Chesley, ON – Bluewater District School Board (BWDSB) officially launched its new Strategic Plan at the January 24, 2012 Regular Meeting of the Board. Stakeholders, students, media and dignitaries joined trustees and staff to learn about the following new Vision and Mission and three Priorities for BWDSB:

Vision: *Preparing our students today for the world of tomorrow.*

Mission: *We are a learning organization committed to providing a quality educational experience for every student in a safe and caring environment.*

Priorities and associated goals:

**1. Ensure the well-being of students and staff in a safe supportive environment for teaching, learning and working.**

- To provide a safe and supportive work environment that values and recognizes the personal strengths, professional contributions, and personal well-being of staff.
- Create conditions where students, staff, and parents/caregivers are comfortable and confident in seeking help and responding to student mental health and emotional well-being issues.

**2. Provide quality instruction and learning experiences in an equitable and inclusive environment.**

- Create a learning environment that promotes high expectations for all students.
- Provide authentic and relevant experiences that enable all students to connect their learning to the real world.

**3. Encourage parent engagement.**

- In conjunction with the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC), the Parent Engagement Committee will collect information to assist Bluewater District School Board in developing strategies to further engage parents.

The new Strategic Plan is a result of the hard work of numerous stakeholder group representatives, trustees and staff over the past year. The Director is planning further opportunities to communicate the Strategic Plan through three Community Forums in “Area of Schools” communities with more details to come:

<i>Wednesday, February 22, 2012</i>	<i>South East Area</i>
<i>Wednesday, March 21, 2012</i>	<i>West Area</i>
<i>Wednesday, April 18, 2012</i>	<i>North East Area</i>

“The future at Bluewater and opportunities to engage all stakeholders within our educational community through our new Strategic Plan is very exciting. Our next steps include establishing a multi-year plan that will be reviewed annually with the Board of Trustees to ensure we are meeting our targets in promoting student achievement and well-being,” says Director of Education John Bryant.

“One of the most important roles of the Board of Trustees is to develop and monitor the implementation of the Multi-Year Strategic Plan with a budget that supports it. In addition to being a legislated requirement, it is the basis for all decision-making that will ultimately set the course for the next three years at Bluewater,” says Bluewater District School Board Chair Jan Johnstone.

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**For more information, please contact:**

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