

## **Excellence in Education**

### **Student Forum with Unlearn**

A student forum for secondary students was held on November 24, 2022 at the Bluewater District School Board Education Centre to hear first-hand from students, about the student experience and challenges faced in our schools. Unlearn, an external organization, co-created the day with the input of central staff and student senators, then facilitated the day. The event had representation from each secondary school with 73 students and a student success contact teacher or guidance teacher from each school.

Part of Unlearn's vision is to inspire people to see the humanity in everyone. Bringing this lens to the forum, Unlearn created a safe, accepting space where students felt comfortable sharing their authentic selves and the barriers they face within their educational experiences that affect their learning, safety, and identity.

Students were actively engaged in the forum experience networking with others across the district, sharing ideas, and resources to help support student learning and experiences attending school. An essential component of our priority to enhance community engagement within the organization is to actively seek input from students on matters of achievement and well-being. This forum was an excellent opportunity for students to engage in this process.

To encourage the forum participants to be leaders in their school, Unlearn posters were provided to each secondary location with thought-provoking graphics to continue reducing barriers. Additional forums are planned for the spring of 2023 to provide similar inspiring and engaging experiences to additional students.

### **Recommendation:**

That Bluewater District School Board receive the 'Student Forum with Unlearn' report for information.

Submitted to  
Bluewater District School Board  
January 24, 2023

For further information, please contact  
Keith Lefebvre, Superintendent of Education