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NEWS LOCAL

FRASER INSTITUTE RANKINGS

London Central once again ranks well above all other London high schools in just-released Fraser Institute rankings



By Patrick Maloney, The London Free Press
Sunday, April 19, 2015 10:03:20 EDT PM



Central secondary school (MIKE HENSEN, The London Free Press)

The London-area public board dominates the upper echelon of new performance rankings for city high schools.

Paced by London Central, which placed among the top 10 schools provincially, the Thames Valley District school board oversees four of the city's top six secondary schools, according to the latest edition of the Fraser Institute's annual report card.

The best-ranking London District Catholic school board school, St. Thomas Aquinas, placed second in the city, with Oakridge and A.B. Lucas taking spots three and four.

The fifth-best score went to Gabriel-Dumont, part of the French-language Conseil Scolaire Viamonde board. Sir Frederick Banting scored just behind it. But the runaway top score locally went once again to Central, the downtown school that's consistently scored among the best in Ontario.

For Central's parent leaders, the annual rankings remain a source of pride and something of a self-fulfilling prophecy: The better its students do this year, the more high achievers the school will attract next year and beyond, they say.

"I think (credit goes) to the commitment of the teachers and the academic excellence it has a reputation for," said Marla Marnoch, chair of the London Central Secondary School Council, the parents' association.

"It (the ranking) is something that's earned every year and we take pride in the accomplishments along the way that lead up to that recognition."

Among the 19 London schools ranked, the bottom four also come from the TVDSB. Montcalm took up the bottom spot, ranking 722nd out of 742 schools. The Fraser Institute, a Vancouver-based think-tank, publishes the rankings annually. They're largely based on the scores of provincewide standardized tests — so-called EQAO testing.

The think-tank describes the rankings as a tool "to allow teachers, parents, school administrators, students and taxpayers to analyze and compare the academic performance of individual schools."

Over the weekend, Ontario's education system itself received a ringing endorsement from an American authority on education reform who said the U.S. could learn from Canada.

"Although there have been battles in the past, the hallmarks of Ontario's education reform efforts are cooperation and experimentation — with an emphasis on cooperation," Boston College professor Dennis Shirley said. "Ontario has struck the right balance. Unfortunately, in the U.S., we squander a lot of energy by fighting with each other."

With files by Postmedia Network

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LONDON SCHOOL RANKINGS

(school, board, score)

1. London Central, Thames Valley District school board, 8.9/10
2. St. Thomas Aquinas, London District Catholic school board, 7.7/10
3. Oakridge, TVDSB, 7.6/10
4. A.B. Lucas, TVDSB, 7.2/10

5. Gabriel-Dumont, Conseil Scolaire Viamonde, 6.7/10
6. Sir Frederick Banting, TVDSB, 6.4/10
7. Mother Teresa, LDCSB, 6.2/10
8. St. Andre Bessette, LDCSB, 6.1/10
9. Catholic Central, LDCSB, 5.8/10
10. Saunders, TVDSB, 5.7/10
11. South Secondary, TVDSB, 5.7/10
12. Monseigneur-Bruyere, Conseil scolaire catholique Providence, 5.5/10
13. Westminster, TVDSB, 5.1/10
14. John Paul II, LDCSB, 4.8/10
15. Regina Mundi, LDCSB, 4.4/10
16. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, TVDSB, 4.4/10
17. H.B. Beal, TVDSB, 4.1/10
18. Clarke Road, TVDSB, 3.5/10
19. Montcalm, TVDSB, 2.2/10

HOW SCHOOLS RANKED IN REGION

(School, board, score)

1. St. Mary's (Woodstock), LDCSB, 7.2/10
2. Medway (Arva), TVDSB, 6.9/10
3. Central Elgin (St. Thomas), TVDSB, 6.9/10
4. Lord Dorchester, TVDSB, 6.7/10
5. Glencoe, TVDSB, 6.3/10
6. Parkside (St. Thomas), TVDSB, 6.2/10
7. Strathroy District, TVDSB, 6.0/10
8. Glendale (Tillsonburg), TVDSB, 5.8/10

9. Ingersoll District, TVDSB, 5.5/10
10. Holy Cross (Strathroy), LDCSB, 5.5/10
11. Notre-Dame (Woodstock), Conseil scolaire catholique Providence, 5.3/10
12. Huron Park (Woodstock), TVDSB, 5.2/10
13. College Avenue (Woodstock), TVDSB, 5.2/10
14. St. Joseph's (St. Thomas), LDCSB, 5.1/10
15. North Middlesex (Parkhill), TVDSB, 5.0/10
16. West Elgin (West Lorne), TVDSB, 4.5/10
17. East Elgin (Aylmer), TVDSB, 3.7/10
18. Woodstock Collegiate, TVDSB, 3.1/10
19. Arthur Voaden (St. Thomas), TVDSB, 1.7/10

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Lucas O'Neil · 10 days ago

Montcalm is in the ghetto. Boulee, kipps lane, stronach. Ghetto kids they drop out, have kids, drugs you name it. The school is f*cked up.

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Ann125 · 10 days ago

So whats going on at Montcalm? Is this the dumping ground for the TVDSBs troubles. All of these schools are vastly different, some are full of ESL students, some are full of vocational students. Not the best at the EQA test scores. it is kind of like comparing apples and oranges. Get out the map of London and consider the scores. Big surprise which schools are the losers in the test scores. Maybe the kids at the low scoring schools are more concerned with their domestic situation then their home work. Some kids have more pressing issues then school work, sad but

true

