



TRANSITION ACTIVITY UPDATE - May 2019

“The best of both worlds”

As shared at the Stratford Schools Joint School Council meeting on May 1, we are working on many activities for all affected students of Stratford Central (SC) and Stratford Northwestern (SN). We are very excited about the planning underway and we hope to have more details finalized in our June newsletter.

End of Year Celebrations - GRADE 8 SC and SN Students

As reported previously, grade 8 end of year celebrations will be hosted in each of SN and SC. There has been a time change so that people are able to attend both celebrations. Thursday, June 20, SN will celebrate with their current grade 8s at 5:30 pm at SN, and SC will celebrate with their current grade 8s at 7 pm at SC.

Grade 6 Student Visits to SN

Students in grade 6 who will be attending SN next year will be attending Orientation Days at SN on June 10 and 14. Information is being shared with individual schools.

Senior Student Facilitators - Grade 11

Students in grade 11 are being trained as facilitators and collectors of Student Voice as part of the Transition planning. A SPEAK UP shared grant is assisting with training leaders to help students with their transition and to support student well-being. Students in grades 8-10 at both schools will receive training from the grade 11 facilitators in the coming weeks. To kick off the SPEAK UP project, guest speaker Adam Shoalts presented to students May 17.

SC Lockers

SC Students: Please ensure student lockers are cleared out by Friday, June 21.

Dates to Remember in June



Grade 6 attend
Orientation Days



Grade 8
End of Year
Celebrations



SC Student
Lockers
Cleared Out



Grade 7 and 8
Students to
Northwestern



“Adventure Days”
for Grade 7 and 8
Students

ALL SC and SN 7s and 8s at SNSS JUNE 24-27

The expectation is that current grade 7 students of SC and SN will attend school during the last week of June, and the grade 8s will attend following graduation. Many activities are being prepared to support students' transition and sense of belonging in the new and/or combined school, so it is important that families ensure their students in Grades 7 and 8 attend SN.

Monday, June 24

- Grade 7 and 8 students from SC and SN will attend SN. SC students will meet their homeroom teacher at the SC flats (lower parking lot) and then board the buses by class at approximately 8:35 am.
- Students will settle into their new classrooms with peers, followed by group events. More information will follow.

Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26th "Adventure Days"

- A combination of FunTech, Mindfulness, Indigenous, Arts and other unique activities will engage students over these 2 days.
- Students rotate through a 2 day schedule that will include the activities, tours of the YMCA and St. Paul's performance area, guest speakers and interactive activities.
- Students from SC board buses directly at the flats at approximately 8:35 am on Tuesday and Wednesday or report to SN where attendance will be taken. School administrators will supervise the bus and take attendance at SN.

Thursday, June 27

- Classroom/school based activities will be planned.

Students with Special Education Needs

Students on Individual Education Plans (IEPs) and their parents/guardians should have received notice from Principal Emma Watts about information relevant to their transition for the next school year. Our resource teachers from SC and SN have visited students in their current schools to review programming and inform next steps. We have also been welcoming students to SN to familiarize them with the building and to meet the staff. The timetable will be finalized in early June and we will begin individual timetable reviews. If you have any questions, please contact Principal Watts at SN. Please join us for student barbeques during the last week of August. We will share specific dates and times with families as plans are solidified.

Transportation Update for Grades 7-12

We have been working with our city officials and school bus contractors to ensure we are making as many decisions as possible to reduce the traffic and congestion at SN for next school year. Discussions are still underway, but we can advise the following:

- There will be a drop off location for all students being dropped off or picked up at school in high traffic times. The Cornerstone Christian Fellowship Church at 328 Britannia Street will be used in the mornings for drop off before school and immediately after school. Vehicles will enter the parking lot off of Forman Ave., drop off, then exit on to Britannia Street. Traffic signs and policing of the area will ensure consistent practices are in place. Many thanks to Cornerstone for their support!
- We have asked the City to consider reducing the speed limit in the area of the school.
- We expect that there will be a crosswalk near the corner of Forman and Oakdale Avenue. More information will follow.
- We have requested permission to create an entrance/exit off of our north parking lot on to Short Street. This area will become the student parking lot for the next school year. Students are being asked to register requests for a parking space in their main offices at SC and SN. There will be a lottery for student parking spaces and those students who do not receive a parking spot will be expected to park in the overflow lot on Matilda Street. Consult your administrator for information about the parking lot lottery.
- We are working with our co-terminous board to put into place a parking and transportation monitor for next school year to assist with managing traffic and student arrivals and departures.
- We are pleased to announce that for next school year, students in grades 7 and 8 who will be attending SN in September will have school bus transportation if they live more than 1.6 km from SN. There will be pick up points throughout the city and information will be communicated to families before the end of June.
- We are currently looking at school bus transportation for grade 9 students who live near SC to SN as a solution for the TRANSITION year only to address traffic congestion and safety concerns around SN. Currently, tentative times are 8:20 am departure and 3:30 pm return.
- City Buses will continue with a similar schedule to this current school year.