



# TRANSITION ACTIVITY UPDATE - June 17 2019

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 this newsletter provides additional details. You will receive a final newsletter next week.

## The Final Week of June (June 24-June 27) and Adventure Days for Grades 7 and 8

Our final week of June will offer important and engaging transition activities for our intermediate students. These days will also provide an opportunity for students to meet school staff, collaborate with their peers from both schools and introduce them to their learning sites for next year.

**Monday June 24:** SC grade 7 and 8 students will meet their teachers at the flats (lower rear parking lot) at 8:45 am and will ride the buses with their peers and teachers. When they arrive at SN, they will go to their assigned classrooms. They will settle in and spend the morning with their SC class and teachers. Students will need to purchase or bring a lunch on this day. After lunch, the students will return to their classroom before attending an assembly presentation from Canadian adventurer, author and speaker, Adam Shoalts.

**Tuesday June 25:** Adventure Days begin! Students from SC will board the bus from the same location (rear lower parking lot) at SC. School administrators will meet students in this area to take attendance, provide each student with a personal schedule and help students board

the buses. Grade 7 students from both SC and SN will board buses from their respective schools and travel to the Rotary Complex for their first adventure. SC grade 8 students will travel to SN to meet with the grade 8 students from SN to begin the day.

**Wednesday:** Adventure days continue.

**Thursday:** Students will enjoy the last day of school with their usual teacher.

**Note:** Each day, SC students will take buses with their class from the flats (leaving at 8:45 am). An administrator will be at the flats for arrival and departure to SN so that students can become familiar with the process. SN students will arrive at school as they normally do.

*Adventure Days continued on next page*

## Dates to Remember



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

In addition to the incredible workshops and presenters, students will:

- Have their picture taken in the photo booth (by choice)
- Spin it to win it! A prize wheel will provide prizes from many community partners, including Perth County Economic Development as well as Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP), local colleges and others.
- Visit the mental health and well-being booth where they will fill out a questionnaire about their unanswered questions, their level of comfort at SN, and their expectations for the week. Upon submission of the questionnaire, students will receive a grab bag (with thanks from Technical Training Group, Specialist High Skills Majors (SHSM), OYAP and local sponsors) with surprises to help them through their adventures.
- Receive the chance to participate in rugby, lacrosse, singing and dancing with a Stratford Festival choreographer or yoga/mindfulness.
- Hear a Pathways presentation - students can participate in various hands-on activities such as robotics, 3D-goggles for science-related careers, and pathways program in secondary schools such as SHSM and OYAP. Perth County Economic Development will be joining us to highlight local career videos and so much more!

Students in grade 7 will participate in a trial run to the YMCA and St. Paul's auditorium on Tuesday afternoon to learn more about the programming at those sites. There will be an adventure for them to complete and full supervision to assist students with learning to cross the street between buildings where there will be staff support throughout the year. Students will return to SN in time for lunch (provided) and the afternoon assembly.

## Secondary (SC and SN) Report Card Pick Up/Visiting SN

Secondary student report cards for this current school year for BOTH SCHOOLS will be available for pick up at SN's main office on Thursday, July 4 and Friday, July 5 from 8:30 - 4 pm.

Students from SC who wish to visit SN during this week to become familiar with the space are welcome to do so.

## Daily Schedule/Transportation

Information pertaining to September 2019 student schedules, class times and transportation will be released in next week's newsletter (these details are currently being finalized).

## Q & A for Adventure Days

### Will my child need a lunch or money to buy lunch in the cafeteria?

Not on Tuesday or Wednesday. Lunch will be provided (pizza, including gluten free, or salad and a drink on Tuesday, beef and pork hot dogs including gluten free and ice cream - or dairy free alternative on Wednesday). Lunch will be required on Monday and Thursday. The cafeteria will be open for students who wish to purchase their lunch.

### How will I know if my child arrives safely to SN for Adventure Days?

Like any other day, safe arrival calls will be made for students who are absent. Attendance will be taken at many checkpoints both days. Administrators, SC Staff, Pathways Team members and Educational Assistants will be on hand to supervise.

### If my child is in grade 8, is he/she expected to attend the last week of school?

Absolutely. We want your child at school and he/she is truant if not at school. Many parents and students said their children were anxious about the changes. This is a perfect time for students to settle in. There is a focus on sense of belonging and well-being throughout this last week of school and we want students to feel comfortable with their start in September!

### What if my child does not want to attend?

There is something for everyone during Adventure Days. Please support our request to have your child at school.

### Can my older sibling participate?

These activities are a special adventure for only students in grades 7 and 8, but we are looking for student volunteers to assist and welcome students. Since their schooling and exams will be finished, Community Involvement Hours will be awarded for secondary students who volunteer! If they are interested, please have them speak with their principal or the Pathways Support Teacher in Student Services.

### What clothing do I wear to my FunTECH workshop?

Many of the FunTECH workshops require students to be wearing PANTS (preferably not yoga pants) and CLOSED-TOE shoes. Students can bring a change of clothes with them, but clothing requirements will be enforced for safety purposes, particularly in tech shops.

### What will my child eat if they have food allergies?

There will be gluten free pizza, hot dog buns and cookies. There will be salad available for those who have other dietary requirements. Students should bring a refillable water bottle with them!