



Information from Your Guidance Department

(It's summer – you have time to read this now!)



We look forward to welcoming you all, new and returning Bulldogs, as we begin another action-packed year at Sir Winston Churchill. Grade Assemblies will be held during the first week in September, but please read on for your summer “homework”, school start-up information, and more:

TIMETABLE PICK-UP Timetables are distributed by the main office since they are tied to the school registration and fees process. Extra copies of timetables are not available in the Guidance department – don't lose yours!

TIMETABLE CHANGES We are confident that you have chosen your course selections wisely and with your post-secondary possibilities in mind. Our department delivered many presentations and information sessions over the past year to assist students with making appropriate course selections. The “Credit Counselling Summary” sheet (sent home with the Semester 2 mid-term report card) showed credits achieved and student course requests for September. As well, Guidance Counsellors have met with individual students, as needed/requested, to review/assess course requests. So, you should be good to go! All students are expected to attend the courses as indicated on their current timetable, beginning the first day of school, September 3rd.

If a complete timetable was not generated for a student (e.g. scheduling conflicts, full classes, missing pre-requisites, etc.) please know that Guidance is aware of these students and we will continue to work over the summer, and during the first week of school, to complete your timetable. You are our priority! Completed timetables will be forwarded by Guidance to the main office for distribution (see Timetable Pick-Up notes above).

Potential Graduates who require a timetable change to facilitate a new direction in their post-secondary pathway will meet with a Guidance Counsellor as soon as possible.

Please understand that we are working with an extremely tight scheduling model and many courses are full. Our priority has been to schedule compulsory courses, followed by electives. Students may find that an elective course has been added to their timetable, that was not an alternate, as there is simply no other option in that particular period. E-Learning and Night School programs may need to be considered if a course is unavailable in our building, and/or it may be of interest to students as another avenue of learning. DSNB eLearning courses are listed on our website, under the Guidance link. Night School information will become available in mid-September.

There will be no timetable changes for students in Grades 9-11 until Grade 12 timetable changes are completed. Please listen to the announcements for an exact start date and remember that all timetable changes require parental permission. It's a great idea to get a parent permission note in advance as this will expedite the process. **Keep in mind that changing one course can also affect other scheduled courses. We anticipate that students will find that the courses, and alternates, which they had selected with informed decisiveness last February will serve them well.** We thank you in advance for your understanding and support.

COURSE WAITLIST REQUESTS If you were unable to be scheduled into a class because it is full, you may request to be put on the waitlist. See a Guidance Counsellor. Students who are “reaching ahead” are reminded that, in the event of full classes, priority placement will be given to students who are in that grade level.

SUMMER SCHOOL COURSES Students who have registered for a summer school course through our department in May/June have had that course removed (if applicable, and with the expectation that you will pass it!) from their course requests. An alternate course request has been added.

Gr. 9 students taking summer school Phys. Ed. - please note that the summer school course code is different from the Gr. 9 Phys. Ed. courses (PPL1OF/M) offered at our school. Both courses will count as separate credits towards your diploma. You do not require a timetable change!

If you have successfully completed a summer school credit with another school board, please bring your report card, verifying your final mark, to Ms. Mossman in Guidance. We will then make a photocopy to ensure that this mark is entered into your records, and we will adjust your timetable accordingly.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT HOURS & “HOUR REPUBLIC” All SWC students record their completed hours in the web-based tracking system, “Hour Republic”. Guidance Counsellors will work with new students to complete their registration in Hour Republic in September. An information link can be found under Guidance on our school website: sirwinston.dsnb.org. (Community Involvement). Hours submitted over the summer will be verified/approved by a Guidance Counsellor in September. Students can access their Hour Republic site from home – log in under your DSNB student portal (Google “dsbn elearning”); **do not** use the public site as we can't access those accounts. Remember - you need to enter your supervisor's name, email address, and phone number to add the hours in HR. **HINTS** - inform both your supervisor and your parent when you're about to submit your hours so that both parties know to look for their confirmation email to verify your service. Plus, ensure that the parent email address which you have on file is correct!


GRADE 9 “TAKE OUR KIDS TO WORK DAY” is WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6th Grade 9 students are hosted by parents, friends, relatives and volunteers at workplaces across the region as they connect school and the world of work to their own futures. Students are responsible for securing their own placements for that day (so start thinking now!). Permission/information forms will be distributed to all Gr. 9 students in October.

GRADE 9, 10, 11 INDIVIDUAL PATHWAY PLAN (IPP) The Ministry of Education has mandated that all students start to develop, and to document, a post-secondary plan - an “IPP”. No, this doesn’t have to be your forever plan, students, but it’s a start! IPP material is linked within the Career Cruising website. Students will be required to complete grade-specific activities later in S1 (Semester 1) which are designed to help students better understand themselves, their potential pathways, and to assist them with making appropriate Course Plan selections in February. However, NOW, during the long days of summer, we encourage all students to start to look under the “Research” link under Guidance on the SWC website and begin to discover all your post-secondary possibilities!

GRADE 12 POST-SECONDARY PLANNING STARTS NOW! Potential Grads (PGs): To ensure that you possess all of the necessary course requirements for your post-secondary pursuits, every Potential Grad needs to work through the “PG Post-Secondary Planning” activity (DO IT NOW!). This activity can be found on the website’s main page, under “News”. Gr. 12 students are reminded to **complete this activity over the summer** to confirm that your Course Plan contains all the possible requirements for your college, university, or apprenticeship destination. You don’t want to discover in October that you don’t have the pre-requisite courses for your dream program...

Guidance Counsellors will meet with you to discuss your post-secondary plans **after** you have completed **both** the “PG Post-Secondary Planning” activity **AND** the “PG Interview Google Doc” which will be on our website in September. More details will be shared at the Gr. 12 Grade Assembly and during the “PG & Parent/Guardian Information Evening” (Tues. Sept. 10th - details below).

STAY CONNECTED with your GUIDANCE Department!

 **REMIND** “Remind” is a free, safe, and simple messaging tool that helps schools share important updates and reminders with students & parents. Subscribe by text, email or use the Remind app. All personal information is private - we will never see your phone number. Guidance has “classes” for each grade through which we share Guidance-related items. Please subscribe.

Text: enter this number: (289) 277-0558, and then text this message for your specific grade:

Gr. 12 = @swc2020 Gr. 11 = @swc2021 Gr. 10 = @swc2022 Gr. 9 = @swc2023

Email: send an email to swc20??@mail.remind.com ?? = enter your graduating year. Leave the subject blank.



TWITTER SWC Guidance also has a Twitter account! Follow us **@SWCGuidance**



WEBSITE We encourage you to make a habit out of checking out the SWC website (especially the News and Events updates on the main page). There are many Guidance links with valuable information related to your life as a student at SWC and for planning beyond these walls: sirwinston.dsbnschool.org/guidance



BULLETIN BOARDS & ANNOUNCEMENTS The Guidance area has bulletin boards dedicated to Community Involvement, Potential Grad Info, Scholarship Info, Jobs, e-Learning/Night School/Alt. Ed. Courses, and Timetables. The boards outside of Guidance have information promoting the many opportunities “Beyond These Walls”. As well, every morning the school announcements are broadcasted on “SWCTV”, and a paper version is posted outside of the main office.

Stay informed! Stay involved!

SAVE THE DATES!

Tuesday, September 10th, 6:30p.m. - 8:00p.m. Potential Graduates & Parents/Guardians Information Evening, SWC Auditorium. Gr. 11 & 12 students and Parents/Guardians, please plan to attend. We cover the whole Gr. 12 year in one night! We encourage families of Gr. 11 students to attend as well because most post-secondary planning begins in Gr. 11. If you attended last year, please come back to ensure that you are still up to date!

Friday, September 27th, day trip 2019 Ontario Universities’ Fair, Toronto. Grade 11/12 students and Parents/Guardians are welcome to attend. *Permission forms will be available through “SWC School Cash Online”.*

Thursday, October 24th, day trip 2019 Ontario College Information Fair, Toronto. Grade 11/12 students and Parents/Guardians are welcome to attend. *Permission forms will be available through “SWC School Cash Online”.*

Thanks for reading - see you in September!

