



Governor Simcoe Secondary School

15 Glenview Avenue, St. Catharines, Ontario L2N 2Z7
(905) 934-4006 Fax (905) 934-3389



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Governor Simcoe Secondary School is very proud to offer a Specialist High Skills Major Program (SHSM) in four sectors: Information & Communications Technology, Manufacturing, Health & Wellness, and Non-Profit Education.

A Specialist High Skills Major is a ministry approved specialized program that allows students to focus their learning on a specific economic sector while meeting the requirements for the Ontario Secondary School Diploma and assist in their transition from secondary school to apprenticeship training, college, university, or the workplace. An SHSM enables students to gain sector-specific skills and knowledge in the context of engaging, career-related learning environments and helps them focus on graduation and on pursuing their post-secondary Schools.

Students may enter this program in their grade 11 year and will work with a Guidance Counsellor to choose from a bundle of sector related courses. Students will also receive six free sector-recognized certifications that will be recognized in a formal record card. Students will enjoy reach-ahead experiences which can range from visiting a college to investigate a program or sitting in on a university class in a student's field of interest. Experiential learning activities within the sector are planned activities that take place outside the traditional classroom setting. They give students the opportunity to explore, observe, participate in, and reflect on a variety of sector-specific experiences or careers, i.e. attendance in a community competition or event, i.e. DSBN Technological Skills Challenges.

There is no fee to join this program, and if the student's goals change it is not a concern when a student asks to be removed from the program.

If you would like your child to have the opportunity to participate in this program please sign your consent below.

Student's Name

Date

Please circle Sector: **(ICT)** (Manufacturing) (Health & Wellness) (Education/Non-Profit)

Parents Signature of Approval

Thank you for your interest!

Sincerely,

Erin Risto - SHSM Cordinator, ICT Lead, erin.risto@dsbn.org

Cara Stewart - Guidance, cara.stewart@dsbn.org

Chris Horsfall - Manufacturing Lead, chris.horsfall@dsbn.org

Jamie Brophy - Health & Wellness Lead, jamie.brophy@dsbn.org

Megan Angelone - Non Profit Lead, megan.angelone@dsbn.org