



# Governor Simcoe Secondary School

15 Glenview Avenue, St. Catharines, Ontario L2N 2Z7

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Dear Governor Simcoe Secondary School students, families/guardians;

Welcome back to school at GSS! We are very excited to welcome students back in-person!

Today after 4:00pm you will be able to access your school timetable for the school year.

If you have questions about your timetable or require a course change, please keep in mind the following:

- Guidance has not completed the necessary changes for incomplete timetables, summer school changes, or failures from June. If you fall into one of these categories you will be contacted directly by Guidance the week of August 30 - September 3. If you do not hear from us by September 3<sup>rd</sup> please make sure you answer calls from UNKNOWN NAME over the weekend before school starts as we may be contacting you from our cell phones. These issues are our first priority.
- Once we are ready to entertain course changes after the priorities listed above, we will make an announcement and let students know. At that time students/parents may reach out to us. Please note: students under the age of 18 must have parent permission to make a course change; parents are encouraged to email us on behalf of their student.
- Received a course on your schedule that you didn't select as part of your 8? This means that you had a timetable conflict and that we had to use one of the alternate courses that you chose last year, via Career Cruising, to give you a full schedule. The course you desired would not work with your other selections.
- Warning: Your timetable is subject to change. Even if you have a complete timetable we are still in the process of balancing class sizes to ensure that all of our students are able to get their course choices. We ask that you review your schedule the evening before school starts for the final version.

Counsellors by Grade

Grades 9 & 11 – Beth Atack [beth.atack@dsbn.org](mailto:beth.atack@dsbn.org)

Grades 10 & 12 – Tim Tope [tim.tope@dsbn.org](mailto:tim.tope@dsbn.org)

There is a very high volume of emails being received at this time. We appreciate your patience as we work to ensure our students are able to have a smooth start.

## Instructions to access your timetable

- [How to Access Your Schedule in Aspen](#)
- If you have forgotten your DSBN password [Student Password Reset](#)
- If you have forgotten your DSBN login - contact your school directly
- For new students to DSBN, parents/guardians would have received an email during the week of August 23<sup>rd</sup> with their login and temporary password

**Below is some additional information for you**

## Schedules

- The daily school schedule for September and October is [Calendar - Sept. & Oct](#)
- Our bell times are: 8:10 a.m. - 2:10 p.m.

## Covid

- It is important to know if there is a positive covid case in one of your classes, Niagara Region Public Health will determine who is a close contact. Based on your vaccination status, you may have to self-isolate. If you are double vaccinated, and asymptomatic you will likely be able to keep attending school.

## Grade 9s

- Community Involvement Hours
  - The community involvement graduation requirement is for 40 hours
  - If approved by your school's principal, students may count the following towards their community involvement hours:
    - up to 10 hours of paid employment if a student is 14 years or older and completes a reflection exercise demonstrating how their work contributed to their community
    - community involvement during school time, for example, walking a younger child to and from school or helping younger siblings with school work
    - duties normally performed at home, for example, helping an elderly relative with errands or providing after school care for a sibling

## Grade 10s

- The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) is requirement for graduation
  - We will share more details with you in September about this year's OSSLT
- Community Involvement Hours
  - The community involvement graduation requirement is for 40 hours
  - If approved by your school's principal, students may count the following towards their community involvement hours:
    - up to 10 hours of paid employment if a student is 14 years or older and completes a reflection exercise demonstrating how their work contributed to their community
    - community involvement during school time, for example, walking a younger child to and from school or helping younger siblings with school work
    - duties normally performed at home, for example, helping an elderly relative with errands or providing after school care for a sibling

## Grade 11s

- The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) is requirement for graduation
  - If you wrote in the spring, you will receive your results from us when school starts
  - If you did not write, or were not successful, there will be a fall and a spring opportunity
  - We will share more details with you in September
- Community Involvement Hours
  - The community involvement graduation requirement is for 40 hours
  - If approved by your school's principal, students may count the following towards their community involvement hours:

- up to 10 hours of paid employment if a student is 14 years or older and completes a reflection exercise demonstrating how their work contributed to their community
- community involvement during school time, for example, walking a younger child to and from school or helping younger siblings with school work
- duties normally performed at home, for example, helping an elderly relative with errands or providing after school care for a sibling

## Grade 12s

- Community Involvement Hours
  - For students who are graduating in the 2021-2022 school year, the graduation requirement was reduced to a minimum of 20 hours of community involvement activities. The community involvement graduation requirement of 40 hours will be restored in 2022-23. Students working towards their OSSD should make sure they meet these graduation requirements in time for their graduating year.
  - If approved by your school's principal, students may count the following towards their community involvement hours:
    - up to 10 hours of paid employment if a student is 14 years or older and completes a reflection exercise demonstrating how their work contributed to their community
    - community involvement during school time, for example, walking a younger child to and from school or helping younger siblings with school work
    - duties normally performed at home, for example, helping an elderly relative with errands or providing after school care for a sibling
- The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) is **not** a graduation requirement if you graduate during the 2021-22 school year

Later this week you will receive an email with more details about the first day of school on September 7.

We are looking forward to seeing you next week on Tuesday September 7th!

Sincerely,

Teri Thompson & Eric Stewart