



WELCOME TO SAMUEL ROBERTSON TECHNICAL HOME OF THE TITANS!

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IMPORTANT STARTING DATES 2023/24

Monday, August 28, 2023

8:00 am Office re-opens for registration.

**** Along with important dates, information about fee payment and locker assignment is below. If students are still on holiday during the week starting August 28, they may have a friend come on their behalf, provided fees are paid.*

Monday, August 28, 2023 Fees/Lockers

10:00 am - Grade 12s - student fees paid online only

10:45 am - Grade 12s - cash/cheque fees only

11:00 am - Grade 11s - student fees paid online only

11:45 am - Grade 11s - cash/cheque fees only

Tuesday, August 29, 2023 Fees/Lockers

10:00 am - Grade 10s - student fees paid online only

10:45 am - Grade 10s - cash/cheque fees only

11:00 am - Grade 9s - student fees paid online only

11:45 am - Grade 9s - cash/cheque fees only

FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! We hope that you've all had a restful and regenerative summer.

Our teachers, EAs, clerical, custodial, and administrative staff are excited to welcome the largest number of students ever to attend SRT in early September. Please read the information below so that we can all start the year with confidence and community.

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide specific information about our first weeks and months of school and general information about school life and policy.

But first, our entire staff would like to extend a special welcome to our newest students, including the incoming grade 8s, the 43 international students, and the many students who have moved into our friendly neighbourhood or joined one of our trades programs. You've picked a great location to live and go to school.

Trades students should be aware that they will be sent separate communications by their teachers in the coming days that might differ slightly from what you read here.

A special shout out to the grade 12s as well! After four years of high school you are now a senior and with that, a new level of maturity and leadership is expected. You are now a role model for the other students, particularly our grade 8s. We are confident that this will be a fantastic graduation year!

Finally, please don't hesitate to contact any of us if you have any questions, suggestions or concerns. Our doors are always open!

All the best.....GO TITANS!!

Principal: Ken Elphick (grade 12) ken_elphick@sd42.ca

Vice Principal: Karl Lindgren-Streicher (Grades 8 and 10) karl_lindgren-streicher@sd42.ca

Vice Principal: Andrea Clayton (Grades 9 and 11) andrea_clayton@sd42.ca

Counsellor: Alison Shields (grades 8,9,12) alison_shields@sd42.ca

Counsellor: Krysta McBride (grades 10,11,12) krysta_mcbride@sd42.ca

Wednesday, August 30, 2023
Student Fees/Lockers

10:00 am - Grade 8s - student fees paid online only

10:45 am - Grade 8s - cash/cheque fees only

11:30 am -12:30 pm - SRT orientation for new grade 9-12 students and for grade 8 students who missed the grade 7 day in the Spring.

12:30 p.m. - any student in grade 8-12 paying cash/cheque who missed their time slot may come in to pay their fees and receive a locker.

Friday, September 2 - Homerooms posted inside front doors of school at 11:00 am. Doors close by 2:30 pm.

Monday, September 4
 Labour Day (School Closed)

Tuesday, September 5
 First partial day for students; schedule specifics are in the newsletter.

Wednesday, September 6
 First Day of Regular Classes: B,A Lunch, C, D (no flex)

Thursday, September 7
 F,E Lunch H,G (no flex)

Friday, September 8 (Day 1)
 A,B Lunch C,D (no flex)

Monday, September 11
 Student Photo Day

Monday, September 18
 Flex blocks begin daily
 Grade 8 assembly at flex

Tuesday, September 19
 Grade 9 assembly at flex

Wednesday, September 20
 Grade 10 assembly at flex

Thursday, September 21
 Grade 11 assembly at flex

Friday, September 22
 Grade 12 assembly at flex and pancake breakfast

SEPTEMBER 5th

9:30-10:30 am: Grade 8s meet with link leaders, tour the school and ask questions. Just show up at our doors and you'll be looked after by the Link Crew.

10:45-11:45 am: Grades 9,10,11, and 12 report to the gym for assembly where they will be joined by Grade 8s.

11:45-12:00 am: All students report to their homerooms (block E classes) to pick up their class schedules. Students' block E classes will be posted alphabetically inside the front door of the school.

HOMEROOM CLASSES FOR ALL GRADES WILL BE AVAILABLE at the school on Friday, September 1st from 11:00-2:30 pm and will also be available on Tuesday, September 5th when students arrive.

September 6, 2023

September 6th marks the first day of regular classes, which will follow this order: Block B, Block A, Lunch, Block D, and Block C. There will be no flex for the first 2 weeks of school as we establish the rules around flex time.

Regular Schedule

This year we will be following a linear schedule which means all students will be taking 8 classes throughout the year. After the first two weeks of class, the schedule will follow the pattern below. Friday's alternate (see calendar below):

SRT WEEKLY SCHEDULE
 2023-2024

	MONDAY - 1	TUESDAY - 2	WEDNESDAY - 3	THURSDAY - 4	FRIDAY
8:50-9:40	A	E	B	F	
9:45-10:25	FLEX	FLEX	FLEX	FLEX	FLEX
10:26-11:38	B	F	A	E	
11:36-12:49	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
12:22-1:32	C	G	D	H	
1:35-2:45	D	H	C	G	

Thursday, September 28

Grade 8 Pancake breakfast

Friday, September 29

Orange Shirt Day

Monday, October 2nd

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Day (no school)

Tuesday, October 3

Non-Instructional Day (no classes)

Thursday, October 5

Photo retakes

Monday, October 9

Thanksgiving Day (no classes)

Thursday, October 12

Grad Parent Meeting in Cafeteria 7:00 pm

Friday, October 13

Late Start Collaboration. School starts at 9:50am

Friday, October 20

Provincial Pro D Day (No classes)

Thursday, October 26

Halloween Dance

Monday, October 30

Grade 12 literacy assessments begin and run all week

Thursday, November 9

Student Led Conferences (No School)

Friday, November 10

Non-Instructional Day (no school)

Monday, November 13

Remembrance Day (no school)

Friday, November 17

Late Start Collaboration Day. Classes start at 9:55 am

Friday, November 24

Leadership Event

Keeping Connected

It is important to keep connected with all that is happening at SRT. The best ways to keep track of SRT happenings include:

1. We have a live calendar again this year. It is updated regularly to reflect the most up to date information about events, schedules, parent meetings, report cards, etc. Keep the link below on your desktop and check in frequently:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1gcSCdYI0Qv16zboS2y564xNeUCLW9KPnonHzfc7fG18/edit?usp=sharing>

Or scan the following QR code:



2. Microsoft Teams - most teachers at SRT use Microsoft Teams to communicate with students about class updates and homework.

3. Instagram - the school's Instagram account is samuelrobertsonstech

4. Our website www.srts.sd42.ca

5. The Parent Portal (more information about the portal is found further down this newsletter)

Change to cell phone policy for grade 8 to 10 students:

As of September 5th, students in grades 8, 9 and 10 will only be permitted to access cell phones during class time if directed by teachers for educational purposes. This will include flex time. Students can freely access their phones before school, at lunch, and after school. If there is an emergency and parents need to connect to their student during school hours please contact the front office. The only exceptions to this rule will be students who need their phones to monitor diabetes or for some other medical purpose. This change has been made at the request of the classroom teachers and educational assistants who want student attention to be focused on social connection, academic achievement, and building interpersonal skills. Teachers have always had the individual discretion to institute their own technology policy and many teachers already have cell phone bans in place. However, the desire for this systemic change was universally expressed by the staff.

Thursday, November 30
Link Grade 8 Challenge

Thursday, December 7
First Report Card Home

Thursday, December 14
Winter Formal

Friday, December 22
Frost Fest (altered schedule)
Last day of school before winter break

Students, inevitably, will use computers and cell phones as part of their learning because teachers recognize the power of these tools. We will be seeking feedback from teachers, students, and parents later in the year to see how this policy influences classroom success and behaviour. We hope that all parents and caregivers will support our staff's efforts to create a positive and productive learning environment. Please see a link to an article regarding a similar policy instituted by a school on the sunshine coast:

<https://www.vicnews.com/news/b-c-school-teens-showed-improved-grades-and-social-skills-after-a-ban-on-phones-114206>

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

We do not publish a school supply list for students. The essentials such as a binder filled with lined paper, subject dividers, pencils, ruler, pens, and a highlighter are staples of school life and can be reused from previous years or purchased new. If there are any special requirements, individual subject teachers will let you know what you will need.

BYOD

We often get questions about whether or not students should bring their own laptops to school. If a student does have a computer it can be a valuable tool at school. Students should talk to their teachers if they feel a computer will support their learning and need to be aware that they are responsible for storing and securing their devices.

CLASS CHANGES

We have a waiting list of students trying to come to SRT, so our classes are very full. This will make class changes exceedingly difficult this year. However, we will be giving information out in the first few days of school about how to make a request for a change.

YEARBOOKS

We encourage all students who wish to purchase a yearbook to commemorate the school year do so as soon as the portal message comes out in late September. As these books are very expensive we will not have a lot of extra available to sell in June. Last year we sold out of yearbooks. The cost for a yearbook will be \$65 and is payable to SRT. (note: because this book is created by students there are occasionally mistakes in the book. The students do their best to proofread and check names but errors do occur).

FLEX BLOCKS

Flex is part of the daily schedule at SRT again this year. This time is valuable instructional time for students to catch up on work or get help from a teacher in a class that they are struggling in.

STUDENT FLEXPECTATIONS:

WHAT IS FLEX TIME?

- Every day between 1st and 2nd block for 45 minutes
- Use it to study, catch up on work, practice, review....

WHAT CAN I DO?

- FLEX TIME is CLASS time.
- You *MUST* be in a classroom with a current teacher, the library or the gym.
- You will sign into a classroom.
- You are expected to arrive on time and stay in the classroom for the entire period.
- Use your time wisely – this is class time. Come prepared!
- You *may be assigned FLEX TIME by a teacher* if you fall behind in coursework.

WHERE CAN I GO?

- All classrooms, labs, shops and the gym will be open unless your teacher is on a PREP block.
- LIBRARY – open for all grades: different grades are welcome in the library on different days. This schedule will be made public once the school year begins.
- GYM – open for all grades: similar to the library, different grades are welcome in the gym on different days.
- Teachers share classrooms so you will need to pay attention to where your teacher will be at flex time.

Your teacher will post a schedule of what classroom they will be in for each FLEX block. Check the schedule posted outside their classroom.

PARENT PORTAL:

All notices, important updates from SRT and all field trip notices will be communicated to parents via the parent portal. If you are not linked up to the portal, please email christine_watts@sd42.ca. A linking code will be sent back to you via email.

PICTURE DAY - Monday, September 11

Student pictures will be done on Monday, September 11. All students will have their picture taken this day for their Student ID Card, and their yearbook photo. Retake Day will be **Thursday, October 5th**.

GET INVOLVED!!!!

Samuel Robertson Technical is an active school and we strongly encourage you to get involved in something extracurricular. Join one of the groups below or start another. It's a great way to get connected and make new friends.

Teams:

Lacrosse	Field Hockey
Basketball	Track and Field
Cross Country	Soccer
Volleyball	Ultimate
Rugby	

Clubs & Other Activities:

Games club (computer/board)	Mountain Biking
GSA	Outdoor Club
Social Justice	Chess
Student Council	Film
Robotics	Book

SEE YOU ALL SOON and GOOOO TITANS!!!!!!!