

Thomas Haney Secondary School

Welcome Back!!



August 29th, 2022

Welcome Back

I hope you are enjoying your summer and are looking forward to starting the new school year at Thomas Haney! I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and share some information about school start-up.

Principal Message (Mr. Darren Rowell)

It is my pleasure to become the new Principal of Thomas Haney Secondary School. I have been a teacher and administrator in SD42 for 28 years with 4 years as a Vice Principal at Thomas Haney (2009-13). I know I am returning to a school with a strong and inclusive community and a self-directed learning (SDL) model that provides so many opportunities for students to follow their passions as learners.

In June I met with the THSS staff and was overwhelmed by the positivity that I heard about the Thomas Haney school community - pride, flexibility, collaboration, connections & community. Our staff is committed to providing students with many opportunities and are already planning and preparing as we look forward to a positive and productive year.

Parents, we invite you to contact us if/when the need arises, and to stay in touch with regard to your child's studies, school activities and other events happening in the school.

I know I will have a lot of students to get to know and much to learn about what makes Thomas Haney a great place for students. I am sincerely looking forward to beginning my time at Thomas Haney and looking forward to getting to know you all.

All the best for this school year as we work together to make Thomas Haney a wonderful place to learn. Below are a few key items to assist with a smooth transition back to school.

Student Fees & Locker Distribution (August 30th-September 1st)

All students who have paid their 2022-23 \$28 student fees are invited to come to school between August 30th and September 1st to select a locker. Student fees can be paid on the Parent Portal but may also be paid at school at the student's assigned day and time (cash or cheque are acceptable; credit and debit is not available at school).

Students should bring their own combination lock when claiming a locker. The school will not have locks for sale.

Pro Tip: students should take a photo of their locker number and lock combination when claiming their locker.

Tuesday, Aug. 30th (6:00pm) – Grade 12s (Senior Sunset BBQ)

- Students will come to the back of the school and check in prior to being brought into the school in small groups to select lockers near their TA.
- There will be a BBQ for all Grade 12 students who attend.

Wednesday, Aug. 31st (11:00am) – Grade 11s

Wednesday, Aug. 31st (12:30pm) – Grade 10s

Thursday, Sept. 1st (11:00am) – Grade 9s

Thursday, Sept. 1st (12:30pm) – Grade 8s

- Students enter the foyer through the main door and check in prior to being brought into the school in small groups to select lockers near their TA.

If your child is not able to be here at their assigned time, they can choose a locker after school at the office during the first week of school.

Opening Day & Week Information

NOTE - on the first day, not all students attend at the same time. Take a look at the schedule and determine by grade the time you need to arrive.

Tuesday, September 6th, 2022

All students will attend their Teacher Advisory (TA) for one hour. Students will receive a copy of their class schedule, their planner and all the information required to get them ready for the first day of regular classes (Wednesday, September 7th).

ALL students/parents will receive an email with their TA # and room # during the week of August 29th.

- 10:00-11:00am - ALL grade 8s & ALL NEW students
- 11:00-12:00pm - ALL grade 9-12s students

Student Schedules

ALL students will receive their class schedule in TA on Tuesday, September 6th. Please note that student schedules will be made available via MyClass at 8:00am on Wednesday, September 7th. Parents MyClass access will OPEN September 19th at 8:00am.

Course/Class Change Process

What do I do if I need to change one of my courses?

Students can pick up a change request form during TA and drop it off at the counselling office. Updated schedules will be returned to TA boxes and distributed during morning TA. Counsellors are unavailable to meet for individual schedule changes during the first week of school.

Wednesday, September 7th, 2022

All students will attend a FULL day of school.

- 8:30 - Teacher Advisory (TA)
- 8:48 - Period 1
- 9:51 - Period 2
- 10:54 - Period 3
- 11:54 - Lunch
- 12:37 - Period 4
- 1:40 - Period 5
- 2:40 - Teacher Advisory (TA)

Staff Updates

New staff brings positive change and we welcome, not only our new, but returning staff for 2022-23.

Also joining our staff are:

- Aaron Beveland-Dalzell (Student Support)
- Judy Casavini (Teaching Kitchen Assistant)
- Antony Cowie (ELL & Japanese)
- Deanna Cranna (Education Assistant)
- Manon Currie (Education Assistant)
- Salena Demchuck (Education Assistant)
- Erin Duff (Education Assistant)
- Tracey Hunter (Jr. Science & Jr. Math)
- Lisa Little (Education Assistant)
- Jamie Lyons (Education Assistant)
- Darren Rowell (Principal)
- Cole Swanson (Math & Science)
- Neil Wason (Education Assistant)

Also returning to our staff are:

- Janelle Berg (English & Social Studies)
- Sara Duclos (Education Assistant)
- Amn Litt (English & Social Studies)
- Sydney Wallin (English & Social Studies)

Teacher Advisory

Please note that unless a student has an administration approved work at home form, attendance during TA is required. TA starts at 8:30 and it is our expectation that students arrive on time. All students are required to maintain a daily plan using our paper planner. Students who consistently miss TA may be required to make up time by administration.

Reporting Student Absence

All student absences must be excused by a parent or legal guardian or they will be recorded as “unexcused,” and parents will be contacted by the autodialer. Absences reported to teachers may not be excused in our system, so be sure to contact the office in one of the following ways:

- Log into the parent portal and click the “Report Absence” tab. Select your child’s name from the drop-down menu. Enter the date of the absence, or the date that the student will be arriving late or leaving early, as well as any other relevant details. ****This is the preferred method to report an absence****
- Call the school directly at 604-463-2001
- Send a signed note with your student to the office prior to, or upon return from, an absence.
- Visit the office in person

Work-at-Home

Work at home applications will be available from the office for students in grades 11 and 12 during the first week of school. These applications are to be filled out and returned to administration for consideration. Only students that have demonstrated consistent work habits and achievement across all report cards last year will be considered.

Cafeteria Information

Cafeteria service is not available during the first week of school.

THSS Website

All school related information will be posted to our school website.

- THSS Website (<https://secondary.sd42.ca/thss/>)

Important Dates

- Tuesday, August 30th (6:00pm) - Grade 12 Summer Sunset BBQ & Lockers
- Wednesday, August 31st - Grade 11(11:00am) & 10 (12:30pm) Lockers
- Thursday, September 2nd - Grade 9 (11:00am) & 8 (12:30pm) Lockers
- Tuesday, September 6th - School Opens
- Wednesday, September 7th - 1st FULL Day of Classes (8:30am-2:45pm)
- Tuesday, September 13th - Photo Day
- Monday, September 19th - Late Start for students (9:30am)
- Tuesday, September 20th - Post Secondary Info (PSI) - 9:00am
- Wednesday, September 21st - Grade 8 Parent Night (7:00pm)
- Friday, September 23rd - Grade 12 BBQ at lunch
- Monday, September 26th - Non-Instructional Day (No School for students)
- Friday, September 30th - National Truth & Reconciliation Day (Stat Holiday)

Key Contacts

The following list of Counsellors and Administrators and their grades are listed below:

- **Administration**
 - Mr. Rowell (Principal - Grade 12s)
 - Darren_Rowell@sd42.ca
 - Mr. Levesque (Vice Principal - Gr. 8 &10s)
 - Tom_Levesque@sd42.ca
 - Ms. Kania (Vice Principal - Gr. 9 &11s)
 - Lisa_Kania@sd42.ca
- **Counsellors**
 - Mr. Grill (Counsellor - Gr. 8, 10 & 12s M-Z)
 - Dan_Grill@sd42.ca
 - Ms. McBride (Counsellor - Gr. 9, 11 & 12s A-L)
 - Krysta_McBride@sd42.ca

I am very excited about the future of our school and the opportunities that await our students this year. Please do not hesitate to email Darren_Rowell@sd42.ca if you need further information or have any questions.

Sincerely,

Darren Rowell
Principal, Thomas Hanzly Secondary School