

# CENTRAL NEWS

June 2015

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K. Mills, Principal

S. Richardson, Vice-Principal (9-12)

## Principal's Message

Greetings Stratford Central,

The students at SCSS should be proud of their accomplishments this past school year. Students at our school get involved and participate in large numbers. Roughly 60-70% of the student body participated in activities related to the arts, athletics, academics (contests), and/or in clubs. From my experience as a Principal at other schools, this is a HIGH percentage of students who participate resulting in a very active school. Well done!

This past year as a school we have been preparing for students who will enter grade 9 with ipads. Teachers have been dialoguing with grade 7-8 colleagues and our two information technology teacher coaches have been very busy to prepare for September. Rooms are in the process of being modified to accommodate this technology. We look forward to engaging students in learning using this technology in the fall. We look forward to learning how to better use this technology in our teaching as we move forward.

Finally, I would like to extend my congratulations to three groups of students at SCSS. First, to our senior students who are not returning next year. I hope your years at SCSS have been positive and I wish you the best of luck in the future. Second, to the members of Student Council who put in countless hours over the entire school year in support of our student body. Thank you for your commitment and all your efforts. Lastly, to our returning students, all of whom have grown academically, socially and emotionally. You are the future leaders in the school and in our society. I look forward to welcoming all of you back in September.

## Departing Staff Members

The staff and students of SCSS are sad to see the departure of the following staff members:

Rob deWever                      Martin Judge  
Jaime Eckel                        Chelsie Free  
Melissa Mari                        Nicole Garcon

Good luck to all in the future.

## New Staff Members Coming to SCSS

Robert Gehan (Special Education, Geography)  
Danielle Beaugrand (Core French, French Immersion)  
Lynette Gerber (Math)  
Sarah Fairley (Science)  
Dana Thiel (Special Education, History)  
Laura Cressman (Math, Science, Special Education, Careers)

We look forward to working with these teachers in the future.

A reminder that the 2015-16 school year begins on Tuesday Sept 8<sup>th</sup>.

Regards,  
K. Mills, Principal.

## Other News

On the last day of classes, a Graduate Reception was held in our Resource Centre. At that gathering, it was announced that the Valedictorian of Central's 2014-15 graduating class will be Callum Hutchinson. Callum will deliver his Valedictorian address at Commencement this Fall which will be held at the Avon Theatre on Friday,

October 30<sup>th</sup>. Invitations and information about Commencement will be sent out this Fall. It was also a pleasure to announce at the Grad Reception that the Alumni Spirit Award recipient for the 2014-15 school year was Vanessa Kramer. Both Callum and Vanessa's honours were determined by a vote of their graduating peers. And, both students exemplify the character attributes valued and fostered at Stratford Central. Congratulations to Callum and Vanessa!

## Dates to Remember 2015-2016

Tues., Sept. 8                      - First Day of Classes  
Wed., Sept. 16                     - School Day Photos  
Fri., Oct. 9                         - Interim Report Card  
Mon., Oct. 12                      - Thanksgiving Day Holiday  
Mon., Oct. 19                      - School Photo Retakes/Absentees  
Thurs., Oct. 22                    - Gr. 9-12 Parent's Night  
Fri., Oct. 30                        - Commencement  
Fri., Nov. 6                        - Professional Development Day  
Wed., Nov. 11                     - Remembrance Day Assembly  
Fri., Nov. 13                      - First Provincial Report Card  
Dec. 21-Jan.1, 2016 - Christmas Holidays  
Jan. 27-Feb. 2, 2016 - Semester 1 Exams  
Wed. Feb. 3, 2016                - Professional Development Day  
Thurs., Feb. 4, 2016              - First Day of Semester 2  
Mon., Feb. 15, 2016              - Family Day Holiday  
Mar. 14-18, 2016                - March Break  
Mar. 25 & 28, 2016              - Easter Holidays  
Fri., Apr. 22, 2016               - Professional Development Day  
Mon., May 23, 2016              - Victoria Day Holiday  
Fri., June 10, 2016               - Professional Development Day  
June 23-29, 2016                - Semester 2 Exams

## Student Services

*Summer School:* Summer School will be held at Northwestern SS, July 6-23 from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

*Community Service Hours:* Students are encouraged to work on community service hours during the summer. Please keep in mind that these hours must be at **non-profit events** or with **non-profit organizations**. Forms are available in Student Services. Some students have been volunteering at businesses and these hours will not count toward the 40 required hours. Please see Mr. Cassone or Mrs. Brine if you have any questions.

*Timetable Adjustments:* Appointments are available on August 27 and between August 31 - September 2. Please call the school on August 18 or anytime beginning August 26 to book an appointment with a guidance counsellor. It is highly recommended that students see a counsellor in August and do not wait until September if they are looking to change a timetable.

*Liaison Visits:* University and College liaison representatives will be in the school in September and October. We schedule these sessions during the lunch hours whenever possible so that students do not miss class. Students and parents are encouraged to visit Universities and Colleges during the summer. Tours can be booked online or by phone.

*Online Courses:* Students are able to take online courses throughout the summer or during the 2015-16 school year. Students are encouraged to book an appointment with their counsellor to discuss options if this is of interest.

Websites:

[www.myblueprint.ca](http://www.myblueprint.ca)

(Interest Inventories and other post secondary tools)

[www.successforlife.ca](http://www.successforlife.ca) (Board Info - OYAP, apprenticeship, dual credits, SHSM, ...)

[www.electronicinfo.ca](http://www.electronicinfo.ca) (University programs in Ontario)

[www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca) (College programs in Ontario)

[www.studentawards.com](http://www.studentawards.com) (Scholarships)

[www.jvis.com](http://www.jvis.com) (Interest inventory - pay site)

The school website: <http://scss.amdsb.ca/> (go to For Students, then Student Services) will provide many other links for student planning.

### Theatre Central

Theatre Central finished off the school year with a Spring Show at the end of May. The production, *Trail Mix*, featured a variety of pieces, from "I Feel Pretty" (*West Side Story*) to an adaptation of the children's book, *The Hero of Hamblett*, to a scene from the play *Almost, Maine*. One of the things that we are proud of this year is the diversity of our productions; another is the number of new faces who came out to participate, especially for stage management.

We have already chosen our Theatre Central Executive for next year, and the new members are keen on developing and maintaining TC SuperHappyFunTimes: activities and workshops planned for TC members outside of our shows. We also look forward to continuing to develop a mental health piece about depression, through our Theatre Central social issues-based group, Forget-Me-Not Theatre.

We wish all past members a terrific summer and best wishes for their new adventures in the fall! See you in September, thespians!

### Learning Services

In September, Student Success and Special Education supports will be coordinated at SCSS into Learning Services. We will be moving to one room and pooling our resources to support all students to be more successful.

### Resource Centre

If students have materials from the library, please find the books and place them in a safe and secure place for the summer (or finish reading it if need be!), so you can return them on the first day of school. Students who still have outstanding materials and fines will need to settle their accounts in September in order to sign-out further materials. Thanks for your cooperation!

Happy summer reading Central! You can visit the Stratford Public Library and other Perth County Libraries to sign out books, or take a look in one of our local book stores. We will take recommendations in the fall if you come across a must-read!

### Transportation Services



Just a reminder to all Parents/Guardians, if your child(ren) is(are) eligible for transportation you are responsible for looking up your child(ren)'s busing information for the 2015/2016 school year. The busing information for the 2015/2016 school year will be available on the Huron Perth Student Transportation website ([www.ourschoolbuses.ca](http://www.ourschoolbuses.ca)) mid-August. Please check the Huron Perth Student Transportation Services website frequently in the last week leading up to the first day of

school as routes and times change daily during the last week.

To look up your child's bus information:

- Go to the Huron Perth Student Transportation Services website at <http://ourschoolbuses.ca/busplanner-web/>

Once you have entered the website:

- Select the "**Busplanner Web**" icon
- Then select "**Student Login**" (Make sure you have selected the correct school year from the drop down arrow box in the top left hand corner of the page before you make any selections)

**You will need the following to login:**

**Ontario Education Number (OEN)** This can be found on your child's latest report card and should have 9 numbers. **Only include the numbers – do not include hyphens.** If the report card only has 8 numbers, then include a zero 0 before the 8 numbers

- **Date of Birth (Year/Month/Day)** (birthdate order format may be different on each computer) **House Address Number or 9-1-1 Address**
- **School Name**
  - The School that the child will be attending in September 2015
  - This can be selected from the pull-down list

When you gain access to the portal, you will be able to see such information as your **child's eligibility** for bus transportation, the **Bus Route Number**, **approximate morning pick-up time and location**, **approximate afternoon drop-off time and location**, **transfer bus information**, **School Bus Company** and more.