



Dear Parent/Guardian:

This is an invitational letter for your child to apply to our Specialist High Skills Major program in Construction.

Specialist High Skills Major programs allow students to focus on a career path that matches their skills and interests while meeting the requirements of the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD).

Students receive the SHSM seal on their diploma when they:

- complete a specific bundle of 8-10 courses during grades 11&12 in the student's selected pathway
- relate course work to the trades industry by completing contextualized learning activities (CLAs)
- earn valuable industry certifications including Lift Truck Safety, Propane Handling, First Aid/CPR, etc
- gain important on-the-job skills with employers through 2 or 4 credit Coop placements.

The program is especially appealing to all students who:

- are interested in exploring the trades, specifically those related to construction
- enjoy hands-on, focussed learning
- like to network with employers & build skills in the sector before graduating from high school.

During the SHSM program, our students will:

- see the connections between their studies, the world beyond high school and future careers
- develop essential skills and work habits required in the workplace
- gain valuable work experience that will build a resume for post-secondary programs and future employment.

Enclosed you will find our brochure for the SHSM Construction Sector program at Orillia S.S. as well as an application form. We ask that you and your child complete the application form and return it to the Guidance office no later than **October 28th, 2015**.

For more information on this or other SHSM programs, visit the following websites: www.myshsm.ca or www.edu.gov.on.ca/morestudentsuccess/SHSM.

You can also contact Kiera Gagnon, co-coordinator: kgagnon@scdsb.on.ca or phone 705-329-4537 ext 42261.

Sincerely,

K. Gagnon
Guidance Counsellor

C. Bolen
Lead teacher

H. Glass
Vice Principal

J. Sammon
Principal