

# SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD SECONDARY SCHOOL

650 Laurelwood Drive

Waterloo, Ontario N2V 2V1

Tel: (519) 880-9979 Fax: (519) 880-9718

<http://jam.wrdsb.ca>

Twitter: @SJAMHighlanders

## FAST FORWARD PROGRAM 2021-2022



# SJAM FAST FORWARD PROGRAM

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## SCHOOL INFORMATION AND GOALS

Sir John A. Macdonald Secondary School is a full-service school offering programs for students who are university, college or workplace-bound. It is an urban high school with a population of approximately 1500 students. We offer a wide range of curricular and extra-curricular programs to meet the diverse needs of our students.

## SCHOOL SUPPORT SERVICES AND RESOURCES

Sir John A. Macdonald Secondary School offers students support and resources outside of the classroom through the Guidance Department, the Special Education Department, the Library, Student Activities Office, Student Success Room, Social Worker, Child and Youth Worker, School Nurse and Police Liaison Officer.

## PROFILE OF A STUDENT IN THE FAST FORWARD PROGRAM

Fast Forward is a unique diploma granting program (OSSD) focusing on preparing students for the workplace. The program is designed to develop students' literacy and numeracy skills in addition to their learning and employability skills necessary to be successful in a work environment. Students' preparation for employment includes a variety of opportunities for work-related learning experiences.

### **The Fast Forward Program meets the needs of a student who:**

- Has struggled with literacy and numeracy for a significant period of time;
- Is academically 2-4 years out of phase;
- Has had significant accommodations or modifications to their elementary school program;
- Has an Individual Education Plan (IEP)

### **Students in the Fast Forward program benefit from the opportunity to:**

- Earn an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD)
- Improve their reading, writing and mathematical skills and gain greater confidence as a learner
- Develop their learning skills and employability skills
- Participate in work-related learning experiences (e.g. Co-op, Career Days, Employment Fair, team-building activities, etc.)
- Earn certificates recognized by local employers (e.g. Safe Food Handling, WHMIS etc.)

Fast Forward offers students an opportunity to prepare to go directly from high school and begin a career. Students take courses that may lead to a 30 credit Ontario Secondary School Graduation diploma or a 14 credit Ontario Secondary School Certificate.

Upon completion of our Fast Forward program, students may choose from a number of exciting post-secondary pathways, including:

- Direct entry into the workplace
- Dual-credit courses with colleges
- College bridging programs/upgrading
- Additional training programs

# FAST FORWARD PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Students enrolled in the SJAM Fast Forward program will take the following package of courses:

<b>YEAR 1 (8 CREDITS)</b>	
<b>COMPULSORY COURSES (8)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>English—ENG 1LB</li> <li>Geography—CGC 1PB</li> <li>Math—MAT 1LB</li> <li>Science—SNC 1LB</li> <li>Arts: Visual Art &amp; Guitar—ALC 1OB</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Physical Education:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Girls—PPL 1OG</li> <li>Boys—PPL 1OB</li> </ul> </li> <li>Exploring Technologies—TIJ 1OB</li> <li>Information Technology—BTT 1OB</li> </ul>
<b>YEAR 2 (8 CREDITS)</b>	
<b>COMPULSORY COURSES (5)</b>	<b>ELECTIVE COURSES (CHOOSE 3)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>English—ENG 2LB</li> <li>History—CHC 2PB</li> <li>Math—MAT 2LB</li> <li>Science—SNC 2LB</li> <li>Civics (1/2 credit)—CHV 2OB</li> <li>Career Studies (1/2 credit)—GLC2OB</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drama—ADA 2OI*</li> <li>Dance—ATC 2OI*</li> <li>Visual Art—AVI 2OI*</li> <li>Guitar—AMG 2OB</li> <li>Physical Education (Boys)—PPL 2OY*</li> <li>Physical Education (Girls)—PPL 2OX*</li> <li>Power-Fit (Boys)—PAF 2OY*</li> <li>Live-Fit (Girls)—PAF 2OX*</li> <li>Food and Nutrition—HFN 2OB</li> <li>Construction—TCJ 2OB</li> <li>Transportation—TTJ 2OB</li> </ul>
<b>SENIOR LEVEL PROGRAM</b>	
<b>COMPULSORY COURSES</b>	
<b>YEAR 3 (8 CREDITS TOTAL)</b>	<b>YEAR 4 (6-8 CREDITS TOTAL)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>English—ENG 3EB</li> <li>Math—MEL 3EB</li> <li>Co-op (2 Credits)—GLD 2OC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>English—ENG 4EB</li> <li>Co-op (2-4 credits): COP 402, COP 403 or COP 404</li> </ul>
<b>ELECTIVE COURSES</b>	
NOTE—Students in year 4 or 5 may choose courses from either column (depending on prerequisites).	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guitar—AMG 3OI/3OB</li> <li>Raising Healthy Children—HPC3CB (alternating years with HPW3BC)</li> <li>Working With Infants/Young Children—HPW 3CB (alternating years with HPC3CB)</li> <li>Physical Education (Boys)—PPL 3OY*</li> <li>Physical Education (Girls)—PPL 3OX*</li> <li>Power-Fit (Boys)—PAF 3OY*</li> <li>Live-Fit (Girls)—PAF 3OX*</li> <li>Construction Technology—TCJ 3EB</li> <li>Hospitality &amp; Tourism—TFJ 3EB</li> <li>Green Industries—THJ 3EB</li> <li>Manufacturing Technology—TMJ 3EB</li> <li>Welding—TMW 3EB</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transportation/Auto Service—TTA 3CB</li> <li>Transportation/Small Engines—TTS 3CB</li> <li>Literacy Course—OLC 4OI</li> <li>Physical Education (co-ed)—PPL 4OI*</li> <li>Live-Fit (Girls)—PAF 4OX*</li> <li>Power-Fit (Boys)—PAF 4OY*</li> <li>Construction Technology—TCJ 4EB</li> <li>Hospitality &amp; Tourism—TFJ 4EB</li> <li>Green Industries—THJ 4EB</li> <li>Manufacturing Technology—TMJ 4EB</li> <li>Welding—TMW 4EB</li> <li>Transportation/Auto Service—TTA 4CB</li> <li>Transportation/Small Engines—TTS 4CB</li> </ul>

\* These course are open to all students, including academic, applied and Fast Forward. It is advised that Fast Forward students speak with their guidance counsellor if considering these options.

Co-operative Education is an integral part of the Fast Forward program. By accessing the above co-operative education opportunities, students will develop the skills and have the work experience needed to successfully enter the workplace.

By completing the above progression of courses, students will fulfill the requirements for a high school diploma (OSSD). For complete information about graduation requirements refer to <http://www.wrdsb.ca/learning/programs/secondary-school-information/graduation-requirements/>.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### What will my schedule look like?

- SJAM is a semestered school.
- Each student in Grade 9 will take 4 courses in sem. 1 (Sept.—Jan.) and sem. 2 (Feb.—June).
- Classes are 75 minutes in length.

### Are there extra-curricular activities SJAM?

- Yes, and lots of them.
- Students should find a sports team, arts activity or club that satisfies their interests. In the arts area, students can choose to participate in a wide variety of activities including choirs, instrumental groups, dance, and drama productions.
- Competitive and Intramural sports teams are offered over three seasons (fall, winter and spring). Some teams limit the number of participants, but many will take all who commit to regular practice.
- Please visit our website <http://jam.wrdsb.ca> for more information.

### Must I take all of the courses in the prescribed Fast Forward Program?

- The program has been designed to assist students in finding greater success in their academic program and to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes to move successfully from the classroom to the workplace. **Students are expected to take the program as prescribed in grade 9.** The prescribed courses assist in meeting diploma requirements.

### When I graduate from the Fast Forward Program, will I be granted the same high school diploma as students who are not in the Fast Forward Program?

- Yes. All students who meet the requirements for the OSSD (Ontario Secondary School Diploma) receive the same Diploma.

### How big is SJAM?

- Approximately 1550 students.
- Roughly 400 grade 9 students who come from our main feeder schools (Vista Hills, Laurelwood, Edna Staebler and Centennial) and Fast Forward feeder schools.

### Will I receive bussing if I am accepted into the Fast Forward Program?

- Transportation is provided to students living more than 3.2 kilometres from their Fast Forward Program school. To find out your transportation eligibility visit: [www.stswr.ca](http://www.stswr.ca) (you will be required to input some information).
- For “Grade”, be sure to scroll to the bottom to find “FF”—Fast Forward).

### What happens if I get lost?

- A variety of orientation activities will help students become familiar with our building in September.
- Only afternoon classes rotate every day, so keeping track of your schedule is easy and takes only a few days to get used to.
- Staff and students alike are friendly and will help you find your way.

### Who can I talk to if I’m having problems?

- Homeroom teacher, who students see regularly.
- Special Education Resource Teachers (SERT)
- Guidance Counsellor, who can help with academic, career and personal issues.
- Child and Youth worker (CYW) and Social Worker assigned to the school.
- Classroom teachers and/or Learning Resource Centre
- Administrators and secretaries in the Main Office.

