

unlock
your
future

HWDSB

SHSM

SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJOR



HAMILTON-
WENTWORTH
DISTRICT
SCHOOL
BOARD

SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJOR

Test Drive *your*
Career Today!



FIND YOUR
PATHWAY

TO UNLOCK YOUR FUTURE!

www.hwdsb.on.ca

Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board offers Specialist High Skills Majors (SHSMs) in the following sectors:



Arts and Culture

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Aviation and Aerospace

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Construction

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Health and Wellness

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Horticulture and Landscaping

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Hospitality and Tourism

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Manufacturing

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What is an SHSM?

A Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) allows you to customize high school to fit with your career interests.

Choose from any of the seven sectors offered as an SHSM so you can get started on the path to your future career.

- Plan now for credits offered in Grade 11 and 12
- Get your certification/training
- Gain work experience and co-op
- Receive a special diploma seal when you graduate

**We need
your feedback!**

Tell us what you think of this SHSM Viewbook at www.hwdsb.on.ca/shsm

Find out which schools in Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board offer your SHSM. Visit www.hwdsb.on.ca/shsm

FIND YOUR PATHWAY

TO UNLOCK YOUR FUTURE!

What's a Pathway?

A pathway is a combination of courses that lead to graduation and to your post-secondary **destination**, whether it's apprenticeship, college, university or the workplace.

Finding your pathway and planning your future takes time. What interests you? What career would you like to have in your future? Is an SHSM offered in the field you want to be in?

Find out how you can learn about yourself and explore your options at www.future1234.ca

What Does an SHSM Pathway Look Like?

- ✓ A bundle of eight to 10 Grade 11 and Grade 12 credits that include:
 - i. Four major credits that provide sector-specific knowledge and skills
 - ii. Two to four other required credits (for example, English and Math), which will incorporate learning done in your career field of choice
- ✓ Two co-op credits that provide real workplace experience, enabling you to refine, extend, and practice sector-specific knowledge and skills

Unlock Your Future with an SHSM

What's your destination after high school? >>>

- Apprenticeship
- College
- University
- Workplace

What you'll get from an SHSM...

- ✓ You can experience a range of customized learning opportunities in an area that interests you
- ✓ You have an opportunity to explore, identify, and refine your career goals and make informed decisions related to post-secondary education or training and next steps towards a career
- ✓ You gain confidence in your ability to succeed, and see the connections between your studies, the world beyond high school, and your future careers

- ✓ You acquire essential skills and work habits that are required in your chosen career focus

- ✓ You have evidence of your achievements including sector-recognized certifications and training programs

- ✓ You establish relationships and networks in your chosen field

... An SHSM will give you an **edge on your career** and is the key to **unlock your future!**



ARTS AND CULTURE

Based on the belief that the arts inspire all students, this program allows you to explore your interests through connections with community, industry and institutions. In this program you will:

- ✓ Develop artistic skills within a range of talents including visual arts or musical theatre
- ✓ Learn how to create an artistic portfolio or be involved in a stage production
- ✓ Have opportunities for training and certification
- ✓ Receive a designation that opens pathways and acknowledges your dedication



"I just did what I usually do. I'm not a kid who usually gets any awards or even had plans to attend college or university. The SHSM has opened a door that I didn't know was available to me. I'm excited for what is coming next. I put together an art portfolio and even presented it at a college. Everything is just falling into place for me."

Alexis Watling, Arts and Culture SHSM graduate

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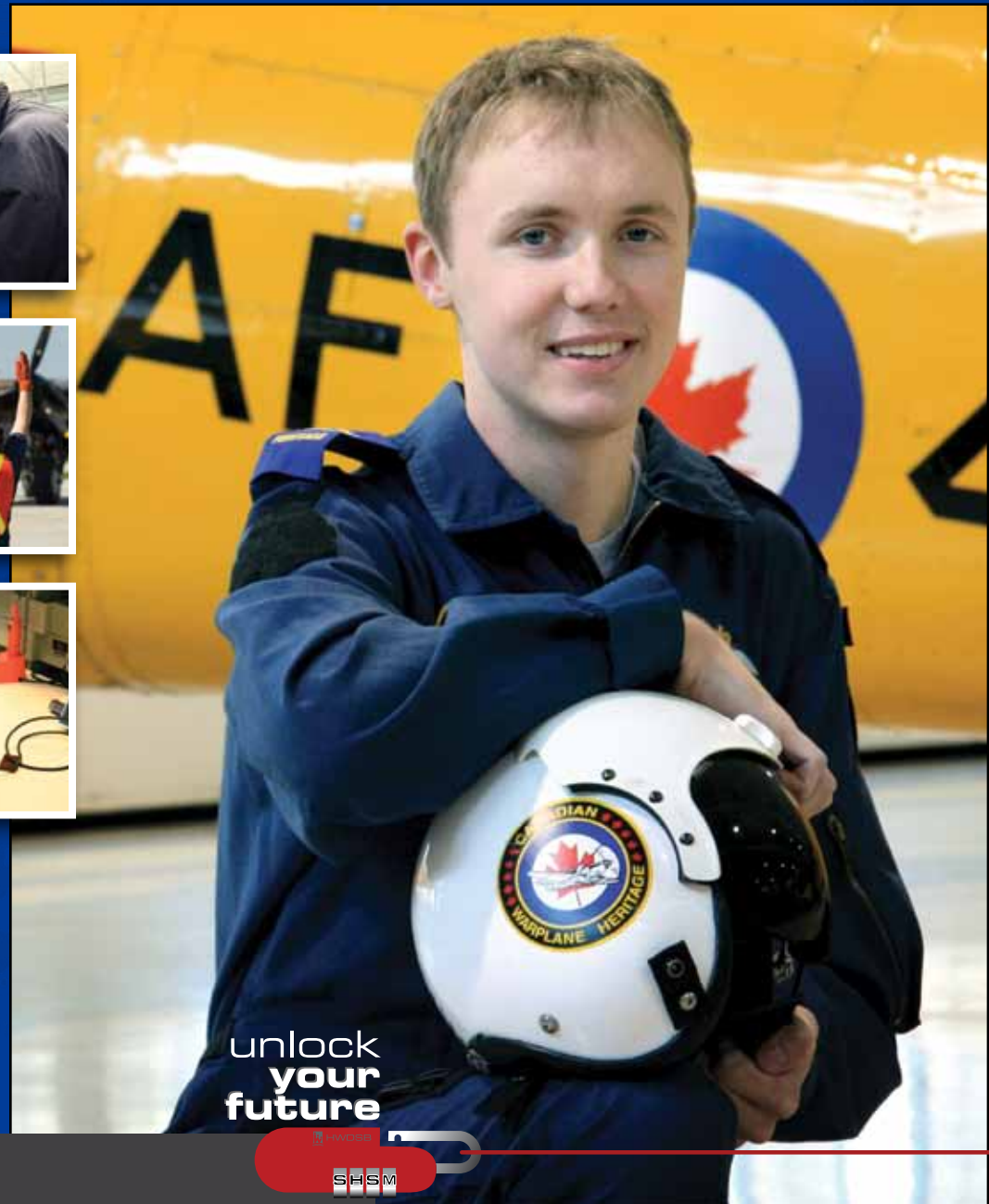
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AVIATION and AEROSPACE

Based on partnerships with the Ontario Aerospace Council, John C. Munro Hamilton International Airport and Mohawk College, the Aviation and Aerospace SHSM program lets your dreams take flight! Be a pioneer in the latest Ontario Ministry of Education approved sector. As you “test fly” your career you will:

- ✓ Use real components of the industry such as a flight simulator
- ✓ Work with industry experts
- ✓ Learn in tailored subject-specific courses
- ✓ Sample industry certification requirements



“Since I started majoring in Aviation and Aerospace at my school, I’ve become excited about learning again and have plans for a job in the aviation industry after graduation.”

Cody Eckart,
Aviation and Aerospace SHSM student

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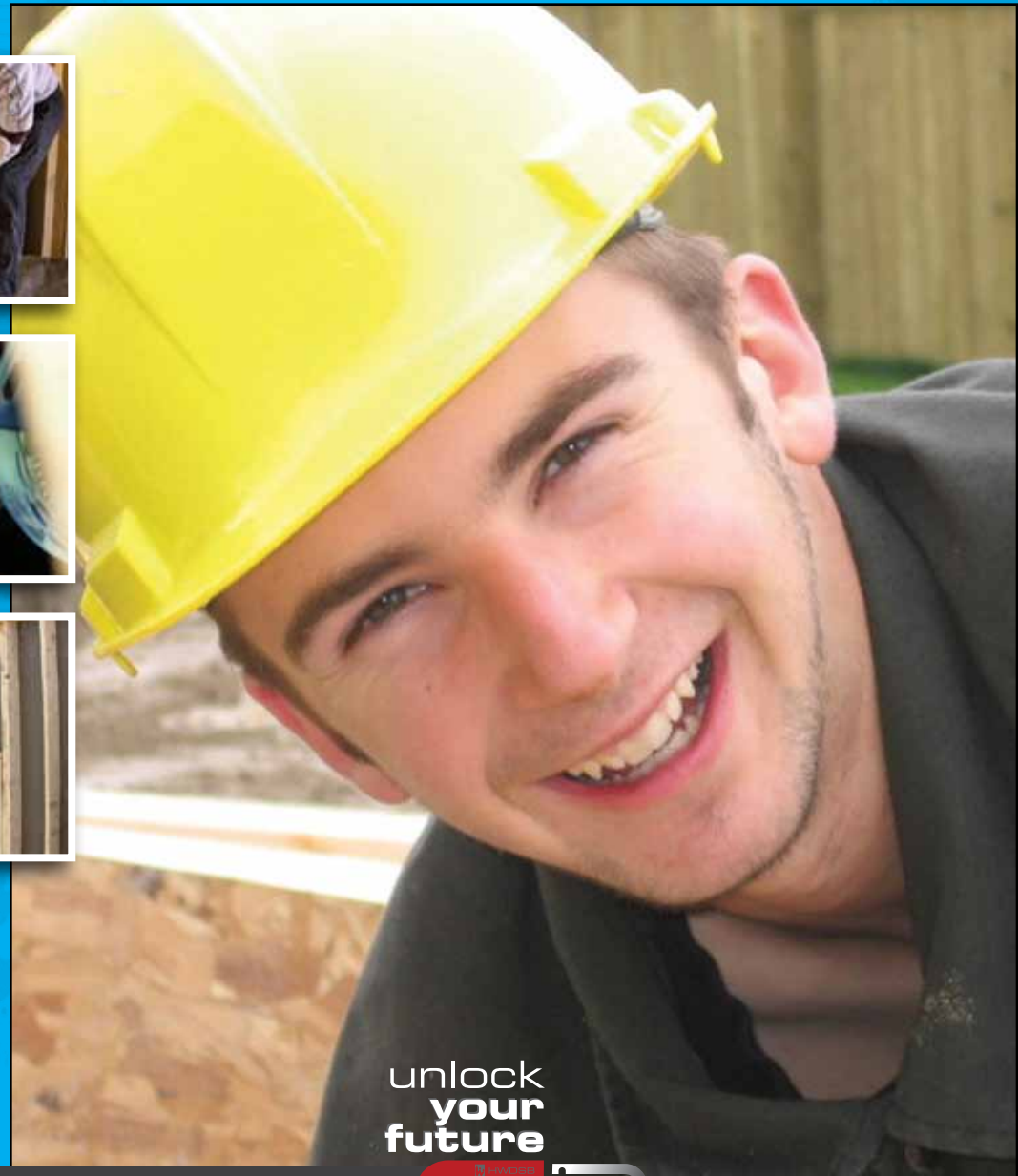
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CONSTRUCTION

Based on an award-winning program, Building Careers from the Ground Up, and a pre-apprenticeship carpentry program, you will:

- ✓ Gain experience in a range of careers and with various trades
- ✓ Earn industry-recognized certification and training
- ✓ Get a jump start at Mohawk College by earning college courses while in the SHSM program
- ✓ Build a house or other project with community partners such as Habitat for Humanity



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"I knew I was interested in construction, but I wasn't sure about how to get there. This program helped me to make a better decision as to what I want to do. I'm doing co-op in general carpentry and going to get signed as an apprentice."

Daniel Salmon, Construction SHSM graduate

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Based on an award-winning program preparing students for careers in health care, fitness, as well as child care and family services, you will:

- ✓ Earn CPR, standard first aid, fitness training, infection control, plus many more certifications
- ✓ Have the potential to spend the entire semester in a hospital-based classroom at Hamilton Health Sciences
- ✓ Have a chance for guaranteed admission to Mohawk College in the Personal Support Worker program
- ✓ Gain the opportunity to participate in an accelerated apprenticeship as an early childhood educator or child and youth worker



"I feel like I really found my niche in health care. I think it's cool that I could pick something I was interested in and try it out first. This experience made high school more fun for me."

Durani Rahmani, Health and Wellness
SHSM student

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HORTICULTURE AND LANDSCAPING

Based on existing horticulture and landscaping courses, you will:

- ✓ Learn about plant science, greenhouse structures, propagation, small engine repair and landscape design
- ✓ Learn using authentic equipment such as greenhouse technologies and lawn maintenance
- ✓ Complete training recognized by the industry, including plant identification
- ✓ Work with leading industry experts



"This program is great because we get to use real landscaping equipment and we learn in our school's greenhouse. We learn skills they really use in this industry, like creating gardens and taking care of plants, as well as grafting plants from cuttings. We also learn about plant identification by looking at the structure of leaves."

Kristen Sandvall,
Horticulture and Landscaping SHSM student



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HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM

Based on student demand and inspired by standards of hospitality and tourism excellence in Hamilton, you will:

- ✓ Learn about food preparation and hospitality services
- ✓ Connect with hospitality employers
- ✓ Participate in training and certification in customer service and safe food handling
- ✓ Gain opportunities for apprenticeships upon completion



"I chose this program for the opportunities it has to offer. For example, the free certificates of qualification in food handling, first aid, Smart Serve and service excellence. It also prepares me to get a job in a restaurant while I work towards a cook apprenticeship."

Cody Crevar,
Hospitality and Tourism SHSM student

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MANUFACTURING

Based on an award-winning program and an exceptional partnership with the Canadian Welding Association and the Canadian Welding Bureau, you will:

- ✓ Focus on a range of manufacturing processes, including welding, pneumatics, hydraulics, blueprint reading, machining and drafting
- ✓ Earn welding certification, AutoCAD training, and other skills valued by the sector
- ✓ Gain an opportunity for apprenticeship training
- ✓ Have an opportunity for guaranteed admission to Mohawk College in their Mechanical and Industrial Technology programs



"I started off with a general interest in manufacturing, and then I wanted welding certifications and experience which helped me to a pathway for an apprenticeship."

Jesse Pappin, Manufacturing SHSM graduate

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FIND YOUR PATHWAY

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Parents:

For more information about secondary school programs, resources, and what's happening at Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board, visit www.hwdsb.on.ca

Employers:

Are you interested in becoming a partner in an SHSM, co-op or experiential learning opportunity? Get involved with the Secondary Program Team, call 905-527-5092.

students:

- ✓ Ask your guidance counsellor, principal or teacher at your school to help find your way to an SHSM and unlock your future
- ✓ Watch your SHSM in action on YouTube. Search HWDSBtv
- ✓ Follow us on Twitter @HWDSB



Visit us @

www.hwdsb.on.ca

Are you going into Grade 9? Want to test drive an SHSM by starting with a Program of Choice?

Check out the list of cool programs on our website.

Some lead to an SHSM.

PROGRAMS of **CHOICE**

Unlock Your Future with an SHSM