

# Stamford Collegiate introduces **LINK CREW** for all Grade 9 students



## What is Link Crew?

- Link Crew is a high school transition program that welcomes grade 9 students and makes them feel comfortable throughout the first year of their high school experience. Built on the belief that students can help students succeed, the program trains mentors from senior classes to be Link Crew Leaders.
- As positive role models, Link Crew Leaders are mentors and student leaders who guide the freshmen to discover what it takes to be successful during the transition to high school and help facilitate freshman success.
- Each crew of 8-10 grade nine students, randomly created, are lead by 2-3 senior mentors.
- At the moment, **Stamford is the only high school in DSBN that offers Link Crew.**
- To read more about the origins of Link Crew – visit <http://www.boomerangproject.com/link/what-link-crew>
- Please note that teacher supervisors, Ms. Martin (Student Success Program Leader), Ms. Osborne (Special Education Resource Teacher) and our administrators Ms. Gilmore, Mr. Pastore and Ms. Parlatore have carefully reviewed all transition notes and I.E.P.s and will be there to support any student who has anxiety regarding assemblies and/or large group events.

## Link Crew has four components:

- **High School Orientation** - Link Leaders and freshmen start building the mentor relationship and freshmen receive information about how to be successful in high school
- **Academic Follow Ups** - Link Leaders support freshman academic success and character development through structured classroom visits
- **Social Follow Ups** - Link Leaders and freshmen connect outside the classroom at school sanctioned social events to increase student engagement, and promote positive school climate
- **Leader Initiated Contacts** - Link Leaders connect with their freshmen on a more individual basis as needed

**Turn to the backside of this pamphlet to review our September Link Crew events.**

# What will September look like for our Link Crew & Grade 9 students this year?

## Thursday, September 1 (Registration Day)

- Under the guidance of our Link Crew Teacher Supervisor, Ms. Martin, Link Crew Student Leaders will be calling their grade 9 team members to personally welcome them to Stamford and to provide them with more information regarding registration.
- When students register on September 1, they will be given a card with the name of their Link Crew Leaders. Link Crew Leaders will be waiting in the gym with everyone's timetable. They will review the timetable with the students, take students to their lockers and a tour if needed, and invite any questions or concerns.
- Link Crew Leaders will also be running a BBQ from 11:00-12:00 at our newly constructed side entrance.

## Tuesday, September 6

### Orientation Activities replace all regular classes

- 8:35 All grade 9 students report to the Gym where they are organized into their Link Crew groups for attendance – followed by an assembly featuring guest speaker, Leo Barb.
- 10:45 Link Crew workshops are held during period 2 classes
- 11:30 Students attend a Club Fest in the Cafeteria followed by a free Pizza lunch at noon
- 12:40 Presentation in the cafeteria from Student Support Services
- 1:00 Presentation in the cafeteria from our Literacy and Numeracy Lead Teachers
- 1:20 Link Crew led tours of the school
- 1:45 Link Crew workshops continue into period 4

## Wednesday, September 7

### Students attend their regular periods 2, 3 & 4 classes – their Link Workshop is period 1

- 8:15 Link Crew Leaders are available in the cafeteria for Q&A.
- 8:35 All grade 9 students gather in the cafeteria to listen to the morning announcements and to review the day's schedule.
- 8:45 Students are guided to their assigned Link Crew classroom for attendance and a period 1 Link Crew workshop.
- 10:00 Students report to their regular Period 2 classroom. Students then follow their regular timetable for period 3 and 4.

## Thursday, September 8

### Students attend their regular periods 1, 3 & 4 classes – their Link Workshop is period 2

- 8:15 Link Crew Leaders are available in the cafeteria for Q&A. Students attend their period 1 regular class as it appears on their timetables.
- 10:00 Students attend a period 2 Link Crew Workshop as posted. Students then follow their regular timetable for period 3 and 4.

## Friday, September 9

### Students attend their regular periods 1, 2 & 4 classes – their Link Workshop is period 3

- 8:15 Link Crew Leaders are available in the cafeteria for Q&A. Students attend their regular period 1,2 and 4 classes as they appear on their timetables.
- 12:05 Students attend a period 3 Link Crew Workshop as posted. Students then follow their regular timetable for period 4.