WE ARE SHEP

ÉCOLE ROSS SHEPPARD HIGH SCHOOL

Viewbook

2021-2022
Note: This publication contains some images taken prior to COVID-19.
École Ross Sheppard High School welcomes you to an incredible learning environment where its offerings are more than just a school. The staff, students, and community of Ross Sheppard High School share a rich history of high values to promote excellence. The pride, tradition, and pursuit of excellence at Ross Sheppard High School are certainly reasons for such great success in the areas of academics and the overall culture of the school.

We value the great work that is being done, and are thankful for being able to share this school opportunity with our community. There is much gratitude to have for all of the success. Our inclusive and diverse school celebrates with you, and is proud to introduce you to the culture and spirit of WE ARE SHEP!
“Shep is such a welcoming family that it has become a home away from home.”

- Sabrina, Shep Student
“One of the best things about Shep are the people that I socialize with each day. From teachers to fellow classmates, everyone is very supportive.”
- Aidan, Shep Student
École Ross Sheppard High School

About Us

The staff at École Ross Sheppard High School are committed to serving and meeting the needs of our students. Through genuine engagement, care, and attention, our staff epitomizes the culture and spirit of WE ARE SHEP!

Treaty 6 Acknowledgement

École Ross Sheppard High School acknowledges that we are on Treaty 6 territory, a traditional meeting grounds, gathering place, and travelling route to the Cree, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Métis, Dene, and Nokota Sioux.

We acknowledge all the many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries.
At SHEP We Believe In ...

**RelationSHEP**
We bring our best each day, we support each other and are respectful.

**PartnerSHEP**
We embrace challenge and celebrate success together.

**MentorSHEP**
We support each other to be confident, successful learners in our quest for excellence.

**LeaderSHEP**
We are collaborators, inquirers, innovators, communicators, and critical thinkers. We take ownership of our learning and conduct.

**ScholarSHEP**
We are present and prepared. We are dedicated and committed to our learning.

“If better is possible, then good is not enough.”
- Benjamin Franklin
Student Services

Shep students take academics seriously and it pays off.

Student Services is the support hub of Ross Sheppard High School; everyone is welcome. Our team is involved in helping students choose courses that support high school completion as well as providing assistance in many areas of high school life. From planning for the future to supporting students on personal matters, our team provides students with the resources and tools to support them on their high school journey.

Planning for Future

- Career planning
- University exploration
- Graduation requirements
- Competitive average information
- Alberta Education credit validation

Supports for Students

- Tutoring
- Academics
- Mental health support
- Peer relationship support
- Family relationship support
Connect HUB

Ross Sheppard’s Connect Hub provides a responsive, school community focused approach to supporting student success. While catering to individual academic needs and alternative learning pathways, the space acts to connect students to their learning while fostering self-advocacy, responsibility, and resilience. This year, the Connect Hub hosted online town halls and a social justice speaker series, serving to build school community and uplift student voice. It also acted as a gathering hub for Ross Sheppard’s GSA and Social Justice clubs.

First Nations, Métis and Inuit HUB

Our First Nations, Métis and Inuit Hub is a caring place where students can engage in cultural activities, receive academic and personal support, and build positive relationships.

“I love going into this room because it is a welcoming, positive, and safe space. Everyone is treated with respect and cared for.”

- Destiney B., Shep Student
Let us start with the basics: Core academic subjects are the foundation of our students' high school program. Ross Sheppard's outstanding teachers help students get the most out of their core courses.
At Ross Sheppard, we strive for excellence in academics. Through multiple educational paths, our students are provided with opportunities for success in a safe and engaging environment.

Ross Sheppard has a rich history of successful graduates. We are proud of our Thunderbirds who have excelled in the past, and we are excited about their bright futures.
Academics

**English**

Students engage with various approaches to teaching and learning in the six strands of the ELA curriculum. Opportunities exist for students to deepen their understanding, engage in critical analysis, and appreciate literature through supportive, interactive classes, further enhanced through representation, and experiential learning. Various speaking activities provide a platform for increased skill in communication. Creative Writing, an optional course, provides possibilities for aspiring young authors to further their passion.

**Math**

The high school curriculum is designed to provide students with a foundational knowledge of mathematical concepts, processes, and strategies. A variety of levels are offered to ensure that students are both challenged and supported in their achievement. Opportunities are available to become involved in national and international math contests and competitions. Ross Sheppard is proud to host the annual Totem Torus Math event, a competition which draws student teams from many district schools.
“Shep gives you so many opportunities to achieve so many great things. Trust yourself and aim high.”

- Carly, Shep Student

**Sciences**
Science classes at Ross Sheppard ignite curiosity and prepare students for real-world experiences, post-secondary education, and life-long careers in science. We offer a wide range of science courses, including Biology, Chemistry, Physics, International Baccalaureate programs, General Science, and Forensics. The dedicated science teachers at Ross Sheppard bring science alive for students with engaging activities and field trips that include connections to Alberta’s ecological landscape, Alberta’s industries, and current scientific research.

**Social Studies**
Social Studies fosters students’ development to become citizens who are responsible, effective, and have a global mindset. Students will have the opportunity to deepen their understanding of the world through participating in a broad range of Social Studies courses, including the International Baccalaureate Programme. Psychology and Aboriginal Studies are optional courses that can supplement students’ Social Studies learning.
Physical Education (PE)

Physical Education 10/20/30
In PE 10/20/30 at Ross Sheppard, students will enjoy being physically active while meeting new classmates and friends. PE 10 is a requirement for high school graduation. Off-campus activities that our PE students will have the opportunity to participate in include curling, snorkeling, scuba diving, fencing, squash, bowling, and cycling.

Sports Medicine 15/25/35
Sports Medicine is perfect for anyone interested in athletics or a future career in health care. Students gain knowledge related to the care, prevention, and rehabilitation of athletic injuries. Students spend time in various athletic settings outside the classroom and work directly with Ross Sheppard’s athletics teams alongside a certified Athletic Therapist.

Outdoor Education 15/25/35
(Wildlife)
Outdoor Education programs provide students with opportunities to explore and engage in the outdoor environment. Students will develop skills in outdoor cooking, canoeing, mountain biking, rock climbing, snowshoeing, and archery. They will gain valuable knowledge of the outdoors and take an in-depth look at environmental stewardship and ecotourism in a fun, interactive environment.
"As a parent, I am glad my daughter was able to take Sports Medicine at Ross Sheppard. She enjoyed it and it has had such a positive impact on her high school experience."

- Branna-Lee, Shep Parent

**Sports Performance 15/25/35 (Intro. to Sports Rec.)**
Sports Performance is designed for students to improve physical skills, fitness, and athletic performance. Students will demonstrate proper training principles and acquire knowledge related to nutrition, sport psychology, goal setting, and leadership. This course is perfect for anyone looking to become a better athlete or simply wanting to improve their general fitness.

**Physical Education 20/30 (Soccer)**
PE 20/30 Soccer is a course for students interested in improving in a variety of sports, with a specific focus on soccer. Students learn and demonstrate high-level principles of soccer, as well as acquire knowledge about nutrition, sports psychology, player positions, goal setting, and the general art of the sport. This course is perfect for anyone with a love for physical activity and a passion for soccer!

**Yoga 15/25/35**
Our yoga program offers students a break from their busy day while learning the fundamentals of stretch and mindfulness. In our yoga studio, Ross Sheppard's certified instructor will demonstrate and facilitate the learning of yoga poses and sequences, supporting students as they work at their own pace. All students are welcome in this course and yoga mats are provided.
Global Languages

Ross Sheppard students travel around the world without ever leaving the classroom. Students can choose from a variety of language courses and programs to suit their needs or interests.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chinese Language &amp; Culture</th>
<th>Chinese Language Arts</th>
<th>French as a Second Language</th>
<th>Spanish Language &amp; Culture</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This course is offered to beginners to introduce them to the basics of Chinese Language and Culture. Students with no previous background in the language are welcome.</td>
<td>This course is designed for those who have previous experience with the Chinese language. Students expand their language abilities and cultural competence through study and the use of a variety of language materials.</td>
<td>École Ross Sheppard offers students a window into Edmonton’s Francophone community, as well as French-speaking countries of the world. Students deepen their confidence and communicative skills in French.</td>
<td>Bienvenidos! This program is for students with little to no previous Spanish instruction. Students develop proficiency and confidence as they experience diverse aspects of the Spanish speaking world while using the language in everyday situations.</td>
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All languages are offered at the IB level.

Chinese Bilingual Program

Ross Sheppard has the largest Chinese program in Edmonton, offering both a Chinese Bilingual and Chinese Language and Culture program. IB language options, including higher and standard levels, are available in both of these programs. Our Chinese program is closely affiliated with the Confucius Institute of Edmonton, and because of that affiliation, our students have opportunities to participate in many unique cultural exchange activities. Many of our past students have won scholarships to study in well known universities throughout China.
French Immersion

École Ross Sheppard High School's comprehensive French Immersion program supports both early and late immersion students.

French Language Arts (FLA)

Students can commence or continue their immersion experience in French, one of Canada’s official languages, by further exploring Francophone world, literature, and culture. FLA supports students in their other core immersion subjects including Mathématiques, Sciences (Biologie & Chimie), and Études Sociales. FLA 30 qualifies as an IB language.

District Bilingual Certificate & DELF

French Immersion students can earn a District Bilingual Certificate by obtaining 50 credits in French Immersion courses in high school. Students in their Grade 12 year are eligible to obtain the Diplôme d’études en langue français (DELF); a diploma awarded by the National French Ministry of Education. The DELF is recognized internationally should students wish to apply for bilingual jobs or attend French universities overseas.

English Language Learners

Ross Sheppard's English Language Learner (ELL) program is designed to support students who are working at the English as a Second Language (ESL) Benchmark Levels of 1 through 5. Students are placed in the appropriate ESL level where they practice their English language skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening at a pace that allows for success at their ability level.

Students study the foundations of Canadian society in Canadian Studies 15/25, and experience several field trips to explore various aspects of Canada. Math 15 ESL and Science 15 ESL build the foundations needed to excel in future courses. Reading 15/25 and Expository English 15/25 are designed to increase reading comprehension and writing ability, and support students in their other classes.

Every ELL student will feel fully supported in our program and will feel a part of the Shep community.
Career & Technology Studies

Food Studies students develop, utilize, and implement the knowledge and skills related to the many aspects of food. Students will not only learn cooking, baking, and preparation techniques, but they will also explore nutrition, safety and sanitation, foods and traditions from around the world, and food ecology.

Food Studies

Applied Graphic Arts introduces students to the world of graphic design and many modern industry tools. Students explore design fundamentals and technologies through solving a variety of design problems.

Applied Graphic Arts

In this course, students will have the opportunity to design and build robots that can interact and respond to stimuli. Students will learn computer programming, as well as mechanical and electrical aspects of design. This program will challenge students critical-thinking skills and imagination, and foster their creative potential.

Computer Science & Robotics

Information Processing is a course that teaches students how to utilize the Microsoft Office suite of programs. Students use Access for databases, Excel for spreadsheets, Powerpoint for presentations, and Word for word processing to solve real-world problems with professional-looking outcomes. Students taking this course will be prepared for entry-level positions in the business world.

Information Processing

Students in Film and Media Art study filmmaking techniques and learn how to create short films that demonstrate effective use of lighting, sound, music, composition, editing, visual special effects, and makeup. This course provides access to high-definition cameras, and editing programs such as Adobe Premiere and After Effects.

Film & Media Art

Animation

Animation program will have the opportunity to bring their doodles to life by learning Adobe programs such as Flash, Photoshop, and Audition. The skills that students will develop in this class will mirror industry techniques as they learn to create 2 and 3-dimensional animated short films while progressing through beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels. No experience is necessary to register.

Animation
“I am so happy I took photography. I am a different person now as I see the world in new ways. I never thought about this before taking the course.”

- Raisa, Shep Student

**Design Studies**
Design Studies is a course for students who want to learn the skills involved in architecture, engineering, interior design, landscaping, and housing. Students will learn how to use computer software that allows them to create architectural renderings and turn their own ideas into a design.

**Fashion Studies**
Students in Fashion Studies will have the opportunity to learn and expand on their knowledge of the fashion industry. The competencies developed through this course focus on skills such as planning, practice, and design in the construction of their fashion projects.

**Financial Management**
Financial Management courses provide opportunities for students to gain relevant skills to become financially literate in today’s world. Students will sharpen their entrepreneurial skills, manage and balance their personal and business cash flow, and learn to build their own investment portfolios.

**Photography**
Discover the art and science of image design at Ross Sheppard. Photography is an investigation into how students perceive and interpret their world. From camera operation to editing, students create images that inspire. Students learn camera basics, image editing, and use of off-camera flash, on their way to becoming competent and proficient photographers.

**Web Design**
Students who participate in Web Design will study the latest innovations in design techniques. They will learn to build creative and functional websites. The skills required to create interactive computer-based projects that include sound, graphics, text, animations, and video will developed throughout the course.

**Journalism (Yearbook)**
Journalism is a course that focuses on the art of publication. Students will develop evolving writing and photography skills while in a collaborative team setting. Student work from this course is used in the yearbook, and because of that, students have the opportunity to experience the breadth and depth of Ross Sheppard culture from a unique perspective.
International Baccalaureate (IB)

IB students are global problem solvers who have acquired the skills to address global challenges.

The IB Programme aims to develop a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. Our program cultivates inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring people who respect diversity of opinions.

### The IB Programme:

- supports cross curricular exploration;
- offers intellectually challenging classes, with an international focus;
- fosters global citizenship;
- promotes engagement in the arts;
- offers language acquisition in three languages;
- allows for choice of course and options;
- supports students in transition to University.
At SHEP, IB Learners are ...

**Inquirers and Thinkers**
Students develop their natural curiosity and they exercise initiative in applying critical-thinking skills to recognize and approach complex problems, and make reasoned, ethical decisions.

**Balanced and Reflective**
Students understand the importance of intellectual, physical and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being for themselves, and others. They give thoughtful consideration to their own learning experience.

**Principled and Caring**
Students show respect for individuals, groups, and communities, acting with integrity and honesty, while embodying a sense of justice. They show empathy, compassion, and respect for the feelings of others. These students strive for life-long personal growth and learning, and to make a positive difference in the world.

**Communicators and Risk-Takers**
Students understand and express ideas creatively and with confidence. They are able to work effectively and in collaboration with others. They approach the unfamiliar with courage and forethought and have the independence of spirit to explore new roles, ideas, and strategies.

**Knowledgeable and Open-Minded**
Students explore concepts, ideas, and issues that have local and global significance. They understand and appreciate their own cultures and personal histories and are open to the perspectives, values, and traditions of other individuals and communities.
Off-Campus Education

Work Experience
Work Experience provides our students with opportunities to explore Career Pathways, gain valuable work experience, and earn while they learn. Students in Work Experience courses earn credits toward their High School Diploma, can qualify for scholarships, and kick start their exploration of career pathways in their high school years. Please visit the Off-Campus office located in the north west corner of the Learning Commons for more information on the trades, career internships, resume help, interview skills and Work Experience. Students can earn up to 30 credits in Work Experience over the course of their high school career.

Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP)
The Registered Apprenticeship Program is an excellent way to get a start in a career or just explore a career in the trades. With more than 50 registered trades in Alberta, there is something for everyone. A student choosing RAP will earn an excellent wage and up to 40 credits towards their high school diploma. We know there will be a shortage in many skilled trades, and as a result, the future job prospects are excellent! A student that completes RAP can finish the first year of their apprenticeship, and will be well on their way towards a Journeyperson ticket.

Knowledge & Employability (K & E)
Students whose reading, writing, and/or mathematical achievement falls below the curriculum expectation enroll in the K&E program in their respective courses.

K & E courses provide opportunities for students to graduate from high school with a Certificate of High School Achievement or transition to completing their High School Diploma requirements. The K&E program allows flexibility when building a program that meets the need of the student.
Inclusive Learning

Learning Supports
Ross Sheppard is committed to offering choice and support to students with differing abilities and learning requirements. We support inclusion by providing various opportunities to demonstrate learning inside the traditional classroom, and other special school support areas. Our teachers work directly with students in developing and implementing IPP documents, and support students as they advocate for their academic needs. Our teachers work collaboratively to support the diverse learning needs of our students using routines, scaffolded lessons, and a foundation of strong relationships.

Interactions
Interactions programming supports students with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). The goal of the Interactions program is to improve communication, social interaction, and behavior while developing academic skills. The program provides structured environments with regular routines, smaller classes for more targeted instruction and plenty of visual aids, concrete examples, and hands-on activities to support student growth and success.

Community Learning Skills (CLS)
Community Learning Skills programming supports students who have moderate cognitive delays in most or all developmental areas. The CLS program is designed to develop functional life skills in a community-based setting. The program provides a structured framework to enable students to improve their communication skills and social behavior, increase their self-esteem, and develop age appropriate behaviors as they prepare to transition to adulthood.
Students explore and appreciate the world around them through a variety of media. Students create works of art that are the products of their experiences.
"The arts provide a safe place for students to express themselves without judgement."
- Tzumara, Shep Student

At Ross Sheppard, students can choose from 14 Fine Arts course options that meet the interests, needs, and abilities of all students.

The aims of the Fine Arts Program at Ross Sheppard are to enable students to:

- enjoy lifelong engagement with the Arts;
- become informed, reflective, and critical practitioners in the Arts;
- understand the dynamic and changing nature of the Arts;
- explore and value the diversity of the Arts across time, place, and cultures;
- express ideas with confidence and competence;
- develop perceptual and analytical skills.

"I believe music is an international language that connects all of us."
- Robert, Shep Student

"Given the incredible atmosphere I have been offered a plethora of experiences that allow me to express my artistic tongue."
- Sumaya, Shep Student
Music

Instrumental Music 10/20/30 (Concert Band)
This program features two large ensembles in the traditional wind band format; the Grade 10 Concert Band and the Grade 11/12 Concert Band. Students will develop their skills in music theory and ear training. Students then apply those skills in the rehearsal of challenging repertoires using rhythm, note accuracy, tone production, articulation, dynamics, phrasing, and other elements.

Jazz Studies 10/20/30 (Jazz Band)
Students can further develop their musical skills in a traditional big band setting, incorporating the unique jazz skill of improvisation (spontaneous composition and performance of musical passages). The repertoire features a variety of styles including swing, rock, and latin.
General Music 15/25/35 (Guitar)
Our General Music (Guitar) Program provides an introduction to the fundamentals of music. Students will learn skills such as music reading, single note techniques, and chording in a wide variety of music styles and will be given opportunities to showcase their skills during class performances. There is no music prerequisite for this class; all students are welcome.

General Music 15/25/35 (Drum Line)
Ross Sheppard’s percussion ensemble is one of only a few offered at the high school level. It features an exciting mix of marching snare drums, tenor drums, bass drums of various sizes, and crash cymbals.
Visual Arts

“Shep has a very friendly learning environment. Whether it be friends or teachers, you’ll find help in your studies at every corner.”

- Jarvis, Shep Student

Art 10/20/30
Art 10/20/30 includes the exploration of drawing, painting, sculpting, printmaking, and digital printmaking. Whether you want to try something new, or follow your passion into the world of fine art, design, and architecture, this is the course for you.

IB Art 10IB/20IB/30IB
IB art is a thought-provoking course in which students develop the skills and techniques of art-making practices, with an emphasis on exploring and comparing visual arts from different cultural contexts. Students become critically informed makers and consumers of visual culture.

Ceramics 15/25/35
Ceramics extends into the areas of contemporary sculpture and interior design. Students will learn the techniques of throwing and hand building with clay, explore pinch and coil techniques, slab building, and surface decorations.
Performing Arts

Drama 10/20/30
Ross Sheppard's Drama program offers an exploration of ensemble through movement, speech, improvisation, acting, directing, playwrighting, technical theatre, and theatre studies. Students will be given opportunities to develop competency and an appreciation for theatre as a process and art form.

Technical Theatre 15/25/35
Technical theatre is for students interested in working backstage on a production. Students join the technical team for the fall play (Advanced Acting) and/or the spring musical (Musical Theatre). Components of study include: costume, lighting, makeup, management (business/house/stage), properties, set, and sound.

Advanced Acting 15/25/35
This is a production-based ensemble course that includes participation in the creation and performing aspects of a major fall play. There is a strong emphasis on ensemble, characterization, rehearsal discipline, movement, and voice.

Musical Theatre 15/25/35
Musical theatre is a production-based course that includes participation in the performing aspects of a musical. There is a strong emphasis on ensemble, characterization, rehearsal discipline, movement, choreography, and voice.

Improvisational Theatre 15/25/35
Students in Improvisational Theatre will learn the skills required to perform on the spot. This class is an ensemble-based course which explores character, story, theme, and staging in relation to spontaneous performances. Students will have the opportunity to attend improvisation festivals, workshops, and local competitions.
ATHLETICS

With a strong history of linking athletic development with our many championship-calibre teams, Ross Sheppard is the place to be involved in athletics.
Once a T-Bird, Always a T-Bird

The Shep Advantage

Ross Sheppard employs a full-time Strength and Conditioning Coach. To encourage active lifestyles, a variety of individual and team activities take place in the gym at lunch throughout the year. Students of all ability levels are encouraged to organize a team to participate in intramurals.

Ross Sheppard competes in:

- Badminton
- Basketball
- Cheer
- Cross Country
- Curling
- Football
- Golf
- Handball
- Indoor Soccer
- Ninja Warrior
- Rugby
- Soccer
- Swimming
- Track & Field
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Volleyball
- Weightlifting
- Wrestling
Ross Sheppard fosters and mentors students in leadership and social responsibility. Students are involved in school spirit events and are encouraged to participate in service to the community.
“The most worthwhile thing is to try to put happiness into the lives of others.”

- Robert Baden-Powell

Leadership 15/25/35
Leadership is an inclusive 5-credit program which combines immersion in school culture and service with the enjoyment of creating lasting memories throughout high school. Students will engage in team-building exercises and focused-planning sessions which will foster school spirit and positive peer relationships for those who participate. Our Leadership program promotes the development of students with a charitable spirit and a mindset of global citizenship.

Students’ Union (SU)
The Ross Sheppard Students’ Union is a group of dedicated individuals who work to run events that promote the Thunderbird spirit and the WE ARE SHEP culture. Our SU Council transforms the school into a second home for students. Throughout the year, the SU Council and volunteers put on a variety of large-scale events: Winterfest, Touch of Class, Sheptacular, and more. We hope to see you around, because #weareshep!

Clubs - Whatever your interests, Ross Sheppard has clubs for you.

- Business & Entrepreneurship
- Breakdance
- Chess
- Chinese Traditional Dance
- Chinese Lion Dance
- Computer Game Design
- Digital Music
eSports Club
- Fellowship
- Gaming Club
- Gay-Straight Alliance
- Innovation
- Interact
- Kickboxercise
- K-Pop
- Math Club
- Model United Nations
- Project Green
- Public Speaking
- Robotics
- Role Playing
- Science Olympics
- Social Justice
- Sports Clubs
- UN Debate
- Yearbook
Get in Touch

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PRIDE
TRADITION
EXCELLENCE
VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE
Feature Week
March 1-5, 2021