Student Achievement Community Success

# Creating Pathways to Success 

## Transition Guide for Grade 8 Students \& Parents



# Your Pathway to Graduation 

## WHO AM I?

## OPEN HOUSES/REGISTRATION

Each secondary school hosts a Grade 8 open house or tours so you can explore the options at your local school prior to registering.

## COURSE SELECTION

Prior to the end of February, you will work with your Grade 8 teacher, parents and guidance staff from the secondary school to pick your courses for Grade 9.

## OPTIONAL COURSES

You get to choose a couple of optional courses in the areas of the Arts, Business, Social Sciences and Humanities or Technology.

## COMPULSORY COURSES

You must take English, Math, Science, Geography, Physical Education and a Languages course in Grade 9.

## PREREQUISITE COURSES

Prerequisites are courses you must take before you can take the next level. For example, you must take Grade 9 Math before Grade 10.

## YOUR TIMETABLE

A timetable is a schedule of your courses and lunch break, and outlines the time, room number, and teachers for each course.

## PROVINCIAL REPORT

 CARD, GRADES 9-12 Reports are issued at the mid point of the semester and at the end of the semester.
## EQAO GRADE 9 ASSESSMENT OF MATHEMATICS

You will be required to write the math assessment in Grade 9 if you are scheduled in MTH 1W1. Successful completion of the math assessment is not a requirement to earn an OSSD.

ONTARIO SECONDARY
SCHOOL LITERACY TEST
You will write the literacy test in Grade 10 if you are pursuing an OSSD. If you are unsuccessful on the OSSLT, you may complete the provincial literacy requirement by successfully completing the Ontario Literacy Course (OLC 4O). You must pass the provincial literacy requirement to earn an OSSD.

ONLINE LEARNING GRADUATION REQUIREMENT
As you move into your senior years, review your opportunities for taking 2 online courses as part of your secondary school experience.

## CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION

In Grade 11 and 12, you can explore the world of work by participating in placements in the community.

## ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL DIPLOMA

 You will earn an OSSD by earning a minimum of 30 credits, including 19 compulsory and 11 optional credits as well as fulfilling the literacy and community involvement requirements.
## ONTARIO YOUTH

## APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

If you are completing Co-operative Education in the trades, you can begin tracking skills and hours towards an apprenticeship.

## ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL CERTIFICATE

You will earn an OSSC as an alternative to the OSSD by completing a minimum of 14 credits including 7 compulsory credits.

## EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

You will have opportunities throughout secondary school to link curriculum and learning to experiences in the community.

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT HOURS

You must complete 40 community involvement hours if you are pursuing an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD).

DETERMINING YOUR PATH
When you get to Grade 11 and 12, courses are based on destination. They can be taken for college (C), workplace (E), university/ college (M) or university (U) destinations.

SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJOR
In Grade 11 and 12, you can take part in sector specific certifications, training, experiences and links to the curriculum as you begin to explore opportunities for future careers.

## DUAL CREDIT

In Grade 11 or 12, you can take a course at the local college to earn both a high school and college credit.

## Pathways for Grade 10

## ACADEMIC "D"

Academic courses focus on the essential concepts of the discipline and also explore related concepts. Academic courses develop students' knowledge and skills by emphasizing theoretical, abstract applications of the essential concepts of the course and incorporating practical applications as appropriate. This stream if often a starting point for students pursuing apprenticeship, college, university or work pathways.

## LOCALLY DEVELOPED "L"

Locally developed courses are developed to accommodate educational and/or career preparation needs that are not met through courses within the provincial curriculum policy documents. Students will focus on the essential concepts of the discipline, developing students' knowledge and skills by emphasizing practical applications of these con-cepts. This stream if often a starting point for students pursuing apprenticeship or work pathways.

## OPEN "O"

Students will learn concepts and skills designed to prepare them for further study in the subject area. Expectations are designed for and appropriate for all students. Generally, the optional courses (e.g. Physical Education, Art, etc.) are offered in the open stream. Students can have a variety of learning skills.

## APPLIED "P"

Applied courses also focus on the essential concepts of the discipline but develop students' knowledge and skills by emphasizing practical, con-crete applications of these concepts and incorporating theoretical appli-cations as appropriate. This stream if often a starting point for students pursuing apprenticeship, college, or work pathways.

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Can I take different streams for different courses?
Yes! You are encouraged to take the types of courses that best suit your interests, goals and learning style.

How do I decide what courses to take in Grade 10?
Students in the LKDSB use a web-based Education Planner tool called myBlueprint which helps them create their Individual Pathways Plan. By using myBlueprint, students are able to discover who they have the potential to become and move towards planning their pathway destination. It is very acceptable to consider more than one pathway destination and myBlueprint has a host of resources that will help you recognize the many opportunities and experiences in considering all of your options.

Is there somewhere I can go for help if I have questions about the courses I should take?
Yes! Your grade 8 teacher can assist you with selecting courses. You may also attend high school information sessions for assistance or call the high school's Guidance Department for more information. Your parents can also be helpful in providing advice and assisting with your planning.

## What courses do I need to take in Grade 9?

Compulsory Courses:
1 English
1 Mathematics
1 Science
1 Canadian Geography
1 French as a Second Language*
1 Health and Physical Education

## Optional Courses**

2 courses from the following areas:
Arts (Dance, Drama, Music, Visual Arts) Business Studies
Guidance and Career Education
First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Studies
Technological Education
*In schools which offer Native Language courses, students may choose to take the Native Language course in addition to, or as an alternative to, French.

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## Your Ticket to Graduation

OSSD
19 compulsory credits
11 optional credits
The Provincial Literacy Requirement
40 hours of Community Involvement

Online Learning Graduation Requirement

## 19 Compulsory Credits:

4 credits in English
3 credits in Mathematics
2 credits in Science
1 credit in Canadian History
1 credit in Canadian Geography
1 credit in the Arts
1 credit in Health and Physical Education
1 credit in French as a Second Language
0.5 credit in Career Studies
0.5 credit in Civics

1 credit from Group 1, Group 2 and Group 3
(Scan the QR to learn more.)
1 credit in Technological Education (in Gr. 9 or 10)

## 11 Optional Credits

The Ministry of Education sets out the policies and requirements that govern the program in English language Secondary Schools in Ontario, check out the website to learn more about graduation requirements. http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/extra/eng/ppm/graduate.html

## OSSC

Students who have been identified through the I.P.R.C. process to pursue completion of an Ontario Secondary School Certificate, may earn it through completing the following 14 courses.

## 7 compulsory credits

2 credits in English
1 credit in Mathematics
1 credit in Science
1 credit in Canadian History or Geography 1 credit in Arts or Technology
1 credit in Health and Physical Education

## 7 Optional Credits

## Certificate of Accomplishment

Students who leave school before fulfilling the requirements for the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) or the Ontario Secondary School Certificate (OSSC) may be granted a Certificate of Accomplishment. The Certificate of Accomplishment may be a useful means of recognizing achievement for students who plan to take certain vocational programs or other kinds of further training, or who plan to find employment after leaving school.

## Breaking Down the Timetable

## Course Format: SNC1W1-01

The first three letters identify the subject:
A=Arts, B=Business, C=Canadian \& World Studies, $\mathbf{E}=$ English, $\mathbf{F}=$ French, $\mathbf{G}=$ Guidance,
H=Humanities \& Social Sciences, $\mathbf{I}=$ Computer Studies, $\mathbf{L}=$ International Languages, $\quad \mathbf{M}=$ Mathematics,
$\mathbf{N}=$ Native Studies, $\mathbf{P}=$ Physical Education, $\mathbf{S}=$ Sciences, T=Technology

The first number identifies the grade:
1=Gr. 9, 2= Gr. 10, 3= Gr. 11, 4= Gr. 12

The letter indicates the stream/destination:
$\mathbf{D}=$ Academic, L=Locally Developed, $\mathbf{O}=O p e n, \mathbf{P}=$ Applied, $\mathbf{S}=$ A.B.L.E., $\mathbf{W}=$ De-streamed, $\mathbf{C}=$ College, $\mathbf{E}=$ Workplace, M=University /College, U=University

The last number is a school code that gives information: $\mathbf{1}=$ Credit Value, $\mathbf{Y}=$ Male, $\mathbf{W}=$ Female, $\mathbf{Z}=$ French Immersion

Some schools have a One-Day Timetable where every day each class is at the same time:
... while ...

The number after the dash is the section number (e.g. -03)



[^0]:    **Optional courses may vary from school to school. Consult the LKDSB Course Calendar at www.lkdsb.net for available courses.

