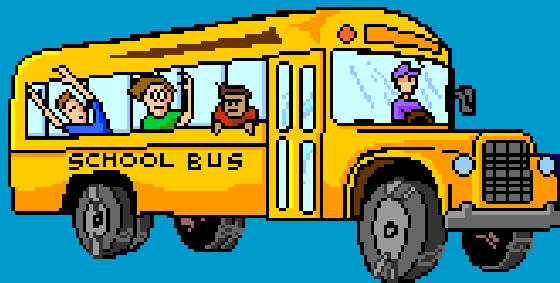


Preparing For Grade 9

THE TRANSITION FROM GRADE 8 to GRADE 9



Where is my “Home School?”



which school you attend as your
“home school” is based on geographic
boundaries (i.e. where you live)

note: it will be either Cameron or Huron

not sure? visit...

<https://bpweb.stswr.ca/>

System Designated Specialized (Magnet) Programs



Students may also apply, in grade 8, for special programs that start in grade 9, such as:

- ✓ Integrated Arts Program – Enhanced or Practical
Eastwood Collegiate
- ✓ International Baccalaureate (IB) Program
Cameron Heights
- ✓ Fast Forward Program
Kitchener Collegiate (KCI)
- ✓ English as a Second Language (ESL)
Forest Heights and Eastwood

Specialty (Magnet) Programs



Once in high school (gr. 10), students may also apply for system designated specialized (magnet) programs that start in grade 11, such as:

- ✓ Health Care Sectors - Huron Heights
- ✓ Geotech - Waterloo Collegiate (WCI)
- ✓ Design - Galt Collegiate
- ✓ Environmental Studies - Southwood Secondary
- ✓ Instrumental Strings – Eastwood, WCI, Grand River
- ✓ Extended French / French Immersion – various schools

Specialist High Skills Major



The **Specialist High Skills Majors (SHSM)** program offers students the opportunity to explore a specific community, or economic and/or industrial sector in preparation for post-secondary destinations in one of four pathways:

Apprenticeship
University

College
Workplace

SHSMs include specified, bundled credits, sector-recognized certifications, and 'Reach Ahead' activities.

<http://www.wrdsb.ca/programs/secondary-school-information/specialist-high-skills-majors/>

Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP)



This program allows students to earn credits towards an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) while training as a registered apprentice.

Students register for this program through their high school guidance counsellor, but must be at least 16 years old and have completed 16 credits towards their OSSD to be eligible for the program.

<http://gooyap.ca/>

Grade 9 Information Nights



Home Schools

Huron Wednesday, December 4th
6:30 p.m.

Cameron Wednesday, January 15th
7:00 p.m.

Specialty (Magnet) Programs

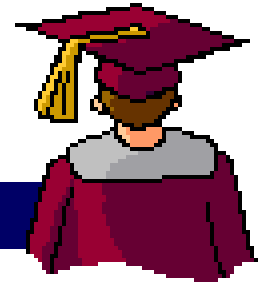
Cameron *International Baccalaureate program*
Tuesday, November 26th – 7:00 p.m.

KCI *Fast Forward program*
Wednesday, January 8th - 7:00 p.m.

Eastwood *Integrated Arts Program and ESL*
Thursday, December 5th - 6:30 p.m.

FHCI *English Language Learners (ESL) only*
Thursday, January 9th - 6:30 p.m.

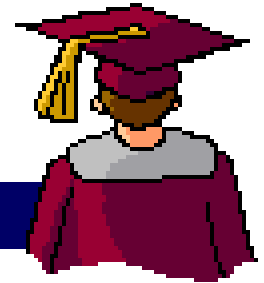
Ontario Secondary School Diploma



1. 30 credits are required to earn your OSSD (Ontario Secondary School Diploma)
 - 18 compulsory credits
 - 12 optional credits
2. Community Involvement – 40 hours
3. Literacy Requirements – Ontario Literacy Test (written in grade 10)

* note: the “34 credit threshold” takes effect Sept. 2013, but does not apply to ESL students or students with an IEP

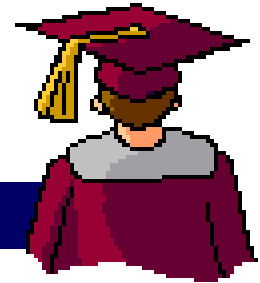
Ontario Secondary School Diploma



18 Compulsory Credits:

- ✓ 4 English (1 per grade)
- ✓ 1 French
- ✓ 3 Math (at least one in grade 11 or 12)
- ✓ 2 Science (gr. 9 & 10)
- ✓ 1 Canadian Geography (gr. 9)
- ✓ 1 Canadian History (gr. 10)
- ✓ 1 Arts
- ✓ 1 Health and Physical Education
- ✓ 0.5 Career Studies / 0.5 Civics (gr. 10)

Ontario Secondary School Diploma



18 Compulsory Credits (cont'd):

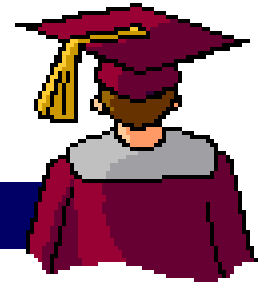
you must choose 1 additional credit from each of these 3 areas

- 1** English
French** or a Third Language
Social Sciences
Cdn / World Studies
Guidance and Career
Education
Cooperative Education *
- 2** Health & Phys. Ed.
Arts
Business
Cooperative Education *
French as a Second Language **
- 3** Science (gr. 11 or 12)
Technological Education
Computer Studies
Cooperative Education *
French as a Second Language **

* a maximum of **two** Cooperative Education courses may be taken to fulfill compulsory requirements

** a maximum of two French as a Second Language courses can count as compulsory credits

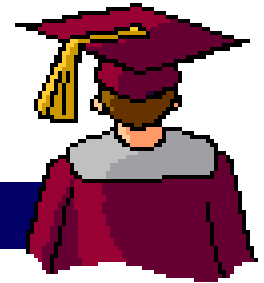
Ontario Secondary School Diploma



12 Optional Credits – choose from courses such as ...

- ✓ Travel and Tourism (gr. 11)
- ✓ World History to the 16th Century (gr. 11)
- ✓ Canadian History and Politics Since 1945 (gr. 11)
- ✓ Understanding Canadian Law (gr. 11)
- ✓ Canadian and World Issues (gr. 12)
- ✓ The Environment and Resource Mgmt (gr. 12)
- ✓ Classical Civilization (gr. 12)
- ✓ Spanish
- ✓ Latin

Ontario Secondary School Diploma



12 Optional Credits – choose from courses such as ...

- ✓ Food and Nutrition (gr. 9)
- ✓ Individual, Family and Social Living (gr. 9)
- ✓ Living and Working with Children (gr. 11)
- ✓ Fashion and Creative Expression (gr. 11)
- ✓ Intro. to Anthropology, Psychology and Sociology (gr. 11)
- ✓ World Religions (gr. 11)
- ✓ Philosophy: The Big Questions (gr. 11)
- ✓ Integrated Technologies (gr. 9)
- ✓ Medical Technologies (gr. 12)
- ✓ Computer Engineering (gr. 10, 11, 12)

Course Types



Grades 9 & 10

- ✓ Academic
- ✓ Applied
- ✓ Essential
- ✓ Open

Grades 11 & 12

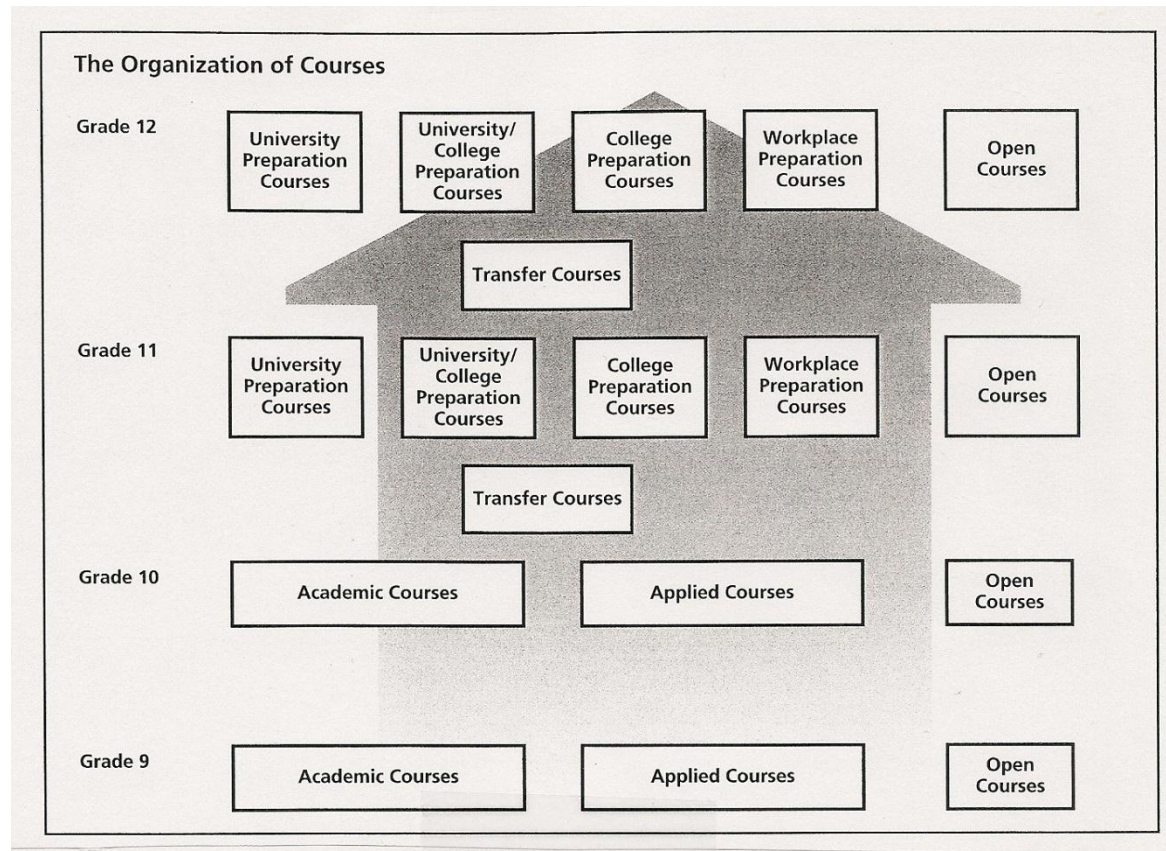
- ✓ University
- ✓ University / College
- ✓ College
- ✓ Workplace
- ✓ Open

Post-Secondary Destinations



- ✓ University
- ✓ College
- ✓ Apprenticeship and Skilled Trades
- ✓ On-the-Job Training and Work

The Organization of Courses – Grades 9 - 12



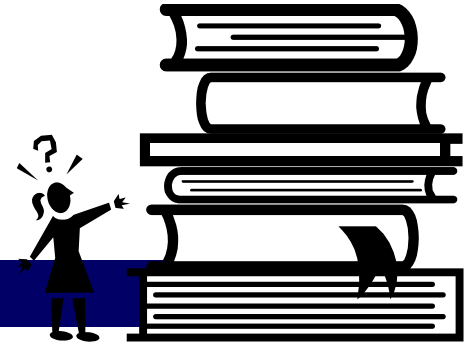
Decisions to be Made for Grade 9 (part I)



Compulsory Course Level Decisions

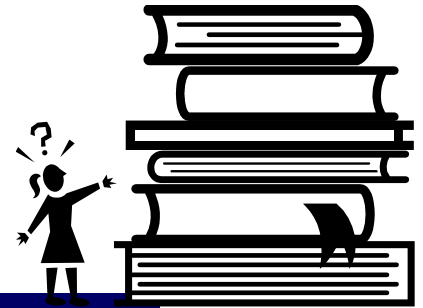
- **English, Math, and Science**
 - Academic or Applied or Essential
- **Geography, French**
 - Academic or Applied

Academic Courses



- ✓ offered in core areas: Math, English, Science, French, Geography
- ✓ cover essential concepts **plus** additional material
- ✓ greater emphasis on **THEORY** as a basis for future learning and problem solving
- ✓ focus on **ABSTRACT** applications of essential concepts
- ✓ prepare students for university and college level courses in grades 11 and 12

Applied Courses



- ✓ offered in core areas: Math, English, Science, French, Geography
- ✓ focus on the essential concepts
- ✓ emphasize **PRACTICAL** and **CONCRETE** applications
- ✓ relate to familiar real-life situations and provides students with the opportunity for **HANDS-ON APPLICATION** of the concepts they learn
- ✓ prepare students for college, apprenticeship and skilled trades, and workplace courses in grades 11 and 12

Essential Courses



- ✓ designed to assist students who require additional academic support in specific subject areas to meet diploma requirements
- ✓ locally developed courses in Math, Science and English in grades 9 and 10
- ✓ prepare students for workplace level courses in grades 11 and 12

Open Courses



- ✓ have a set of expectations that is suitable for all students at a given grade level
- ✓ provides students with a broad educational base
- ✓ e.g. Arts, Phys. Ed., Family Studies, Technological Education, Cooperative Education

Choosing a Level: Academic, Applied or Essential?

ACADEMIC:

- ✓ 70% or higher
- ✓ strong work habits

APPLIED:

- ✓ 50% - 70%
- ✓ work habits may be weak

ESSENTIAL:

- ✓ working below grade level in most / all areas
- ✓ on an IEP and may also have an IPRC
- ✓ have struggled with numeracy & literacy for a period of time
- ✓ only available at certain schools (KCI, SJAM, JHSS, GRCI, GCI)
- ✓ will be recommended by teachers / guidance contact



Decisions to be Made for Grade 9 (part II)



choose 3 from a variety of Elective (Open) Courses,
such as:

- **ADA 10I** Dramatic Arts
- **AMI 10I** Instrumental Music (experienced)
- **AMI 10X** Instrumental Music (beginner)
- **AMV 10I** Vocal/Choral Music
- **AVI 10I** Visual Arts
- **ATC 10I** Dance
- **BBI10I** Introduction to Business
- **BTT 10I** Intro to Information Tech. in Business
- **PPL 10X** Healthy Active Living Education (females)
- **PPL 10Y** Healthy Active Living Education (males)
- **TTI 10I** Integrated Technologies

Course Selection Process



- Details are pending, but all course selections will be done via an on-line portal starting in mid-February
- Teacher recommendations will be visible while making student course selections
- Stay tuned for further information that will come home with Term 1 Report Cards (on Feb. 10th)



More Information Available...

Course and Program Information

Common Course Calendar:

http://www.wrdsb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2012/07/2013_2014-WRDSB_CCC-Feb13.pdf

Secondary School Information

<http://www.wrdsb.ca/programs/secondary-school-information/>

Timelines



December – January

- ✓ open houses / information sessions at high schools

January

- ✓ applications for magnet programs are due
(*Fast Forward, I.B., Arts*)
- ✓ Principal to Principal transfer requests due Mon., Feb. 3rd

February

- ✓ course selection information goes home (with Report Cards) on Monday, Feb. 10th and MUST be completed by Friday, Feb. 28th

Timelines



Early March

- ✓ acceptance letters for Magnet Programs sent out

Late Spring

- ✓ transition meetings with high schools
- ✓ orientation sessions at high schools for grade 8 students

Frequently Asked Questions



1. Will there be an opportunity to switch courses (e.g. applied → academic) during the grade 9 year?

Not likely, due to timetable constraints.

2. Is it possible to change course types from Grade 9 to Grade 10?

Yes. This is easier for courses such as English or Geography, but more difficult for Math.

Frequently Asked Questions



3. What happens when a student / parent chooses a different course type than that recommended by teachers / guidance?

Final decisions rest with the students/parents.

4. Does the student have to take all the same type of course?

No, students can select different course types depending on their strengths (i.e. academic math, applied English)

Frequently Asked Questions



5. Can my child attend a school other than their home school?

Only if they are applying for and are accepted into a specialized program (i.e. Arts, IB, Fast Forward). “Principal-to-Principal Transfer Requests” may be approved if there are exceptional personal circumstances to support the transfer request, which is in turn supported by documentation from an appropriate source (i.e. doctor, professional counsellor, etc.)

http://staff.wrdsb.ca/policyprocedure/?page_id=4426

QUESTIONS?



Laurentian Sr. P.S. 519-578-6160

<http://www.wrdsb.ca/programs/secondary-school-information/>

- ✓ **Karen Moore** ***Guidance Contact***
519-570-8098 x8365

- ✓ **Jeff Adam** ***Vice-Principal***

- ✓ **Sandy Dawson** ***Principal***