

# 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:
  - WCI,
  - KCI or
  - Bluevale



# Ontario Secondary School Diploma

- 30 credits are required to earn your OSSD (Ontario Secondary School Diploma)
  - 18 compulsory credits
  - 12 optional credits
- Community Involvement – 40 hours
- 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
- <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/extra/eng/ppm/graduate.html>



# Ontario Secondary School Diploma

- 18 Compulsory Credits:
  - 4 English (1 per grade)
  - 1 French
  - 3 Math (at least one in gr.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)
  
- <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/extra/eng/ppm/graduate.html>
- <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/extra/eng/ppm/graduate.pdf>



# 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 & 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**
  - emphasize theory and abstract problems.
- **Applied**
  - focus on practical applications and concrete examples.
- **Open**
  - prepare you for further study in certain subjects and enrich your education generally.
- **Note:** You may change course type when you move from a Grade 9 course to a Grade 10 course. For example, if you complete Grade 9 applied science, you may take Grade 10 academic science.

## GRADES 11 & 12

- **University**
  - to meet the entrance requirements for university programs.
- **University/College**
  - to meet the entrance requirements for specific programs offered at universities and colleges.
- **College**
  - to meet the entrance requirements for most college programs or apprenticeship and other training programs.
- **Workplace**
  - to meet the expectations of employers or the requirements for admission to certain apprenticeship and other training programs.
- **Open**
  - Open courses may not be designed for specific requirements of universities, colleges, or the workplace.



# Post-Secondary Destinations

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



# Decisions to be Made for Grade 9

## Compulsory Course Level Decisions

- English, Math, and Science
  - Academic or Applied
  
- 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
- Guideline: Careful consideration of the student's ability



# 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

**Guideline: Careful consideration of the student's ability**



# 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



# Decisions to be Made for Grade 9

**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

- All course selections will be done via an on-line portal (Feb. 26th to March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015)
- Login to '[My Way](#)' at home, review teacher recommendations, discuss course selection with child, then input information at school with assistance from MacGregor and high school guidance staff (March 4th)
  - <https://myway.wrdsb.ca/>



# MyWay Instructions

*Step by step instructions on how to use the WRDSB online course selection tool called MyWay.*

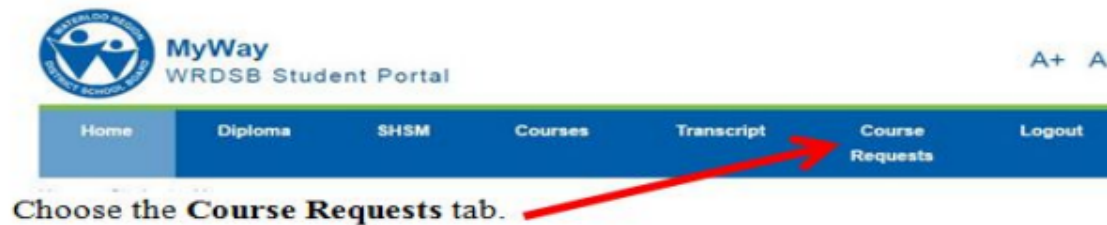
**Step 1:** Go to *MyWay*



(<https://myway.wrdsb.ca/>)

**Step 2:** Login using your **school connect** username and password.

**Step 3:**



<https://myway.wrdsb.ca/Docs/Grade8MyWayStudentInstructions.pdf>

# MyWay Instructions

## **Step 4:**

Choose the appropriate options for you.

### Student destination

- I will be returning to this School Board
- I will be entering university in September
- I will be entering college in September
- I plan to enter college or university at a later date
- I will be going to work or starting an apprenticeship in September
- I will be moving to another School Board in September

### Are you registered for any of the following?

- None
- Integrated Arts
- International Baccalaureate
- English as a second language
- Fast Forward
- French (Extended)
- French (Immersion)
- Strings

Next

# MyWay Instructions

## Step 5:

Course Type:  Regular  Online/E-Learning  Dual Credits/OYAP  Native  Other

Grade:  Grade 09  Grade 10  Grade 11  Grade 12

Course:

### Course Requests

	ID	Program	Course	Course Type	Title	Value	Alternate	Recommended
<input type="button" value="Delete"/>	126	Academic	CGC1DI	Day	Geography of Canada	1.00		NA
<input type="button" value="Delete"/>	125	Academic	ENG1DI	Day	English	1.00		NA

Courses: 2 Credits: 2 Alternate Courses: 0 Alternate Credits: 0

Selected magnet programs: None.

Grade 9 students must choose a total of 8 credits.  
5 compulsory credits:  
✓ Canadian Geography  
✓ English  
French  
Mathematics  
Science

3 elective credits:  
Elective  
Elective  
Elective

Choose your courses from the **drop-down menu**.

Click **Add Course**

The course text will turn colour as you choose the recommended courses.

**Green:** You have chosen the course type (academic, applied, essential) recommended for you.

**Yellow:** You have chosen a different course type than your teacher recommended.

**Red:** Contact your teacher for help.

**Step 6:** Under the menu bar click on “[Printer friendly version](#)”

**Step 7:** Print off your **Course Request** sheet and **return** a signed copy to your teacher

**Step 8:** **Logout** (right side of menu bar)





# Frequently Asked Questions

- ***Will there be an opportunity to switch courses (e.g. applied → academic) during the grade 9 year?***
  - Not likely, due to timetable constraints.
- ***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

- ***What happens when a student / parent chooses a different course type than that recommended by teachers / guidance?***
  - Final decisions rest with the students/parents.
- ***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

- ***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](http://staff.wrdsb.ca/policyprocedure/?page_id=4426)



# QUESTIONS?

**MacGregor P.S. 519-885-6200**

Bryan Rankine or Leslie Donald

## **Guidance Contacts**

519-885-6200

**Michael Martin, *Principal***

**Brian Weigel, *Vice-Principal***

Information can also be found at:

<http://mcg.wrdsb.ca/about/grade-8-high-school-transition/>

