

Welcome to Grade 8 Night

Transition from Grade 8 to Grade 9

We are West!

LEARNING RESPONSIBILITY RESPECT

Grade 8 to Grade 9

- **Today:** Grade 8 Orientation at West – information about the West Carleton family and a “timetable tour” to become familiar with the school and staff
- **Tonight:** - Grade 8 Night
- Guidance counsellors visit grade 8 students at their schools the last week of January to introduce course selection
- Grade 9 BBQ in August
- Link Crew
- Grade 9 Interview with guidance counsellor in Semester 1 and LST if an identified student

Grade 8 Night & Open House

The purpose of this evening is:

- to introduce you to WEST and provide you with information so you and your child can make informed decisions about his/her courses for grade 9,
- to give you an overview of the high school experience.

Important Resource

The *Secondary School Course Guide* is available at:
www.ocdsb.ca

Click on “Students” to find it in the drop menu.

The *Course Guide* has helpful info regarding:

- Graduation requirements
- Types of courses
- Pathways
- Special education
- Course codes and descriptions

About community hours:

- Your child can start earning these hours as soon as he/she has completed Grade 8,
- Community service hours must:
 - not be for profit
 - benefit the whole community
 - not replace/displace a paid worker

About the Literacy Test:

- It's written in the Spring of your student's grade 10 year,
- The date cannot be deferred. If your child misses it, they must wait until the next year to write it.

Types of Courses (Grades 9 & 10)

“O” for Open Courses

“P” for Applied Skills Courses

“D” for Academic Skills Courses

“L” for Locally Developed Courses

Note:

- These letters are seen at the fifth position of each course code. For example, the code for Grade 9 Academic English is ENG1D.
- Students can take a mixture of courses.

Types of Courses (continued)

- Open: one set of expectations for the subject, appropriate for all students in a given grade; designed to provide students with a broad educational base that will prepare them for their studies in Grades 11 and 12 and for productive participation in society;
- Academic: emphasis on theory and abstract thinking incorporating practical applications where appropriate, faster pace, university/college pathway. Student should be a strong independent learner;

Types of Courses (continued)


- Applied: focus is on essential concepts with some theory but more practical, hands-on learning, slower pace, college/apprenticeship/world of work pathways;
- Locally Developed: developed to meet students' educational needs not met by the existing provincial curriculum. Additional locally developed courses may be approved for OCDSB schools in the future.

French Immersion


- Ten of the 30 credits must be in French; this includes the French Immersion course in all 4 grades: FIF1D, FIF2D, FIF3U, FIF4U
- Most of the French credits are available in grades 9 and 10 so that by the end of grade 10, immersion students will already have 8 of the 10 required French credits

Grade 8 Teacher Recommendations

Please consider the recommendations from your child's grade 8 teacher to help you make the best decision in regard to choosing Academic or Applied courses, and continuing in French Immersion.

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Career Cruising: Course Planner

- An interactive tool for career exploration and course selection;
 - All grades use this tool for course selection;
 - When we visit your child's school at the end of January we will be going through Career Cruising with them in detail.
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Course selection for Grade 9

Students will choose 8 courses:

- 7 COMPULSORY courses: English, Math, Geography, Science, French, Physical Education, and one Art; and
- 1 ELECTIVE course: an additional Art or Business or Integrated Technology or Communications Technology

Students will also be asked for two alternates.

Students with IEPs

- Ms Hare and Ms Anderson will be available during the open house portion of our evening in room 121 to discuss students who have been identified as exceptional learners
 - They will be running a presentation immediately following this presentation
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- A decorative graphic at the bottom of the slide showing a range of stylized mountains in various shades of teal and blue, extending from the right side towards the center.

Check our website in January

Go to: www.westcarletonss.ocdsb.ca

We will post detailed instructions to navigate Career Cruising for course selection so you can support your child as they begin to choose their high school courses

Tonight's Open House

Please tour the school and ask questions about our facilities, courses and programs for your student starting in grade 9 through to grade 12. Ask about:

- Co-op, SHSMs
- ICP – International Certificate Program
- Physical Education including Outdoor Education, Personal Fitness, climbing wall, team sports
- Fine Arts, Technology and Hospitality
- Subject areas: Math, Science, English, French, Language, Social Sciences, and so on...

Student Services/Guidance

If you have specific questions regarding course selection, graduation requirements, pathways or registration, we will be in the Guidance Office for the duration of the Open House.

The Guidance Office is located next to the Main Office.

A stylized silhouette of a mountain range in shades of teal, located in the bottom right corner of the slide.

Thank you for attending,
and enjoy your evening!

