

TDSB Secondary School Information Guide

beyond 8

Creating Pathways to Success



Use these 4 question to:

- Discover interests
- Explore opportunities
- Create future goals
- Construct a plan

Diploma Requirements

An Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) requires the completion of:

- a minimum of 30 credits, including 18 compulsory and 12 optional
- 40 hours of community involvement activities
- the literacy requirement

The 18 compulsory credits are:

- 4 English, one per grade level
- 1 French as a Second Language
- 3 Mathematics, at least one in Grade 11 or 12
- 2 Science
- 1 Canadian Geography
- 1 Canadian History
- 1 Arts (dance, drama, media, music, visual arts)
- 1 Health and Physical Education
- 0.5 Civics
- 0.5 Career Studies

Plus one credit from each of the following groups:

Group 1: additional credit in English or French as a Second Language* or a third language or Social Sciences and the Humanities or Canadian and World Studies or Guidance and Career Education or Cooperative Education*

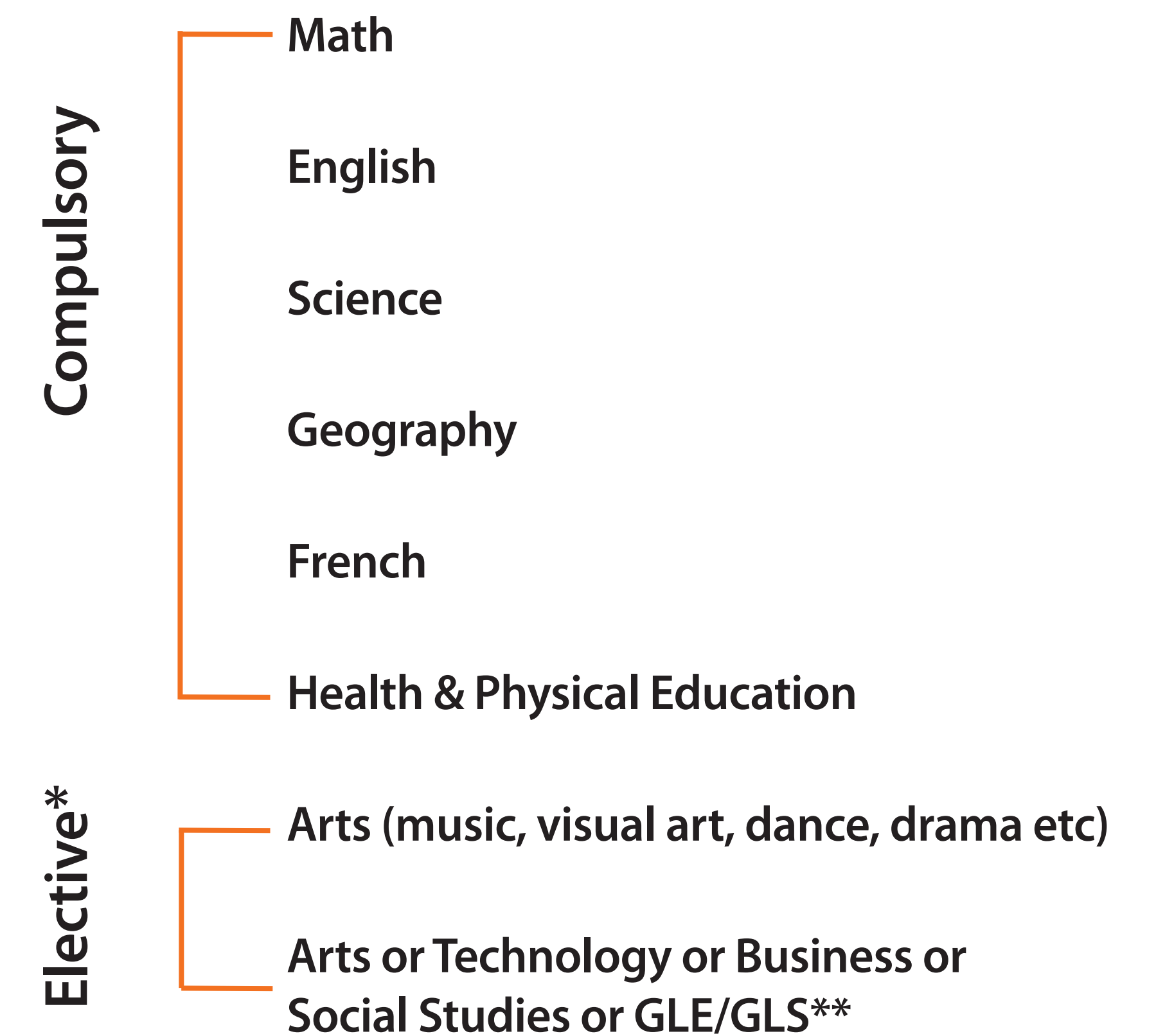
Group 2: additional credit in Business Studies or French as a Second Language* or Health and Physical Education or Arts or Cooperative Education*

Group 3: a Grade 11 or 12 Science credit or French as a Second Language* or Technological Education or Computer Studies or Cooperative Education*

* A maximum of two credits in Co-operative Education and two credits in French can count as compulsories

Semestered and Full-Year Schools

- Secondary schools are generally organized on either a full-year model (non semestered) or a half-year (semestered)
- Students in full year, non semestered secondary school usually study eight courses from September to June: The year is divided into two or three terms for reporting and examination purposes.
- Students in a half-year semestered secondary school usually study four courses from September to January and four courses from February to June with examinations and reports at the end of each semester.



* Electives available vary depending on the school. Make sure you check myBlueprint for possible courses

** Full credit course available for students to improve learning skills and provide subject support. GLE is an option for students with an IEP. GLS is offered to students not on an IEP.

Home School

- High school based on student's home address
- any student can attend their home school
- there is no registration form home schools, only submitting course selection on time

Optional Attendance

- May apply for up to 2 schools that are not the student's home school, for regular programming
- Parent/guardian delivers optional attendance form to the high school by due date
- If the school has space, students will be accepted.
- Optional attendance schools do not require criteria

Specialized Programs/Schools

- May apply for up to 2 programs/schools
- Acceptance based on criteria created by the high school
- Parent delivers optional attendance form and school specific applications to school by school set due dates
- Parents and students are responsible for ensuring all requirements of the program are met

Students with Exceptionalities

- Parents/ Guardians should attend IPRC review meetings to:
- Investigate appropriate decisions about gr. 9
 - Find specialized school program information
 - Begin planning a pathway toward completion of secondary school

Grade 8 Transition Year

September

- Curriculum/Meet the Teacher Nights

October

- Elementary "Beyond 8" Information Nights

November

- Secondary School Information Evenings start
- Parent Teacher interviews

December

- Secondary School Information Evenings Continue

January

- Secondary School Information Evenings Continue

February

- Optional Attendance (OA) Forms are due to high schools
- Confirmation of OA and specialized program received by student
- Signed course selection forms due to the elementary school

March

- Parent/ teacher interviews

May/June

- Transition meeting between elementary and secondary schools
- Community involvement information delivered



Who Am I

Six comprehensive interest and career assessments



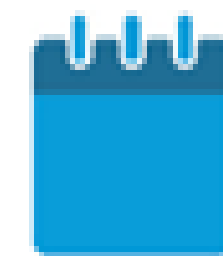
Goal Setting

Create S.M.A.R.T. goals and a plan of action to stay on track



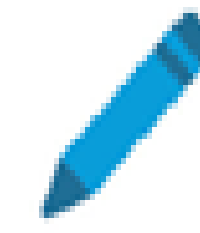
Resumes & Cover Letters

Record experiences and export them for school or work



High School Plan

Plan to graduate and discover the impact of course selections



Post-Secondary

Research the opportunities available in every pathway



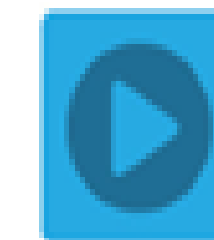
Occupations

Compare extensive information on careers across Canada



Budgets

Improve financial literacy and build an interactive budget



Portfolios

Upload and share photos, files, and videos to multiple portfolios

Course Selection

Log in create an account to complete online course selection



Submit Courses

Important web sites:

www.myBlueprint.ca/tdsb

www.tdsb.on.ca/beyond8

www.tdsb.on.ca/findyourschool

Grade 9 Program

The grade 9 program is chosen from a variety of course types that include Applied, Academic, Locally Developed Compulsory Credit Courses, and Open.

Academic courses cover the core content and have an emphasis on the theoretical aspects of the content.

Applied courses cover the core content and have an emphasis on practical application.

LDCC courses are available in math, science, and English. They are ideal for students who need more support in one or more of these subjects.

In addition, some courses are Open courses. The emphasis in these courses is the same for all students. Arts, business, technical courses are all examples of open courses.

Important Dates for 2019-20

January 31
Optional attendance forms due at secondary school

February 14
Deadline for parents/guardians to be informed of the status of the application request

February 21
Course selection sheets due to elementary school

For more information and support please contact your Elementary Itinerant Guidance Counsellor