

Ready For Nine: Secondary School Information

O.S.S.D. — Ontario Secondary School Diploma

- 30 credits – 110 hours each
- 18 compulsory subjects
- 12 elective or optional subjects
- 40 hours of community involvement
- Provincial Secondary School Literacy Test
- Grades 9 & 10 have Academic, Applied, Locally Developed, and Open courses
- Grades 11 & 12 courses are chosen based on student's destination (Workplace, College, University)

Compulsory Credits – (18)

- 4 English/Français – one credit per grade
- 1 French as a Second Language/English/Anglais
- 3 Mathematics – at least one in grade 11 or 12
- 2 Science
- 1 Canadian Geography
- 1 Canadian History
- 1 Arts (Dance, Dramatic Arts, Music, Visual Arts)
- 1 Health and Physical Education
- 0.5 Civics and 0.5 Career Studies
- 1 Additional English or a third language or a Social Science or an additional Canadian and World Studies
- 1 Business Studies or an additional Physical Education or an additional Arts
- 1 Grade 11 or 12 Science or Grade 9-12 Technology

Choosing my program – Applied/Academic/Locally Developed

Applied and **Academic** courses offer similar core content. The main difference between them is the method of delivery. Both Applied and Academic courses in Grade 9 will prepare students for either type of course in Grade 10. English, Mathematics, Science, Geography, and French are available as either Academic or Applied courses. Students will be able to “crossover” from Academic courses to Applied courses and from Applied courses to Academic courses in Grade 10. There is half credit course required when crossing over from Applied to Academic Mathematics. You may choose courses from both programs to complete your school year. Both the Academic and Applied courses count as compulsory credits.

Locally Developed Compulsory Credits (Essential) courses were developed to for students have gaps in their foundation knowledge of the curriculum. These courses are offered in Math, English, and Science.

Academic

- for independent students who developed a strong foundation in the knowledge and skills of the subject
- develop students' knowledge and skills through the study of theory and abstract problems

Applied

- relate to familiar real-life situations and provide hands-on applications of concepts being studied
- need some support from the teacher

Locally Developed/Essential

- for students with significant gaps in knowledge and skills in the specific discipline
- need a significant amount of support from the teacher

Open Courses

Open courses have the same set of expectations for all students. Physical Education, Arts, Civics and Career Education, Social Studies, Technology, and Business are available as Open courses.

Sample Plan to Obtain Your OSSD

<u>Grade 9</u>	<u>Grade 10</u>	<u>Grade 11</u>	<u>Grade 12</u>
English	English	English	English
Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics	_____
Science	Science	_____	_____
Ca. Geography	Ca. History	_____	_____
French	Civics/Careers	_____	_____
Phys. Education	_____	_____	_____
Arts	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
(one elective)	(3 electives)	(6 electives)	(5 electives)

Grade 8 students will need to make these decisions in January/February when they complete their Course Selection Sheets.

Semestered and Non-Semestered Schools

Semestered schools offer courses on a half-year basis. Generally, students will take 4 courses from Sept.-Jan. and another 4 courses from Feb. – June. The 4 subjects are taken daily for the semester.

Non-Semestered schools offer courses on a full year basis. Generally, students will take 8 courses for the whole year. Subjects are scheduled every other day.

Optional Attendance

Students have the opportunity to apply to two specialized programs and two regular programs outside your home school.

Specialized Programs

For information on Specialized Programs make sure to go to the school's open house. Application deadline dates, and the application process will be communicated at these sessions. It is important to adhere to deadline dates and understand what the application process entails. It may require the student to submit an essay, write a test, do an interview, etc. The student will definitely be required to submit their **GRADE 7 FINAL REPORT CARD** and their **GRADE 8 PROGRESS REPORT CARD**.

Regular Programs

Every school in the TDSB has a regular program. Students have the opportunity to apply to two regular programs outside their home school. In December, we will get a list of schools that are deemed "**closed**" and schools that are deemed "**limited**".

If a school is closed, students can not apply to it. If a school is deemed "limited", students apply to it by obtaining an optional attendance form from the Guidance Office at the elementary school. This form will need to be filled out at home. Once signed by a parent, Ms. Meghji will sign the forms and will give it back to students to deliver to the school they are applying to.

These forms are due to the high schools on **February 2, 2018**. It will be the parent's responsibility to deliver these completed forms to the high school they are applying to.

A lottery will be held and parents will be notified of status by **February 16, 2018**.