

WESTMOUNT'S
SELF-DIRECTED
SELF-PACED
PROGRAM





Westmount Administration

Principal – Angela Ferguson @wsmt_principal

Vice-Principal – Josh Connor (A-L) @Josh_Connor

Vice-Principal - John Northey (M-Z)

@VPhamwent



School Council Chair Hanif Dadani

<u>sc_westmount09@hotmail.com</u>
@WestmountSC



Guidance Counsellors

Ms. J. Currie

A-E

Mr. M. Armstrong

F-L

Ms. J. Nagpal

M-Q

Ms. H. Rex

R-Z



What we value...

Learning

Excellence

Self-advocacy

Student voice

Leadership

Communication

Equity



How is Westmount the same as other schools?

How is it different at Westmount?

How does the Westmount model

work?

What type of student is successful here?



What does grade 9 look like? What is the process for entry into Westmount?

How it's the same as other schools:

4 classes every day

Attend every day

Specialized programs

Same Ontario curriculum

Teachers for every class

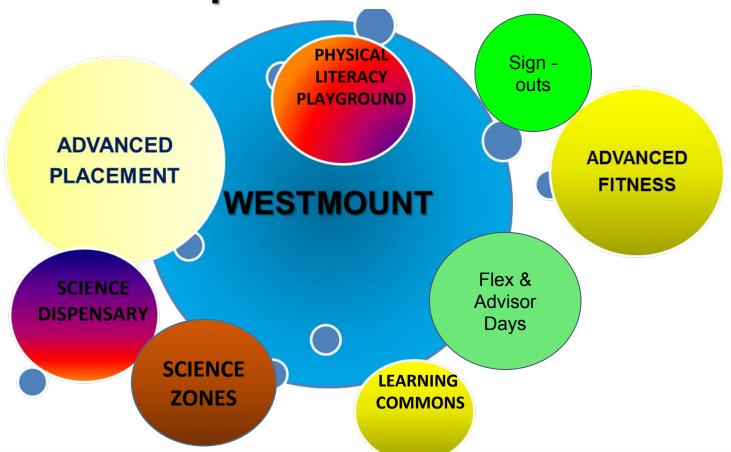
Enriched courses

Same Ontario diploma Full offering of clubs and teams

Online platforms



Other Unique Features of Westmount





How it's different from other schools:

Self-Direction

Choice of project

Choice of evaluation

Choice of learning environment

Self-Pacing

Fast track classes

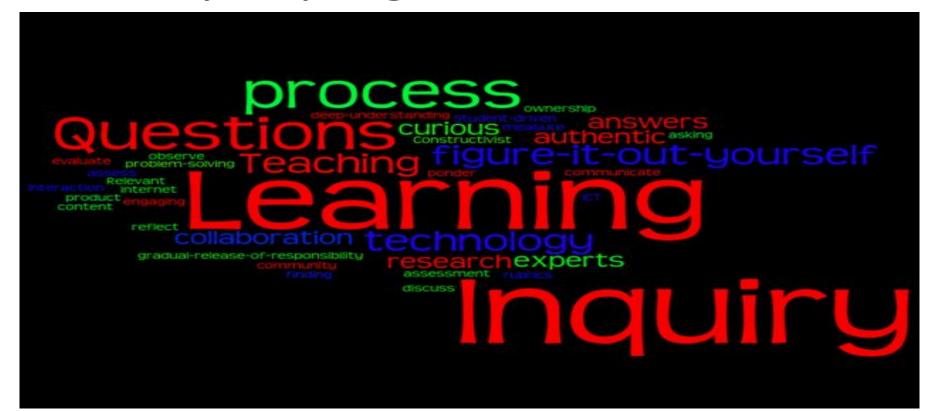
Work to your strengths Complete courses early

Self-Pacing

Take time to master learning Write tests when you are ready Organize time according to needs



Delivery of program





SELF-DIRECTED LEARNING

"...is important because it enables students to customize their approach to learning tasks, combines the development of skill with the development of character, and prepares them for learning throughout their lives."

Dr. Maurice Gibbons

The Self Directed Learning Handbook



How Do Students Self-Direct?

- Students collaborate with their teachers and determine how to demonstrate the expected learning
- Students do inquiries based on interest
- Teachers value student voice and choice



How Do Students Pace?

- Students may work to their strengths working faster in some subjects
- Students may also plan to take more time to be successful in a subject they find challenging
- Intentional in collaboration with teacher and parent



Supports in Self-Direction and Self-Pacing

 Teacher and technical support

LEARNING COMMONS

 Assists in academic planning

ADVISOR PROGRAM

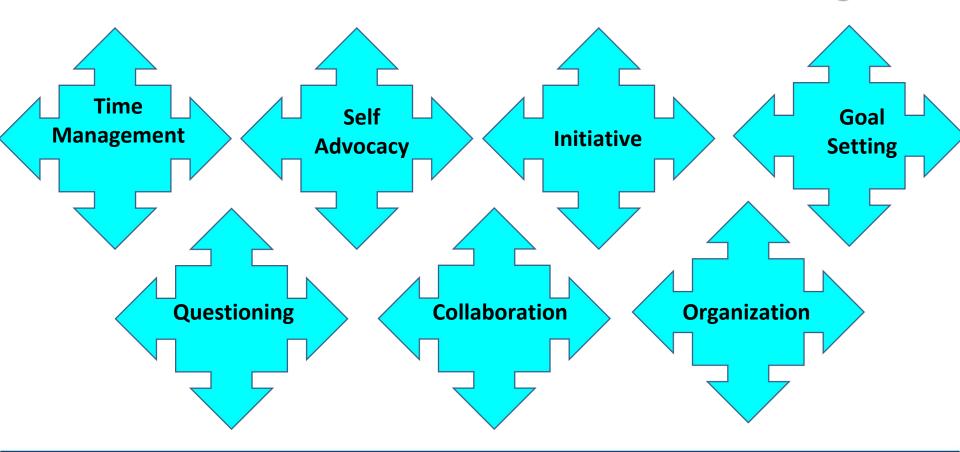
SIGN-OUTS

FLEX DAYS

 Some students may direct their learning to alternate settings Every 2 weeks set your schedule for optimal learning



Who Benefits from a Self-Directed, Self-Paced Program?





Westmount does support students with a variety of needs

- Self-Direction
- Self-Pacing
 - Advisor
 - Homework Club
 - Student Success
 - Learning Resource



STUDENTS ARRIVE **FROM OVER 50 ELEMENTARY** DIVERSE **SCHOOLS** Self-Directed The **Pursuit of** Excellence / **Culture of** Respect and Responsibility



What does Grade 9 Look Like?

Student Voices:

Pascal

Emma

Rana



A Week at a Glance

Attend class daily

Tests, group work,
Presentations take place <
In regular class

Full class lessons weekly

School teams, clubs, events, athletics

Students may have opportunities
to sign out of class and work on subjects
of their choice in other instructional
areas of the school



Compulsory courses for Grade 9 students

English Math Science Geography

All subjects include:

- Academic
- Applied
- Enriched

French

Phys-ed

- Academic
- Applied

- Open Male and Female
- Advanced Fitness

Students choose a class from each subject area (for more information on course descriptions



Elective Courses for Grade 9 students

Art:	S
	4rt:

- Beginner & Experienced Music
- Drama
- Visual Arts
- Vocal Music

Business

Information and communication technology

Humanities

Exploring Family Studies

Technology

Exploring Technologies

Languages

Latin

Choose two



Specialty Courses for Grade 9 students

Foundations of Inquiry

Advanced Fitness

- Inquiry model and strategies to support self-directed learning
- Co-ed course to support talented and competitive athletes

How to Become a Westmount Wildcat:

Important Dates:

December 2016 Grade 8 report card

January 19th, 2017 Grade 8 Option Sheet/Parent Info Night

January 27th, 2017 Final date for Notice of Intent to Attend

Final date for out of board applications

Attach Grade 8 Report Card

February 1st, 2017 Student/parent informed about entry

February 2017

HWDSB Grade 8 students enter option selections
in Career Cruising from home and return the course sign
sheet to Westmount.

All non HWDSB students will be sent an e-option sheet that they must return along with their registration package to the school.

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHO