Gr. 9 Option Sheet Information Night
January 17, 2019
Land Acknowledgement

The Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board acknowledges our presence on ancestral Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Confederacy land as determined by the Dish with One Spoon treaty.

The intent of this agreement is for all nations sharing this territory to do so responsibly, respectfully and sustainably in perpetuity.

We respect the long-standing relationships with the local Indigenous communities, the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation and the Six Nations of the Grand River.
Agenda

- Welcome message from administration
- Review of Westmount program
- Structure of high school
- Graduation requirements
- Grade 9 Courses
- Course Levels
- Post-secondary considerations
- Next steps for parents and students
- Questions
Structure of High School

- Generally a 4 year program
- Two semesters per year
- Four credits per semester
- Most students take 8 courses per year (many take a spare or two in senior grades)
Graduation Requirements

• 30 credits
• 18 compulsory courses
• 12 elective courses
• 40 hours of community involvement
• Provincial grade 10 literacy test (OSSLT)

Westmount can prepare our graduates for:

Apprenticeship
College
University
Work
## Required Courses by Grade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade 9</th>
<th>Grade 10</th>
<th>Grade 11</th>
<th>Grade 12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>Math</td>
<td>Math</td>
<td>OPTIONAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>OPTIONAL</td>
<td>OPTIONAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>OPTIONAL</td>
<td>OPTIONAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td>Civics/Careers</td>
<td>OPTIONAL</td>
<td>OPTIONAL</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical Ed.</td>
<td>OPTIONAL</td>
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Elective Courses

Most students will choose two elective courses. It is recommended that students take the compulsory arts credit (any course code starting with “A”) before the end of grade 10.

ADA1O1 – Dramatic Arts*
AMU1O1B – Music (Instrumental) Beginner*
AMU1O1 – Music (Instrumental) Experienced*
AMV1O1 – Vocal Music*
AVI1O1 – Visual Arts*
BTT1O1 – Information Technology in Business (G2)
HIF1O1 – Exploring Family Studies (G1)
TIJ1O1 – Exploring Technologies (G3)
PPL1O1T – Healthy Active Living Training
LWIBD1 – Italian (G1)

* If 2 “arts” credits are taken, the first course will be the compulsory arts credit, and the second course will count as a G2 compulsory credit.
Detailed Course Descriptions

Links to course descriptions can be found on the Westmount website.
http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/westmount/
## Program Delivery of Grade 9 Compulsory Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Options</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Enriched, Academic, Applied or Locally Developed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>Enriched, Academic, Applied or Locally Developed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>Academic or Applied</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td>Academic, Applied or Open*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Enriched, Academic, Applied or Locally Developed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phys. Ed.</td>
<td>Female, Male, Mindfulness or Sports Academy (Co-ed)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How should I choose my course delivery?
Open
Expectations appropriate for all students

Locally Developed
Expectations are geared to meet the learning needs of students who are not yet prepared for grade 9 applied level courses. Students should consult their Gr 8 teacher when considering Locally Developed courses.

Applied
Develop knowledge and skills with emphasis on practical applications
Students often are on a pathway to an apprenticeship, university, college, or work.
Program Delivery

Academic
- **Focus is on essential concepts as well as emphasis on theory and abstract thinking**
- **Builds a foundation of knowledge for future studies**
- **Often, students are considering university or college (although all pathways are open)**

Enriched
- **Academic curriculum with further extensions**
- **May be suited for students considering AP programs (in Gr 11 and 12), those who enjoy inquiry-based learning, or those identified as ‘gifted’ (note: no “enriched” indicator on transcript)**
# Sample Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Semester 1 (Sept-Jan)</th>
<th>Semester 2 (Feb-Jun)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1      | ADA1O1  
Dramatic Arts | ENG1D1E  
Enriched English |
| 2      | MFM1P1  
Applied Math | SNC1D1  
Academic Science |
| 3      | Lunch  | Lunch |
| 4      | FSF1D1  
Academic French | AMU1O1  
Music |
| 5      | CGC1D1  
Academic Geography | PPL1O1F  
Healthy Active Living |
E-learning options

- Information Technology in Business (BTT1O)
- Geography Academic (CGC1D), Geography Applied (CGC1P)
- English Academic (ENG1D), English Applied (ENG1P)
- French Academic (FSF1D), French Applied (FSF1P)
- Math Academic (MPM1D), Math Applied (MFM1P)
- Science Academic (SNC1D), Science Applied (SNC1P)
- Exploring Family Studies, Open (HIF1O1)

- Designed for independent learners who are self-starters
- Not part of the Westmount program – not self-paced/self-directed (has deadlines & no carryover option)
- Teachers are HWDSB teachers, not Westmount teachers
- Students will be scheduled into the Learning Commons to work on the elearning course
- A good option for students who require flexibility in the day due to other commitments or physical limitations
Advice from Current Student...

Jeneen
Students with an Individual Education Plan (IEP)

- IEP from HWDSB elementary follows to high school
- Students on IEPs assigned to Resource teacher by alpha (aligned with Guidance to support your child)
- Location: Learning Commons throughout the day
- Role: Support and advocate for students’ learning needs
- Parent/Student Information Night in September
- All students can access Learning Commons to receive additional support from LC staff
Starting in September, 2019, Westmount students can choose to earn their grade 9 Science and English credits together in an integrated way.
Our goal is to prepare students for success in their community and their careers by helping them build universal skills that will always be in demand:

- critical thinking
- creativity
- problem solving
- connecting diverse ideas
- collaboration
- finding joy in learning

Post-secondary schools and industry agree that the best approach for this kind of learning is to integrate subjects, and focus on forming connections between disciplines to achieve broad understanding of the world and how it works.
Why should a student choose this option?

Students who:

- **love science** can learn essential communication skills by applying them to the ideas of science that interest them.
- **love to read and write** can find meaning in the important ideas of science through stories and the history of science.
- really enjoy digging deeply into ideas can explore these ideas through substantial and **meaningful projects**.
- want the **flexibility and opportunity to choose** areas of interest to explore these topics from an integrated, cross-curricular lens.
Next Steps for Parents and Students

Thursday, January 24, 1:00 p.m. Notice of Intent to Attend due to Westmount Student Services office

Monday, February 4: Parents and elementary schools will be notified (via email)

February 13 - 20: HWDSB students enter options online (course selections). Non-HWDSB students fill in a paper option sheet and return it to Westmount
Next Steps for Parents and Students

Spring / Summer Events

Wednesday May 1, 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. Welcome Wildcats Day

Tuesday, August 27 and Wednesday, August 28: Two-Day Orientation for all Westmount Students

Information about upcoming events will be shared via email (the email address submitted on Notice of Intent)
Thank you!