



Westmount Secondary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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FaNovember 5, 2021

Dear Wildcats and Wildcat Families,

We hope that you are doing well.

Although it was a busy start up, as a school community we were able to successfully transition to a Quadmester model. As we near the last week of Quad 1, we wanted to outline what you can expect as we wrap up our first Quad and what this might look like for our students.

Key Calendar Dates

- November 8-9th –Grade 9 students taking math in Quad 1 will write the Grade 9 EQAO test.
- November 8th--Students are encouraged to submit their outstanding assignments/culminating tasks on this date.
- November 9th –Last day of class instruction. All students are expected to attend. Students on track are to confirm with their teachers that all work has been submitted and learning demonstrated. Students who are not finished the course work will receive a plan from their teachers outlining what needs to be completed and the timelines to do so.
- November 10-12th—Student Success Days. Further details of these days are outlined below.
- November 12th at noon—final day to submit outstanding work for Quad 1.
- November 15th—first day of Quadmester 2
- November 24-25—Students in Grade 11 will write the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test. Further communication will be shared once details are finalized.

Student Success Days

In place of our exam days, November 10-12th have been repurposed to support students as Student Success Days. These days are designed to support:

- Any students not on track to complete their courses
- Any students working towards course carry-over
- Any students on track who have not yet successfully demonstrated their learning of an Overall Expectation(s)

These students are expected to participate on Student Success days. Students and teachers should negotiate a learning plan to submit evidence of their learning for any course Overall Expectations not yet demonstrated.

Student Success days are structured to run from 8:40-11:10 am each morning and from 12:45-3:15 pm each afternoon with specific teacher times to meet with students. Students participating in Student Success Days will be working from home. Communication with teachers during these days will mostly be



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virtual/remote via MS Teams, email or phone calls. In rare situations, students may be asked to come in for a face to face meeting with their teacher.

Students who are on track to earn their credit and have successfully demonstrated their learning are not required to participate on these days.

Carry Over Process

Carry Over (CO) is a structure at Westmount that allow students to continue a course into semester 2 if the course is offered and there is space available in the class (or the following semester). Carry Overs are granted if students meet the unit count submission and if COs are agreed upon as the purposeful next step by teacher and student in their learning plan. Teachers will be completing carry-over forms over the next week and contacting students/parents and guidance counsellors as to who is eligible. Students are to contact their guidance counsellor to make necessary timetable changes to schedule a carry-over into semester 2. Class spots are limited so please do so as soon as possible. Wherever possible, courses could should be carried over in Quad two but please keep in mind spaces and courses may not be available for Quad 2 this semester.

Next Steps

As we wrap up our first quadmester, please remember:

- Students on track are to ensure they have connected with their teachers to confirm there are no outstanding evaluations that need to be submitted to demonstrate student learning.
- Students not on track who are working towards a carry-over or looking to repeat a course are to ensure they have connected with their teacher to create a learning plan outlining expectations for participation during Student Success Days. This includes time/method they will connect with their teacher(s) as well as what work needs to be completed for evaluation. Students should also connect with Guidance and/or Learning Resource for any timetable changes or supports that may be needed.
- As caregivers, connect with your students to celebrate their successes and support the areas where your child may need additional assistance. If you have any questions or concerns, please connect with your student's teachers, guidance counsellor, student success teacher or learning resource teacher.
- If students require an adjustment in their learning delivery, i.e., are returning to face to face learning from remote learning or are moving to remote learning from face to face learning, please connect with Student Services as soon as possible to make arrangements.



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- Parents/students do have access to their Quadmester 2 timetable through the parent portal. If you have issues with the parent portal, please contact the school.

Quadmester 2 Start-Up

Based on local Public Health restrictions, our Quadmester 2 will follow the same format and schedule as Quadmester 1.

Quad 2 Bell Schedule:

8:40-11:10 am	Period 1
11:10-12:45 pm	LUNCH
12:45-3:15 pm	Period 2

Students are still required to eat lunch in their designated areas if they choose to stay in the building. This is a Public Health requirement. Students are permitted to go out for lunch. Lunchtime activities/clubs are available for students to access indoors.

Homework Club will be launching soon. Please watch for further communications for dates/times as we continue to finalize arrangements.

We continue to wait for direction on our semester 2 model. We will keep our community updated as we learn more. Thank you for your ongoing support, patience and understanding as we continue to adapt to the ongoing changes.

Sincerely,

Ms. Geeta Malhotra
Principal