

HWDSB

Backgrounder

For Immediate Release

HWDSB Trustees Protect Select Courses for Students

Hamilton, Ontario – June 11, 2019: Trustees approved motions to allocate courses back to protect pathway programming for students. The courses were allocated on a school-by-school, as needed basis, and included: Co-op, English-as-a-Second Language (ESL), French-as-Second Language (FSL), Arts, University level, College level, and Workplace level courses.

Programs that will continue to run include all Specialist High Skills Majors (SHSM), International Baccalaureate (IB), ESL, and French Immersion as they need special facilities, equipment or funding. However, courses within these areas are offering less course options.

Areas of Concern and 173 Cancelled Courses Breakdown

All pathways (Apprenticeship, College, Community, University, and Work) were impacted by cancelled courses. Courses in the Arts, Canada and World Studies, and Humanities/Family Studies made up 91 of the 173 cancelled courses. The following is a breakdown of the program area where courses were cancelled:

- 29 Arts
- 11 Business
- 31 Canada and World Studies
- 11 English
- 6 French
- 2 Guidance Studies
- 31 Humanities/Family Studies
- 4 Interdisciplinary Studies
- 10 Languages (classical and modern)
- 8 Math
- 1 Native Studies
- 18 Physical Education
- 4 Science
- 7 Technological Studies

The greatest areas of concern during this process included:

- Grades 11 and 12 Core French had limited interest in some secondary schools
- Alternative Education programming for at-risk learners
- IB's restrictive requirements and small class sizes
- French Immersion requires a wide offering of electives while having robust class sizes
- Grade 12 college entrance Math and Sciences are often small in class size as this cohort needs these courses for their intended college programs
- SHSMs courses for students to complete the program and earn their seal on their diploma

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