

# Choices

for



## The Transition from Grade 8 to 9

Guidance Program & Services Department *Success for all Learners* 2015-2016

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# Goals For The Evening:

- To inform students how to make a smooth and successful transition from grade 8 to 9
- To assist parents and students in making informed choices for grade 9
- To raise student and parent awareness of the various program pathways available throughout the TDSB

Check out Education Planning at  
[www.tdsb.on.ca/goingtohighschool](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/goingtohighschool)



# Choices for 9

Ontario Secondary Schools  
a closer look

# Elementary vs. Secondary School

## Similarities

- Attendance is important
- Schools have dress code and code of conduct
- Respect for authority is an expectation
- Parents' participation is encouraged
- Good citizenship is required
- Participation in extra-curricular activities increases student engagement in school

## Differences

- If a student is unsuccessful in a course he/she may have to repeat it
- 4 periods (classes) a day – 2 in the morning & 2 after lunch
- Exam days
- Likely to have 4-8 different teachers
- Destination-based courses
- Semestered and non-semestered schools

# Credit System

- Once a course is passed, a credit is granted
- To pass a course one must achieve a level of 50% or higher
- Students are expected to take 8 courses a year
- To graduate from high school a student must earn 30 credits

# Ontario Secondary School Diploma (O.S.S.D.)

- **Total of 30 course credits** (110 hours per credit)
  - 18 compulsory courses
  - 12 elective courses (options)
- **40 hrs. Community Involvement**
  - Begins in summer after Grade 8
- **Ontario Literacy Requirement**
- **Written Test in Grade 10 (OSSLT)**

## Semestered

- Courses offered on a half-year basis
- 8 subjects in 2 blocks:
  - 4 subjects (Sept. to Jan.)
  - 4 subjects (Feb. to June)
- 4 subjects daily for 1 semester

## Non-Semestered

- Courses are offered on a full year basis
- 8 subjects for the year (Sept. to June)
- Subjects often scheduled every other day

# Course Types in Grade 9 and 10:

- Applied
  - Academic
    - Locally Developed Compulsory Credit (LDCC)
      - Open
        - Non-credit courses



# Academic and Applied

## **Academic Courses**

Cover the core content and have an emphasis on the theoretical aspects of the content

## **Applied Courses**

Cover the core content and have an emphasis on practical applications

# What is an Open Course?

- Learning expectations are the same for all students
- Designed to prepare students for further study and to enrich general education in a subject
- Can be counted as compulsory or elective credits
- Grade 9 Open Courses Include:
  - Arts** (Music, Visual Arts, Drama, Dance)
  - Business**
  - Guidance** (Learning Strategies)
  - Exploring Technologies**
  - Physical Education**

# Locally Developed Compulsory Credits

- For students with gaps in knowledge and skills in the specific discipline
- Ideal for students who need support with the curriculum content in grade 9
- Students who require **K** courses or **Locally Developed Compulsory Credit Courses** or who require significant **modification** to their program will be assisted in investigating programs/schools that provide a full array of supports and services to meet their unique needs

# Making Your Choice

<b>Grades 9 and 10</b>	<b>Grades 11 and 12</b>
Applied Academic Locally Developed Open	College University Workplace Mixed

# English Language Learners

## ESL/ELD

- Prepare students for success in English and other courses
- ESL/ELD credits count as compulsory English credits (to a maximum of 3 credits)

# Special Education Support

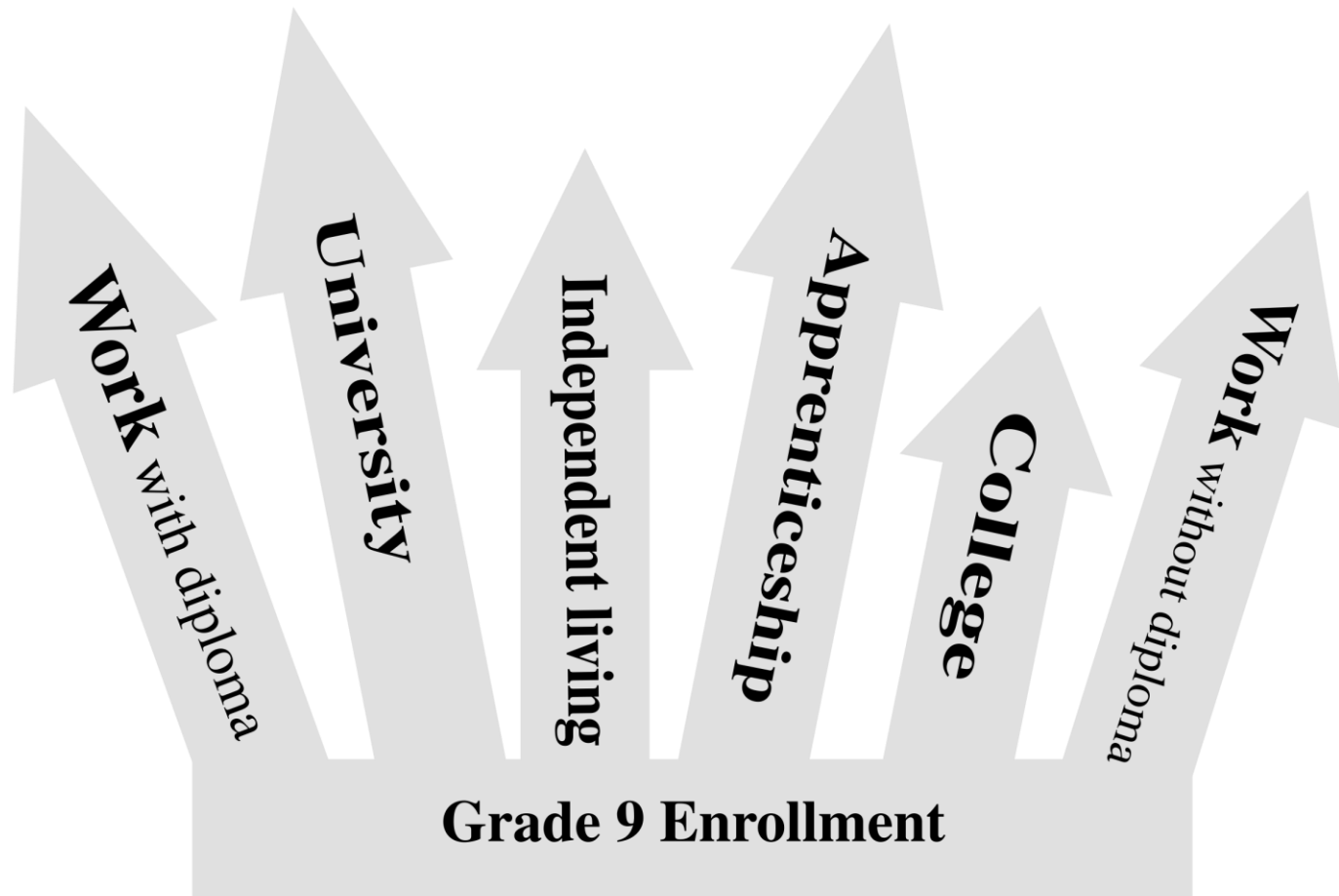
- Variety of programs in place to support students
- Not all schools have the same programs and supports
- IPRC Meetings held in December 2015 or January 2016 to discuss programming needs and secondary school options.
- Compulsory Credit substitutions are often available for general learning strategies courses

ER 11 will also host a Special Education information session available to help with understanding what Special Education looks like in high school.

# Course Selection -Sample Plan to Obtain OSSD

Year 1 Grade 9	Year 2 Grade 10	Year 3 Grade 11	Year 4 Grade 12
English	English	English	English
Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics	_____
Science	Science		_____
Geography	History		_____
French	Civics/Career		_____
HPE	_____	_____	_____
Arts (Drama, Music, etc.)	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

# Where do students go after secondary school?





# Accessing myBlueprint.ca



The screenshot displays the myBlueprint.ca website interface. At the top left, the logo reads "myBlueprint education planner". A navigation menu includes "Home", "Products", "Support", "About Us", "Blog", and "Contact". A "Free Trial" button is located in the top right corner. The main content area is divided into two primary sections: "Existing User" and "New User".

The "Existing User" section, highlighted in green, contains a lock icon, the text "Existing User", a text input field for "Your E-Mail Address", another for "Your Password", a "LOGIN" button, and a link for "Forgot your password?".

The "New User" section, highlighted in blue, features a star icon, the text "New User", a dropdown menu labeled "- Select Your School -", and a "CREATE ACCOUNT" button with a question mark icon.

Central text reads "myBlueprint is the easiest way to plan your education and career". Below this are two buttons: "HOW IT WORKS" (orange) and "GETTING STARTED" (dark grey). To the right, there are several educational icons including a laptop, a pie chart, a speech bubble, a clock, a lightbulb, a book, and a checkmark.

At the bottom, a testimonial is enclosed in quotation marks: "With this program students are engaged in the process of setting goals, recording their activities and planning their future. - Education Forum Review".

A green arrow points to the "New User" section from the left side of the image.

[www.myBlueprint.ca/tdsb](http://www.myBlueprint.ca/tdsb)



## Key Message for Success

**Good start is critical  
for secondary school  
success**



# Choices for 9

## Optional Attendance Timelines TDSB

# Choices: Planning Guides



# Choices

for

# 9



A GUIDE FOR STUDENTS & PARENTS/GUARDIANS  
2014-2015



# LOTS OF CHOICE



# What should I consider???

Location.....proximity to home

Interests & learning style

Cost of travel

Goals

Extracurricular activities

**Academic history**

Programs offered

Recommendations by  
elementary school

**Courses available**

Travel time

**Support available**

# Information Nights at the High Schools

- Program and school specific information is shared
- Dates and Times of High School Information Nights are listed in the *Choices for Nine* brochure and posted on the TDSB website

[www.tdsb.on.ca/GoingtoHighSchool](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/GoingtoHighSchool)

# Home School(s)

- Home school(s) based on the student's residential address
- Home School applies only for regular programs (academic, applied, locally developed)



# Find Your School

Find your school by selecting how you want to search.

1

By Map »

Drag and drop the pointer on the map to your location.



2

By Address »

Fill in your address in the search box.



3

By School Name »

Browse by Alphabetical school listing.



# Optional Attendance

- Students are encouraged to attend the secondary school that serves their residential address
- Use an *Optional Attendance Application Form* when applying to a school other than your home school
- Forms available at Grade 8 school
- Specific information regarding Optional Attendance Procedures will follow in early January

[www.tdsb.on.ca/FindyourSchool/OptionalAttendance](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/FindyourSchool/OptionalAttendance)

# Optional Attendance (OA)

- Each student can apply to 2 regular and 2 specialized schools/programs under optional attendance
- Must be signed by Parent/Guardian first
- OA form is then brought to elementary counsellor to be signed

# Important Dates

## January

- List of “Closed” and “Limited” schools made available
- Optional Attendance forms can be submitted to secondary schools after list of closed or limited schools is published

**January 29th, 2016** Optional Attendance applications (for regular schools) are due to secondary schools – delivered by student/parent/guardian

# Specific Dates

## February

- **February 12th 2016**- Secondary schools will inform Optional Attendance applicants by this date
- **Mid to late February 2016** – Course Selection sheets completed and returned to elementary teacher/counsellor
- **February 29th, 2016**- All course selection sheets due to secondary schools – delivered by Elementary Counsellor
- Only **ONE** course selection sheet per student is submitted for **ONE** secondary school by the elementary school counsellor

# Information Nights at Specialized Schools

- To investigate specialized schools or programs, contact the specific school for admission requirements
- Other requirements may include auditions, tests, interviews, etc.
- Check **deadline dates** for application

# Making Your Choices: Choose Success!



# Life is a journey to discover who YOU are!

BLOG

GRADE EIGHT TO NINE TRANSITIONS

EDUCATIONAL AND CAREER PLANNING TOOLS

BULLYING PREVENTION



October 24th, 2013

10/24/2013

0 Comments

## Educational Planning Tool -MYBLUEPRINT

Grade 7 & 8 students will all soon be using an exciting education planning resource. MyBlueprint

## Archives

October 2013  
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## Categories





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- EDUCATIONAL AND CAREER PLANNING TOOLS
- BULLYING PREVENTION



- CHOICES FOR NINE
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October 24, 2013

Education

Grade 8

2013

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Archives

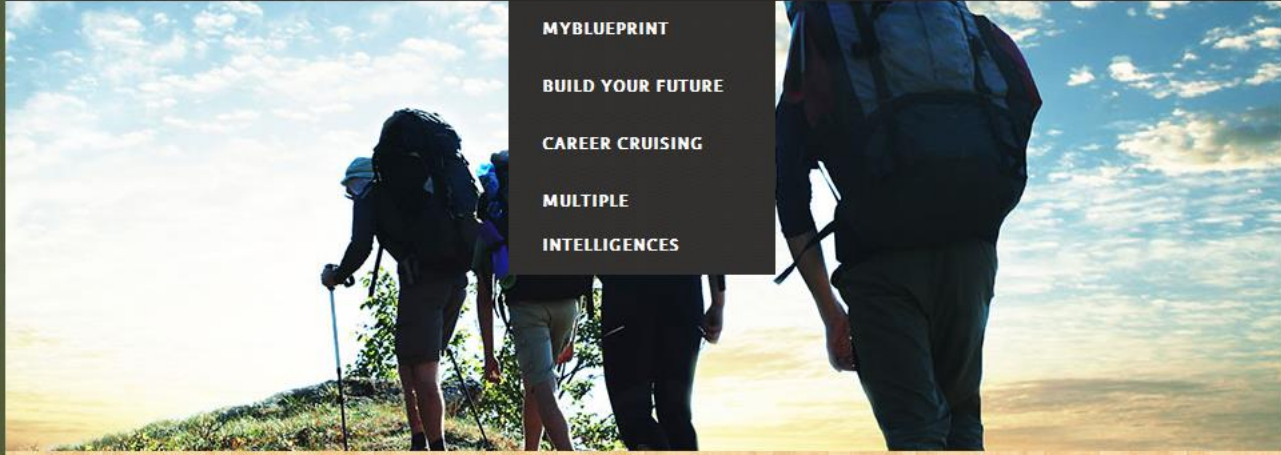
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- MYBLUEPRINT
- BUILD YOUR FUTURE
- CAREER CRUISING
- MULTIPLE INTELLIGENCES

October 24th, 2013

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Grade 7 & 8 students will all soon be using an exciting education planning resource. MyBlueprint Education Planner lets your child create an engaging and interactive education plan. They can build customized high school course plans, instantly identify the post-secondary options that are

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# QUESTIONS???

