

OPTION ADVICE SHEET

FOR THOSE ENTERING GRADE 10 IN SEPTEMBER 2021

The following questions and answers should help you when completing your myPath on-line course selections.

1. *How many courses do I take in Grade 10?*

You must take **Eight Courses** in Grade 10: **Six Compulsory** courses and **Two Elective** courses. The **Six Compulsory** courses include: **English, Religion, Career Studies/Civics, Math, Science and Canadian History**. Use the **Personal Planning Chart** that you were given to help you develop your course plan for Grade 10. To assist you in choosing your two elective courses, refer to the **Course Master List** that is found on **myPath** when you click on **Courses** on the top dashboard. You can find the full **Ministry of Education course description** when you click on the specific course.

2. *Do I have to choose “streams” for the core subjects?*

You must select a “stream” for the following core compulsory subjects: **English, Math, Science, Canadian History**. The **Personal Planning Chart** identifies the different “streams” that each of these courses is offered at. All four courses do not have to be taken at the same stream. As well, please be sure that you have the required **prerequisite course**. Prerequisites are found with the course descriptions when you click on the course in **myPath**.

There are **no “streams” for Religion, Career Studies and Civics**. These courses are all **Open** courses. However, STM does offer these courses at the **ELL level for English Language Learners**.

3. *Should I continue with the same stream in Grade 10 courses that I took in Grade 9?*

Unless your teachers have made other recommendations on your report card it is probably in your best interest to **continue with the same stream**. For **Math, there are required prerequisites** and you must be certain you have the prerequisite. If you took an Applied course in Grade 9 English or Science and did **extremely well** you may wish to consider the Academic course in Grade 10, if **your teacher has made that recommendation**.

The **requirement for Grade 10 Mathematics** is different. The Ministry of Education **requires the completion of Grade 9 Academic Math (MPM 1D1)**. If you did not complete this course at STM during your Grade 9 year you can take it at Summer School. You can discuss this possibility with your Guidance Counsellor.

If you took an Academic course in Grade 9 and struggled with it, you may wish to consider the Applied course for Grade 10 in that subject.

On your final report card for each semester, teachers often make pathway recommendations for students and their parents to consider. Pay careful attention to these comments and recommendations.

The stream selected for Canadian History in Grade 10 should reflect the same stream selected in Grade 10 English.

4. *When choosing my two elective courses is there anything I should keep in mind?*

Yes, the **Compulsory credits listed on the Personal Planning Chart** must be successfully completed in order to qualify for a high school diploma. You may have completed some of these Compulsory credits in Grade 9. Perhaps the ones that you have not completed could be included in your Grade 10 program. Use the **Personal Planning Chart and your Credit Counselling Summary (found on [myPath](#))** to assist you in your planning.

Listed below are some of the **Compulsory credits you may still need to achieve:**

1 Arts credit (the first letter of the six digit code must be “A”)

1 Physical Education credit (the first letter of the six digit code must be “P”)

1 Technology credit (a code starting with “T”) **or 1 Grade Eleven Science or Coop or a second French or Computer Studies**

1 Business credit (a code starting with “B”) **or an additional Phys. Ed. or a second Arts or a second French or Coop**

Descriptions of all courses are found on [myPath](#) or on the website www.pathtosuccess.ca

5. *What happens if I fail a course in Grade 9?*

To earn a **Secondary School Diploma** in four years a student must successfully complete **30 credits**. If a student takes 8 courses per year, there will be 32 chances to complete 30 credits. Failing a course may jeopardize your opportunity to have spares in Grade 12.

If you fail a Compulsory credit you must repeat that course. Failed Compulsory courses should be chosen on-line when you register in Trillium. **Some Compulsory courses may be repeated in Summer School in July.** Summer School registration begins at the beginning of June. A **final mark of 40% or higher makes you eligible for a two week upgrade in Summer School.** If you have a final mark lower than 40% you are required to do the full month course in Summer School. **Upon successful completion of Summer School your option selections can be changed.**

6. *Are the courses I take in Grade 10 a prerequisite for Grade 11 courses?*

In Grade 11 the destination streams begin. There are **five different levels** that can be taken in Grade 11. The **fifth digit** of the course code **identifies the type of course it is.**

The five levels are as follows:

U = University

M = University/College (sometimes called “mixed”)

C = College

E = Employment/Workplace

O = Open

To take **University preparation courses in Grade 11**, students must successfully **complete Grade 10 Academic courses**. Students wishing to keep **University** as a possible post-secondary destination are advised to take **Grade 10 Academic English** and in many cases **Grade 10 Academic Math and Science** will also be needed. Different University programs have different requirements. **Grade 12 University English (ENG 4U1) is required for all University programs.**

If you are considering a **University program in Business, Science, Kinesiology, Engineering or Health Sciences** you need to take **Grade 10 Academic Math** as all of these programs require University qualifying Grade 12 Math courses

The **Colleges** require successful completion of either **University or College-bound** courses in **Grade 11 and Grade 12**. **Grade 10 Applied** courses lead to **Grade 11 and Grade 12 College-bound** courses. Some **College Technology** programs and some **College Health Care** programs require a **Grade 11 “M” Math (MCF 3M1)**.

7. *When is REGISTRATION DAY, and what do I need to have ready?*

Registration Day is February 24th for Cohort A & February 25th, for Cohort B along with Remote Learners.

The following **two items** must be submitted on Registration Day:

- 1. MyPath Option Selections** (printed off when you register your courses on-line)
- 2. Activity Fee of \$45.00 - copy of a receipt showing you made your payment online through hwcdsb.schoolcashonline.com** (cash or cheque **will not** be accepted!)