



MAKE *the* MOVE TO HIGH SCHOOL



Learning and Growing Together



Learning

Learning and Growth

STRATEGIC PRIORITY

We value the uniqueness of each individual and believe everyone can excel and achieve excellence at the DSBN.



Belonging

Equity, Inclusion and Human Rights

STRATEGIC PRIORITY

We respect and uphold the importance of equity, inclusion, dignity and human rights in all learning and working environments so that individuals from all social realities and lived experiences are valued.



Thriving

Mental Health and Well-Being

STRATEGIC PRIORITY

We believe in cultivating learning and working communities where everyone feels safe and connected, while increasing mental health awareness knowledge and skills.

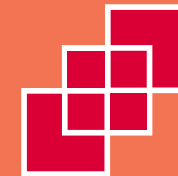


Walking Together

First Nation, Inuit and Métis Education and Voice

STRATEGIC PRIORITY

We value and respect the rights of First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities, families and individuals and we believe in honouring these voices.



Spaces

Learning Environments

STRATEGIC PRIORITY

We value caring and supportive environments that promote lifelong learning for all students, staff and community.



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At the **DSBN**

We honour the experiences, cultures, viewpoints and talents of each student. Our diversity is a source of strength and innovation, and our schools embrace and appreciate the values, identities and lived experiences of students. Our programs are individualized and are designed to support the well-being and achievement of all students.

We know that education is a personal process of self-discovery and also discovery about the world and how it works. Although we all learn at our own pace and in our own way, know that at the DSBN, you are supported throughout your journey.





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An IPP for You & Me

Education and career/life planning helps you develop the knowledge and skills you need to help you make informed choices for your education, career, and life outside of school. You will actively work on your individual Pathways Plan (IPP) from grades 7 to 12.





Graduation Requirements

To earn an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) students need to earn 30 credits.

COMPULSORY CREDITS Students must earn 17 compulsory credits:	4 credits in English (1 credit per grade) (Contemporary Aboriginal Voices NBE3 can sub as grade 11 English)	3 credits in Mathematics (at least 1 credit in grade 11 or 12)	2 credits in Science
1 credit in French as a Second Language (Level 1 or 2 Native Language Course included)	1 credit in Canadian History	1 credit in Canadian Geography	1 credit in Technological Education (Grade 9 or 10)
1 credit in the Arts (Aboriginal Culture included NAC10)	1 credit in Health and Physical Education	0.5 credits in Civics	0.5 credits in Career Studies

PLUS

1 additional credit in business studies, or computer studies, or cooperative education, or mathematics (in addition to the 3 compulsory credits), or science (in addition to the 2 compulsory credits), or in technological education (in addition to the 1 compulsory credit).

OPTIONAL CREDITS

In addition to the **17 compulsory credits**, students must earn **13 optional credits**.

What is a CREDIT?

A credit is granted upon successful completion of a 110 hour course with a minimum grade of 50%.





Other Graduation Requirements

- **40 HOURS OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

Students can start accumulating their community involvement hours in the summer before entering Grade 9. The DSBN uses an easily accessible program Hour Republic to track and recording community involvement hours.

- **THE PROVINCIAL LITERACY REQUIREMENT**

For most students, this means passing the Ontario Secondary School Literacy (OSSLT). Students who do not successfully complete the OSSLT have other opportunities to meet the literacy graduation requirement.

- **ONLINE LEARNING GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

Students will be required to earn two credits online as part of the graduation requirement of the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). While online courses will be a mandatory graduation requirement, families have a process to opt out of this requirement.

Secondary School Course Planner

GRADE 9 COURSES	GRADE 10 COURSES	GRADE 11 COURSES	GRADE 12 COURSES	ADDITIONAL YEAR
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• English• Math• Science• Geography• French• Elective 1• Elective 2• Elective 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• English• Math• Science• History• Civics & Careers Studies••••	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• English (includes NBE3)• Math•••••••	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• English••••••••	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•••••••••

* Options may vary by school



Course Types

Grade 9

OPEN (O) courses are appropriate for all students and are designed to broaden students' knowledge and skills in subjects that reflect their interests and prepare them for active and rewarding participation in society. They are not designed with the specific requirements of university, college, or the workplace in mind.

ACADEMIC (D) courses focus on the essential concepts of the discipline plus additional related concepts. Academic courses develop students' knowledge and skills by emphasizing theoretical, abstract applications of the essential concepts while incorporating practical applications, as appropriate.

DE-STREAMED (W) courses equip all students with the knowledge, skills, and work ethic to be successful in academic or applied courses in Grade 10.

The DSNB has de-streamed Grade 9 courses to ensure students are able to make informed decisions about their pathway in Grade 10. If a Grade 9 course is not yet de-streamed, you will select the academic course.

LOCALLY DEVELOPED (L) courses are designed to focus on core knowledge and skills to meet individual student needs for compulsory subjects. Locally developed courses are intended for students whose educational needs are not met by the de-streamed, academic, or applied courses.

Grade 10

Applied (P) courses focus on the essential concepts of the discipline. Applied courses develop students' knowledge and skills by emphasizing practical, concrete applications of the essential concepts while incorporating theoretical applications, as appropriate.

Grade 11-12

OPEN (O) courses are appropriate for all students and are designed to broaden students' knowledge and skills in subjects that reflect their interests and prepare them for active and rewarding participation in society. They are not designed with the specific requirements of university, college, or the workplace in mind.

UNIVERSITY (U) preparation courses are designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills they need to meet the entrance requirements for university programs.

UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE (M) preparation courses (often referred to as mixed) are designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills they need to meet the entrance requirements for specific programs offered at universities and colleges.

COLLEGE (C) preparation courses are designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills they need to meet the entrance requirements for most college programs or for admission to specific apprenticeship or other training programs.

WORKPLACE (E) preparation courses are designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills they need to meet the expectations of employers, if they plan to enter the workforce directly after graduation, or the requirements for admission to certain apprenticeship or other training programs.

Questions & Answers

Q: Will de-streamed, single streamed and open courses prepare me for any post-secondary pathway I might choose?

A: Yes! Courses in Grade 9 are designed to prepare students for any pathway they may choose after high school.

Q: Is there somewhere I can go for help if I have questions about the courses I should take?

A: Yes! Your secondary Guidance department can assist you with selecting courses. If you have an IEP, you can discuss your options with your SERT. There may also be information sessions for more information and you can discuss specific subjects with your classroom teacher. Your parents or guardians may also be helpful in providing advice and assisting you with your planning.

Q: I am learning English as an additional language. Can I take ESL courses?

A: If you are a multilingual student who is learning English, your ESL/ELD teacher can assist you in selecting the appropriate ESL or ELD courses based on your level of English language proficiency.

Q: I have an IEP (Individual Education Plan). What support will I have in secondary school?

A: Your IEP is part of your transition plan to secondary school. Accommodations are available based on the needs of each student. Connect with your Learning Resource Teacher at your school to discuss your needs in more detail.





Understanding Course Codes and Descriptions

Every course in an Ontario Secondary School has a **six-character course code**. A code can be broken down as follows:

CGC

3 LETTERS IDENTIFY SUBJECT



THE FIRST LETTER REPRESENTS
THE COURSE'S DEPARTMENT AREA:

A = The Arts
B = Business Studies
C = Canadian and World Studies
E = English, English Literacy Development, English as a Second Language
F = French
G = Guidance & Career Education
H = Social Sciences and the Humanities
I = Computer Studies or Interdisciplinary Studies
K = Alternative (Non-credit)
L = Classical, International and Native Languages
M = Mathematics
N = First Nations, Métis, & Inuit Studies
P = Health & Physical Education
S = Sciences
T = Technological Studies

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NUMBER/LETTER
REFLECTS GRADE/LEVEL



GRADES

1 = Grade 9
2 = Grade 10
3 = Grade 11
4 = Grade 12

LANGUAGES

A = Level 1
B = Level 2
C = Level 3
D = Level 4
E = Level 5

W

LETTER SHOWS
COURSE TYPE



COURSE TYPE

C = College
D = Academic
E = Workplace
L = Locally Developed
M = College or University
O = Open
P = Applied
U = University
N = Non-Credit
W = De-streamed

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This school
indicator is used to
distinguish course
characteristics.

For example:
1 = Common Code



Selecting Your Grade 9 Courses



YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11	YEAR 12	GRADUATION TRACKING
English ENL1W1 1	+ English	+ English	+ English	8 / 30 Credits <div><div></div></div> Learn More
Mathematics MTH1W1 1	+ Mathematics	+ Mathematics	+ Elective	CLUSTER POSSIBILITIES Saved Clusters Add Cluster Recommended Clusters Education & Social Services 0 Medical & Health 0 Learn More
Science SNC1W1 1	+ Science	+ Elective	+ Elective	
Geography CGC1W1 1	+ History	+ Elective	+ Elective	
French FSF1D1 1	+ Career Studies	+ Elective	+ Elective	
Entrepreneurial Mindset BEM1O1 1	+ Civics	+ Elective	+ Elective	
Drama ADA1O1 1	+ Elective	+ Elective	+ Elective	SHSM Learn More
Technology and the Skilled Trades TAS1O1 1	+ Elective	+ Elective	+ Elective	
Alternate PPL1O1 1	+ Elective	Credits: 0		
Alternate HFN1O1 1	Credits: 0		Credits: 0	
Credits: 8				> ADD COLUMN
SUBMIT				

Xello

Students in DSBN use Xello as their Individual Pathways Planning (IPP) tool for education and career/ life planning. Xello provides students with tools to explore their opportunities, plan their educational pathway, and document their learning. Xello is a comprehensive IPP program that includes information on:

- secondary course offerings
- postsecondary opportunities
- occupation planning
- SHSM, OYAP, and Dual Credit Programs
- resume writing
- portfolio planning
- and more ...

All DSBN students have an account. Students can use their DSBN login information to access Xello.



First Nations, Métis, & Inuit Studies



There are many Indigenous events and authentic learning opportunities available to DSBN secondary students. They include:

- ▶ Courses taught with Indigenous perspectives in many subject areas
- ▶ Community members supporting student learning within courses and at student events
- ▶ There are courses offered within Indigenous Studies 9-12
- ▶ Academic, social, and emotional support for Indigenous youth
- ▶ Student voice and leadership opportunities for Indigenous youth to connect and lead

COURSE CODE	COURSE TITLE	COURSE TYPE & GRADE
NAC10	Expressions of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Cultures	Grade 9, Open
NAC20	First Nations, Métis, and Inuit in Canada	Grade 10, Open
NBE3E/3C/3U	English: Understanding Contemporary First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Voices	Grade 11, College/ Workplace/ University
NDA3M/NDW4M	Contemporary Indigenous Issues and Perspectives in a Global Context	Grade 11/12, College/University
LNMAO	Mohawk Language Course-Online	Grades 9-12, Open

* **NBE 3E/C/U:** The Grade 11 course “English: Understanding Contemporary First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Voices” is equivalent to the Grade 11 English compulsory credit requirement. The conventions of English and literacy skills acquired by students are the same.



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Pathways to Success: Developing Skills & Work Habits

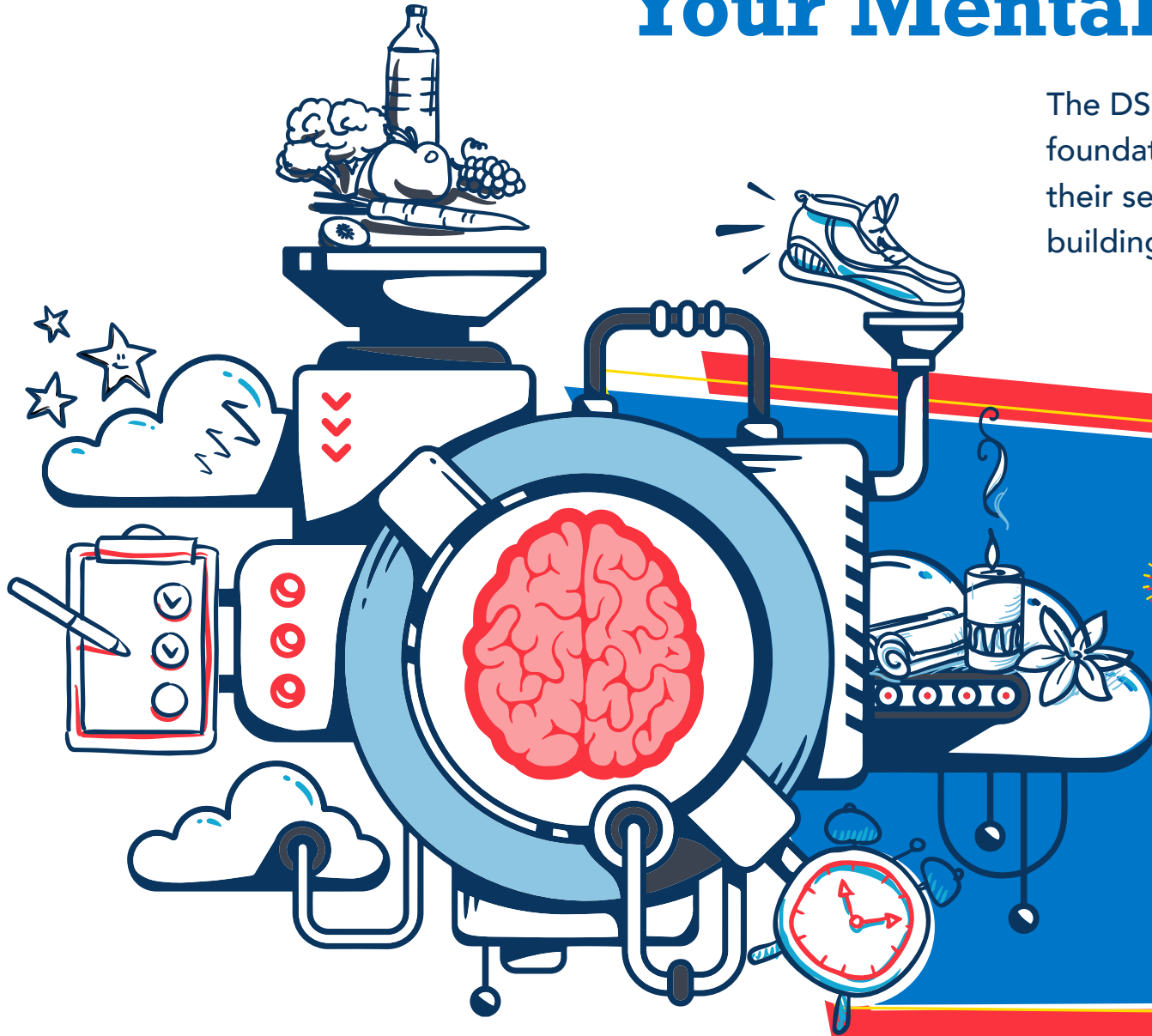




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Your Mental Health & Well-being

The DSBN community believes that mental health and well-being is the foundation for student success. When students feel safe and secure at school, their sense of achievement and accomplishment increases. This is an essential building block in the development of resiliency.



We all share in the responsibility for student mental health and well-being across all learning environments by helping you feel:

- ▶ RESILIENT
- ▶ A SENSE OF BELONGING & CONNECTEDNESS
- ▶ SOCIALLY & EMOTIONALLY COMPETENT
- ▶ CONFIDENT IN THEIR IDENTITY
- ▶ NURTURED & CARED FOR
- ▶ INCLUDED



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Help & Support

Principal & Vice Principal

Social Worker

Guidance/Student Services

Student Success Teacher

Special Education Resource Teacher

ESL/ELD Teacher

Attendance Counsellor

Indigenous Education Re-engagement
Teacher & Graduation Coach

Black Youth Education Coach

Learning Commons

Public Health Nurse

Youth Counsellor





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Begin with an End in Mind

Where are you going first after secondary school?

Apprenticeship

Do you enjoy learning by doing? Do you prefer hands-on work over classroom learning? Apprenticeship training allows you to learn the skills you need for a trade while working alongside qualified tradespeople.

Community

Some students will transition directly from secondary school into the community. The Specialized School to Community Program will assist students/families, employers, and community agencies in developing a plan for each individual student as they prepare for community involvement.

College

College is a post-secondary education destination that you can attend after graduating from secondary school. You generally study for two or three years and concentrate on learning about a subject area that interests you. After graduating from college you will have a certificate, diploma or degree, which will prepare you for a career in your area of study.

University

University is a post-secondary education destination that you can attend after graduating from secondary school. You generally study for four years and concentrate on learning about a subject area of interest to you. After graduating from university you will have a Bachelor's degree which will prepare you for a career in your area of study.

Workplace

Secondary schools offer programs to prepare you for the world of work. Specific courses provide you with an opportunity to learn the essential skills necessary for success in the workplace.



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Additional Opportunities For Pathway Planning



- ▶ COOPERATIVE EDUCATION
- ▶ DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS
- ▶ EDUTRAVEL
- ▶ eLEARNING
- ▶ EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING
- ▶ HIGH SCHOOL HEAD START
- ▶ FIRST NATIONS, MÉTIS & INUIT STUDIES
- ▶ ONTARIO YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM (OYAP)
- ▶ SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJOR (SHSM)
- ▶ SUMMER SCHOOL REACH AHEAD



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Specialized DSBN Programs

- ▶ ENGLISH AS ANOTHER LANGUAGE (ESL)
- ▶ SPECIALIZED SCHOOL TO WORK
- ▶ SPECIALIZED SCHOOL TO COMMUNITY
- ▶ FRENCH IMMERSION
- ▶ SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJOR (SHSM)





MAKE *the* MOVE TO HIGH SCHOOL

Starting secondary school is really exciting and also a bit nerve-wracking. You're pretty sure it's going to be great, but who hasn't heard a story or two? Here are some answers to what might be on your mind

MYTH

FACT

MAKE THE MOST OF HIGH SCHOOL

Each of our secondary schools offers a wide range of clubs, groups and activities to meet the varied needs of their students. Listen to announcements and get involved early. It's a great way to develop new skills, meet people and be involved in your school.

THE SCHOOL IS
SO BIG I'LL GET
TOTALLY LOST!

I'M WORRIED THAT
I WON'T DO WELL IN
MY CLASSES

WHAT DOES
LUNCHTIME LOOK LIKE
IN HIGH SCHOOL?

WHAT IF I GET
BULLIED AT SCHOOL?

I HEARD THERE WILL BE
LOTS OF HOMEWORK HOW
WILL I EVER GET IT DONE?



redefining
excellence
DSBN 2023-2028 STRATEGIC PLAN

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