

# COURSE PLANNING 8 to 9

## 2025 - 2026



# Important Dates

- Monday Feb. 10 – Course Catalogue goes live
- Thursday Feb. 13 – Course selections open on MyEd
- Wednesday March 5 - Course selections close



# TYPICAL Gr 9 SELECTION

- Language Arts 9 (required)
- Mathematics 9 (required)
- Science 9 (required)
- Social Studies 9 (required)
- Physical Health Education (PE) 9 (required)
- Career Ed 9 (online – required)
  
- Elective 9 (if continuing with French, would be French 9; if Japanese, Japanese 10)
- Elective 9 - your choice
- Elective 9 - your choice
  
- Alt. 1
- Alt. 2
- Alt. 3

# REQUIRED COURSES FOR Gr. 9 Cont.

## LANGUAGE ARTS 9

- All Students Select English 9

English 9 **Fundamentals** (teacher will recommend in Spring and advise counsellors)

## SOCIAL STUDIES 9

- All Students Select Social Studies 9

# REQUIRED COURSES FOR Gr. 9 Cont.

## MATHEMATICS 9

- All Students Select Math 9

Math 9 : **Challenge** (Cannot be selected directly – teachers will recommend students in the spring and advise counsellors)

Math 9 **Fundamentals** (teacher will recommend in Spring and advise counsellors)

## SCIENCE 9

- All Students Select SCIENCE 9

# REQUIRED COURSES Cont.

## PHYSICAL HEALTH EDUCATION 9 (PE) : OPTIONS

- Physical Health Education 9 (co-ed)
- Physical Health Education 9: Volleyball Co-Ed
- Physical Health Education 9 : Basketball Co-Ed (a.m. x block) – this would be a 9th course in your selection allowing students to take an additional elective

# ELECTIVE COURSES – Finding New Interests



# LANGUAGES – *yes, an elective*

- **Core French 9 (regular French)**
- **French 9: Challenge** (if recommended by Fr. 8 teacher – likely added later if you don't see it)
- **French 10\*** (if student took Fr. 9 or 9 challenge in their gr. 8 year)
- **French 10 Challenge** – if student is recommended by their teacher – likely added later if you don't see it
- **Japanese 9**
- **Japanese 10** (if student took JA. 9 in your grade 8 year)

\*students are only advanced by one grade level at Seaquam; please have students discuss with their French Teacher *THEN* Counsellor as needed if you have any questions regarding appropriate placement



# The 2<sup>nd</sup> Language Question - to take or not to take -

- A Language is an ELECTIVE – meaning something students ‘choose’ to take but don’t ‘have’ to take (for the purposes of graduation) – Please discuss this with your child!

## **Why take it then?**

- because language learning is fun; having a second languages always a good skill to have ! Or

– because some universities – like UBC and SFU - still require a second language at the grade 11 level to be admitted, so if students hope to apply to SFU or UBC, then YES they should consider continuing with language studies.

- because it may be a course that is potentially required in post secondary - UVic, Kwantlen and many others no longer require the second language, but ALWAYS check with the particular school of interest ; some post secondary programs MAY require a second language as part the Bachelor of Arts Degree – while the language can be picked up at the post secondary, it may be best to complete that language requirement while still in high school )

**If students don’t know and want to keep all their options open, then YES, they should consider continuing with taking a language course**

NOTE: The language elective does not have to be French; it could be Japanese 11 or Spanish 11 (Students can start Spanish as early as grade 10 if they have done French 9 ), or even a language they already know or are studying privately such as German 11 or Mandarin 11 .

# APPLIED SKILLS COURSES

- Entrepreneurship and Marketing 9
- Media Arts 9 (graphics)
- Culinary Arts 9 (Caf)
- Food Studies 9
- Textiles 9
- Computer Studies 9: (Coding)
- Web Development 9
- Drafting 9
- Intro Engineering 9
- Metalwork 9
- Art Metal Jewellery 9
- Woodwork 9
- Electronics and Robotics
- Robotics 9 IDS (x block)

# ARTS EDUCATION COURSES

- Drama 9
- Drama 9 – Theatre Production (stage crew – X block)
- Theatre Company 9 (Musical Theatre/) (X Block)
- Film and Video Production 9
- Instrumental Music: Concert Band
- Instrumental Music: Jazz Band ( X Block Morning)
- Choral Music (choir)
- Visual Arts 9 (art and photo combined)
- Media Arts 9 (graphic arts)

# Special Note: out of timetable courses

- If students are selecting one of **X block** courses:  
Basketball  
Jazz Band  
Musical Theatre; Theatre Production  
Robotics IDS

This will be a **9th course**. Students will still need to pick another elective!

Students do not get spare block if they have an X block!

# STUDENT SUPPORT CLASSES

Students' current LST or ELL (or other program teacher-ASSIST, CORE, GQ) will advise them regarding which course they should sign up for. If they do not have their recommendation please do not select this.

- ELL (English Language Learners)
- Learning Support 9: LST
- Learning Support 9 Outreach

# The Importance of Alternates

**In the event that students' first choice(s) is/are full, they need to have alternate choices to complete their timetables.**

- It is recommended to have 3+ back-up choices!**

## Don't Skip Alternates - PICK AT LEAST 3

- Ask students to think about the alternative classes they will take as three more elective choices (what they can live with if they don't get exactly what they want ; ensure they enter MORE than one alternate)
- Don't allow them to choose random alternatives. They may be enrolled in that class and as it is a 'selection', they **will be required to stay in that class for the entire year**

# FAQ's

**What if I select things online and then later I change my mind?**

Please speak to your counsellor ASAP. In some cases (but no guarantees) we may be able to make adjustments



## Why is it that when I pick my electives I may not get them?

- There may have been more requests than there are spaces (so the course may be full; when timetables are built it is computer generated so it is random as to who gets a course and who may be bumped out)
- There may have been too FEW requests and the class is cancelled
- The elective they picked is only offered in ONE block and this may conflict with another elective they have selected (known as a course conflict) – the computer does the selection, not us so again, it is random

## What if I don't pick alternates?

- Sometimes there are errors in timetables; Because students are not here in late June or late August as we try to adjust, we will not be able to complete timetables unless they have provided alternates for us to work with
- If we are waiting for students to return in Sept. to ask, there is a chance that something that DID have space will no longer have space

## Can't I just change things around in September?

- No – many classes are already full in Sept.
- We cannot guarantee there will space left in the class
- Changing one course often means changing other courses as well, and teachers don't necessarily teach the same classes in all periods, so changes may not be possible.

## What if I make a mistake and pick the wrong 'level'?

- Teachers will look at who has signed up for the different classes in late spring; at that point the teacher will notice if students have signed up in the wrong one and let the counsellor know
- If students happen to review their selections at some point and they notice they clicked a wrong class – let the counsellor know right away

# Where can I find Info. About MyEd and Selecting Courses?

- Go to [Seaquam.ca](http://Seaquam.ca)
- Along the top bar, right on the far right, it will say 'REGISTRATION AND COURSE PLANNING' - click here
- Now, on the far left, look for "Course Planning" - click this which will take you to :
  - The Course Catalogue
  - Important Dates
  - Log in Info
  - **Instructions for Course Selection**
  - **What to do if your account is disabled**
  - A copy of this presentation

- -

# Navigating the Course Selection Catalogue

- **USE THE *TABLE OF CONTENTS*** at the beginning of the book; this will direct you to the right 'area' of the book to get more information and answer specific questions about courses
  
- **A FULL LIST OF *GRADE 9 COURSE OPTIONS*** can be found on page 7 of the course catalogue

# What if I feel unsure and have questions?

- People To Ask:
- MyEd System Questions: see website first - passwords etc. - Main Office only if stuck
- Password Questions: see website first – then Main Office
- Math or Language level questions – your current Math and Language teacher
- If you will have LST or ELL – your current LST or ELL teacher
- About a particular elective – read the description in the Course Catalogue or ask a teacher in that subject area for more information
- General questions about your program: ask your counsellor

# Review of Important Dates

- NOW: encourage your children to read the course catalogue, talk with siblings/relatives/friends, ask teachers about elective courses that they are interested in
- Course selections open on Thursday Feb. 13 and close on March 5



## Not like concert tickets . . .

- When the system opens on Feb 13th students do *not* have to rush to select their courses
- Course selection is *not* 'first come first served'
- Students have almost a month to put in their selections

Questions?