Markham District High School

Grade 8 Course Selection Presentation January 2025





Markham District High School



School motto:

"Labor Omnia Vincit" - "Work Conquers All"

School colours: blue and white

Mascot: Max



Principal: Ms. Kathy McAlpine

Vice-Principal: Ms. Charlene Civello (Alpha A - L)

Vice-Principal: Mr. Harmandeep Brar (Alpha M - Z)

History of MDHS

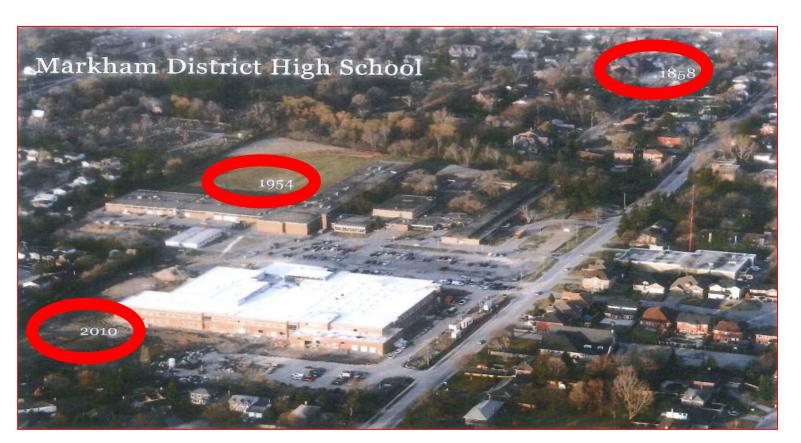
In 1858 → "original" *Markham High School* opened (over 160 years ago!!)

In $1860 \rightarrow a$ "new" building was opened on Joseph St

In 1954 → Markham District High School was built at 89 Church St (10 teachers & 250

students, and then after several additions & renovations

In 2010 \rightarrow the "newest" version of MDHS was opened!!









"METEOR" — Back, Lr.—Don Wheeler, Bill Warne, George Carey, Don Webster, John Rolph, Tony Gower, Bob Norris, Paul Jacobsen, Don Jennings. Front-John Greenhough, Anne Murdoch, Mavis Trunk, June Baxter, Donna Dixon, Larry Taylor











General Information about MDHS

- Population ~1450 students
- 100+ Teachers & Support Staff
- 1 Principal and 2 Vice-Principals
- Semestered composite high school
- Strong academic program
- Enhanced by the Arts, Music, Business,
 Languages, Science, Technology, AP & SHSM,
 Peer Mentors, sports teams & clubs
- 150+ years of tradition & success

MDHS Daily Schedule



Period 2

Period 3 LUNCH

Period 4

Period 5



10:50

12:10

1:30

2:50

| Start Time | End Time |
|------------|------------|
| | Start Time |

Homeroom & Period 1 8:10 9:30

9:35

10:55

12:15

1:35

Diploma Requirements (O.S.S.D.)



How to Read A Course Code (ENL1W1)

Every course in an Ontario Secondary School has a six-character course code.

E N L

3 Letters Identify Subject 1

Number Reflects Grade/ Level W

Letter Shows Course Type 1

A Number to Distinguish

The first letter represent the subject area:

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

Grades

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

Course Types

- W Destreamed
- D Academic
- P Applied
- L Locally Developed
- O Open
- **U** University
- C College
- M University/College
- E Workplace
- N Non-Credit

Course Program or Section

17 Compulsory Credits

17
Compulsory
Credits

17 compulsory credits required to earn an O.S.S.D.

- 4 credits in English (1 credit per grade)
- 3 credits in Mathematics (Grade 9, Grade 10 and 1 credit in Grade 11 or 12)
- 2 credits in Science
- 1 credit in Technological Education (Grade 9 or 10)
- 1 credit in Canadian History (Grade 10)
- 1 credit in Canadian Geography (Grade 9)
- 1 credit in the Arts
- 1 credit in Health and Physical Education
- 1 credit in French as a second language
- 0.5 credit in Career Studies
- 0.5 credit in Civics and Citizenship
- 1 credit from the STEM-related course group

+ 13 Optional Credits

STEM - Related Course Group

STEM-related course group

Of the 17 compulsory credits, you must complete **ONE** from the following group:

- Business studies
- Computer studies
- Cooperative education
- Mathematics (in addition to the 3 compulsory credits currently required)
- Science (in addition to the 2 compulsory credits currently required)
- Technological education (in addition to the 1 compulsory credit required)





Grade 9 Compulsory Courses

(ENG1L1)

(MAT1L1)

(SNC1L1)

(ESLBO)

(ESLCO)

(ESLDO)

(ESLEO)

(FSF10)

*Extenuating Circumstances Only

| Graue | e 9 Comp | uisory Cou | 1565 |
|---------|--------------------|-----------------------|---------|
| Courses | De-streamed (W) | Locally Developed (L) | Open (0 |
| | | | (ESLAO |

(ENL1W1)

(MTH1W1)

(SNC1W1)

(CGC1W)

(FSF1D)

English

Mathematics

Science

Geography

French

Grade 9 Core French (FSF1D1)

- Recognized as an integral component of Ontario's education system and one of Canada's official languages
- Compulsory subject from Grades 4 to 9 and students are encouraged to study French in Grades 10 to 12
- The vision of the French program in Ontario is for students to communicate and interact with growing confidence
- For students who have been enrolled in Core French since Grade 4 and have the **prerequisite 600 hours** or equivalent of French instruction (as per Ministry directive, no French hours were deemed lost during 2019-2021)



Grade 9 Core French: (FSF101)

Introductory course recommended for students who have limited experience with French or who have not accumulated the minimum of 600 hours of elementary Core French instruction.

Grade 9 French is offered at the open level (FSF1O1) for students:

- \square new to our system;
- have less than 600 hours of instruction in French; or
- in extenuating circumstances
- 600 hours of French instruction is not the sole determining factor informing course selection.

Please speak with your grade 8 teacher prior to selecting this class

MDHS Technological Education Courses

Grade 10 Tech Education meet the graduation requirement:

- TAS2O Technology and the Skilled Trades
- TCJ2O Construction Technology
- TDJ2O Technological Design
- ❖ TEJ2O Computer Engineering Technology
- TGJ2O Communication Technology
- TTJ2O Transportation Technology
- TXJ2O Hairstyling and Aesthetics





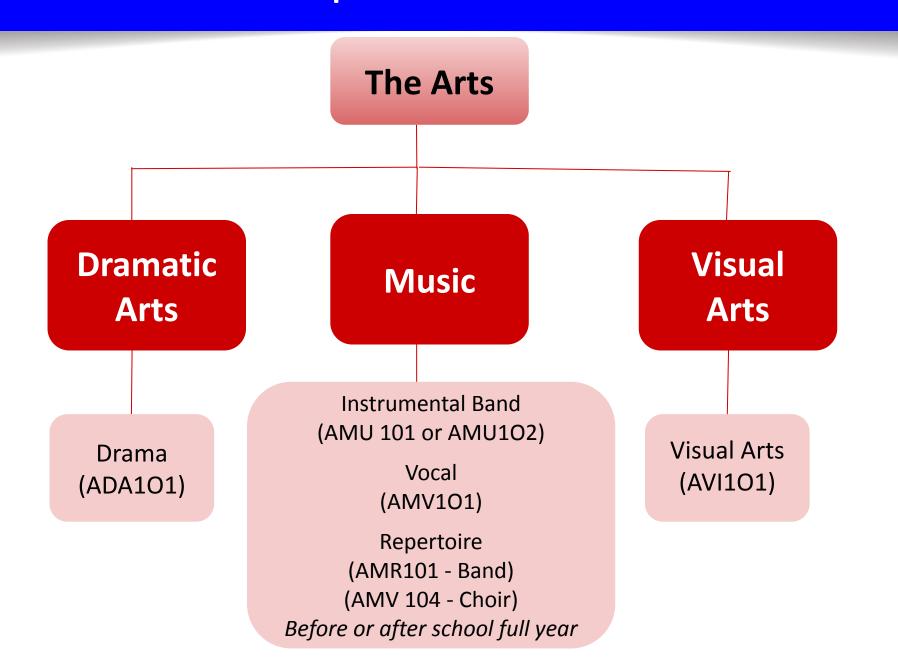








MDHS Course Options for Arts in Grade 9



Online Learning Graduation Requirement

OPTING OUT

Exemption from the online learning graduation requirement may be requested by:

- Parent / guardian of the secondary student
- Student 18 years of age or older
- Student 16 or 17 years old who have withdrawn from parental control
- Students may opt out of the online learning graduation requirement during course selection time through My Pathway Planner (myBlueprint)
- Parents/guardians who wish to opt out of the online graduation requirement may complete an opt out form available from the guidance department

Literacy Test

Successful completion of the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test

- Diploma requirement
- Administered in Fall/Spring of Grade 10
- Test based on language and Communication (reading and writing) expectations of curricula up to and including Grade 9
- Accommodations, deferrals and exemptions may be appropriate for some students
- If the standard is unmet in the first attempt, schools will provide support; test is re-administered until student successfully completes the test; or students can take the Grade 12 Literacy Course (OLC4O1)

40 Hours of Community Involvement

- Diploma requirement (complete 40 hours before graduation)
- Volunteering in the community teaches about civic engagement and understanding our role as global citizens
- By being involved in the community and helping others, you:
 - develop transferable skills
 - explore different sectors and potential career opportunities
 - understand more about yourself and your role in society
- Students can begin in the *summer after* Grade 8
- Recommended to obtain guidance approval (if possible) before each activity
- Student responsibility to keep record of activities
- Guidelines and forms are available (online and in guidance) to help track community involvement

New Financial Literacy Requirement



Successful completion of the Ontario Secondary School Financial Literacy Requirement



New for the **September 2025-2026** school year, students will write a financial literacy assessment in Grade 10 Mathematics.

- Financial literacy graduation requirement will be part of the compulsory Grade 10 mathematics course.
- Need to achieve a mark of 70% or higher to pass
- More details to be released by the Ministry of Education

Course Load Requirements for Grade 9

Grade 8 Students entering Grade 9 for school year 2025-2026

- Grade 9 students will study a minimum of 8 courses
- This will consist of 6 Compulsory course + 2 Elective courses
- Two alternate courses are also required (equally important!)
- Note: Repertoire Music/Band count as a 9th course and is optional



MDHS Gr. 9 Compulsory Courses

Each student must select ...
6 COMPULSORY + 2 ELECTIVE courses
(+ 2 alternate courses)

The six (6) COMPULSORY Courses include:

- **ENL1W** Destreamed Gr 9 English
- CGC1W Academic Gr 9 Geography
- MTH1W Destreamed Gr 9 Math
- **SNC1W Destreamed Gr 9 Science**
- FSF1D1 Academic Gr 9 French

PPL108/109/101 - Open Health & Physical Education *** (Health & Physical Education may be taken in a different grade)

Note: As per the Ontario Ministry of Education, Applied level courses are no longer offered in Grade 9.

Students selecting Gifted Courses

Students who are GIS mapped to the MDHS Gifted Program will select from the following 6 COMPULSORY subjects:

English ENL1WG Gifted or ENL1W1 Destreamed

Geography CGC1WG Gifted or CGC1W1 Academic

Math MTH1WG Gifted or MTH1W1 Destreamed

Science SNC1WG Gifted or SNC1W1 Destreamed

French FSF1DG Gifted or FSF1D1 Academic

→ Select a minimum of **4 courses** at the GIFTED level <u>PLUS 1 other</u>, and then select...

Health & Physical Education - PPL108 or 109 or 101 Open

NOTE: Students must be IPRC'd into the Gifted program, via their SERT and the Principal.

MDHS Grade 9 ELECTIVE Courses

... then select your 2 ELECTIVE courses

| BEM1O1 | Business |
|------------|------------------|
| LVLBD1 | Latin |
| ADA101 | Drama |
| AVI1O1 | Visual Art |
| AMU101/102 | Music |
| AMV1O1 | Vocal |
| HIF1O1 | Family Studies |
| TAS101 | Tech Studies |
| GLS101 | Study Strategies |

HINT: Choose 4 electives, then rank these #1-4 in order of preference...

1-2 become your ELECTIVE COURSES

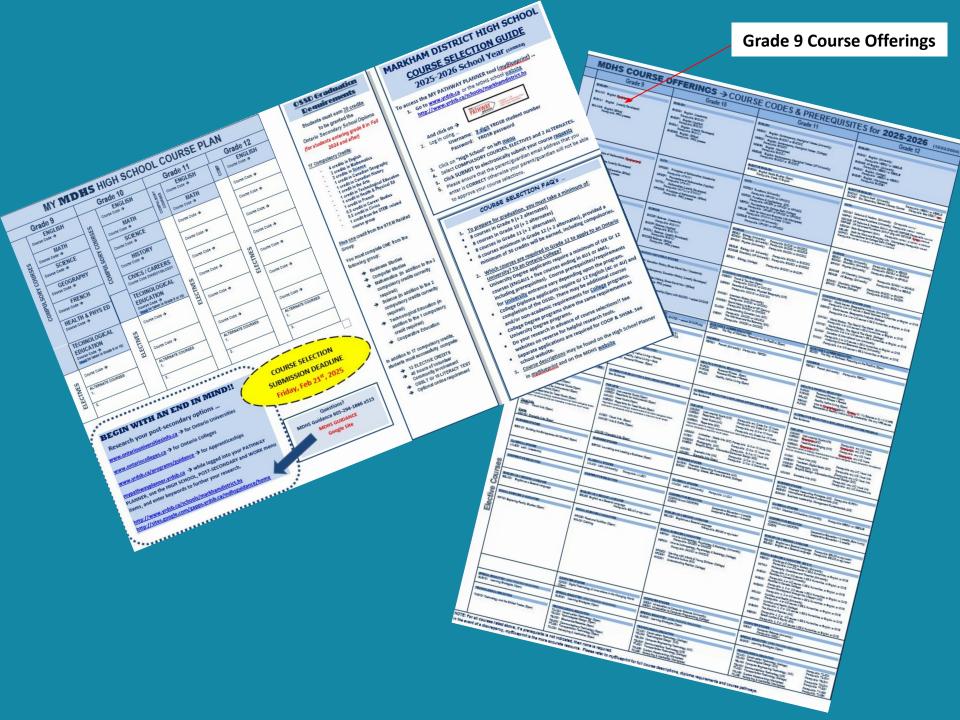
3-4 become your ALTERNATE choices

NOTE: AMR101 Repertoire (Band) or AMV104 (Choir) may be taken as an optional 9th course!



Electives: Art, Business, Drama, Family Studies, Latin, Music, Technology, Guidance





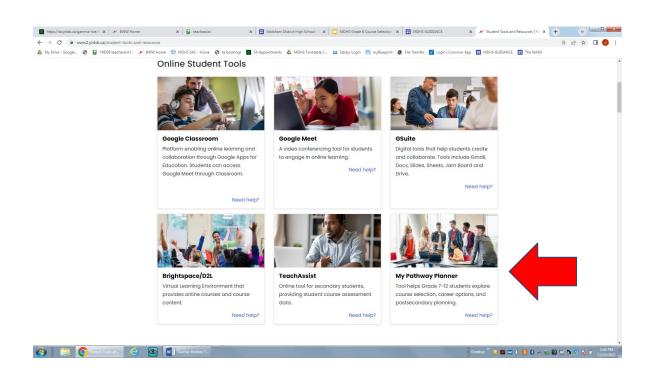


Course Selection Process for MDHS Students School Year 2025-2026



Step 1: Go to "My Pathway Planner"

- Go to the YRDSB home page and click on 'ONLINE STUDENT TOOLS'
- Click on 'My Pathway Planner'



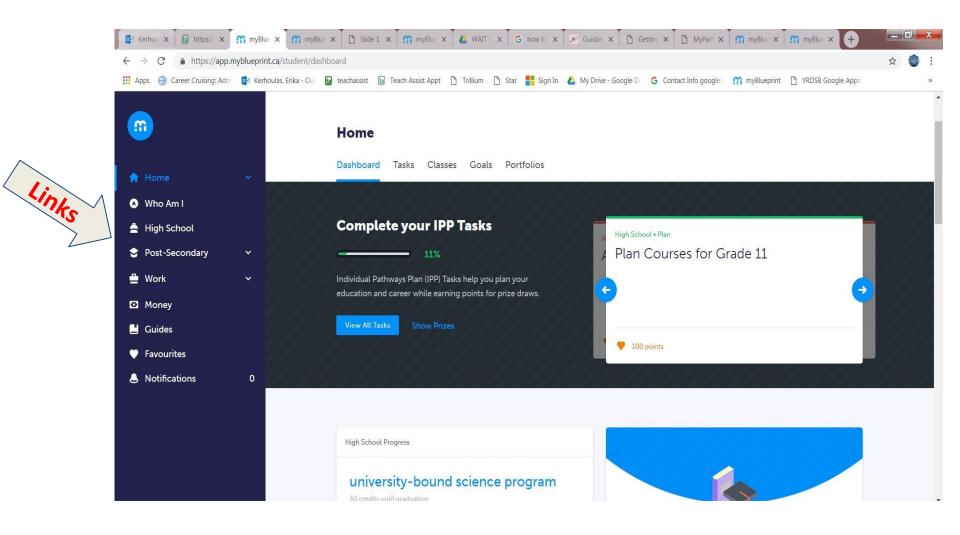
Option 2: Go to https://mypathwayplanner.yrdsb.ca

Use your YRDSB Student Number & Password to Login



| FA | planner | Grades 7 - 12 Individual Pathwa and Course Selec | |
|------------|---|--|-----------|
| | in below to acc | cess MyPathw | avPlanner |
| Please log | Jili below to de | | -7. |
| Please log | EDU (Students | | |
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This is the homepage or DASHBOARD of myBlueprint

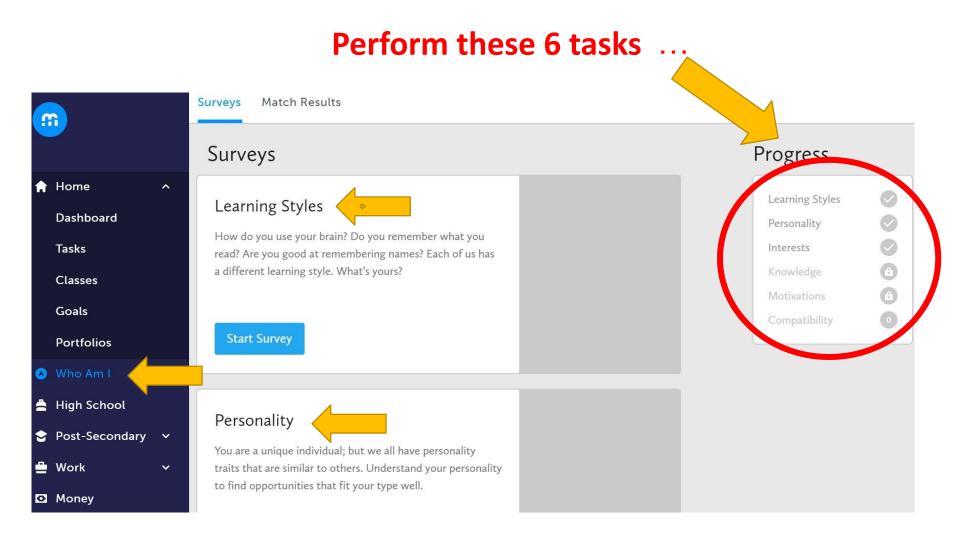


Note the links in the left toolbar...

Specifically: Who Am I; High School; Post-secondary

STEP 2: WHO AM I?

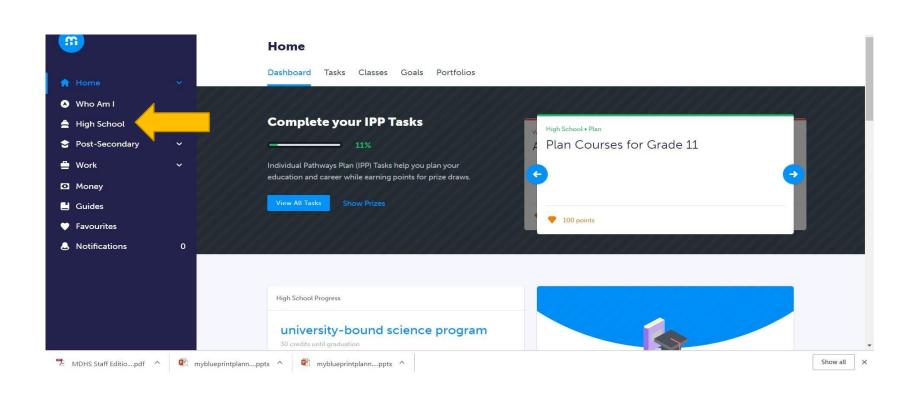
Learning Styles, Personality & Interest Tests



STEP 3: From the Dashboard,

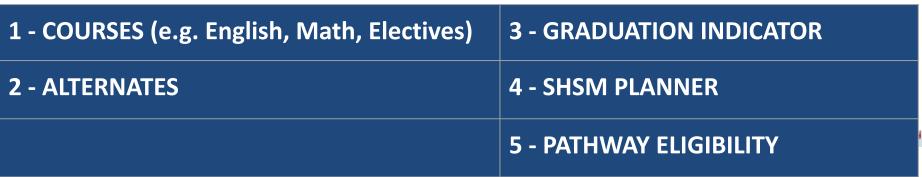


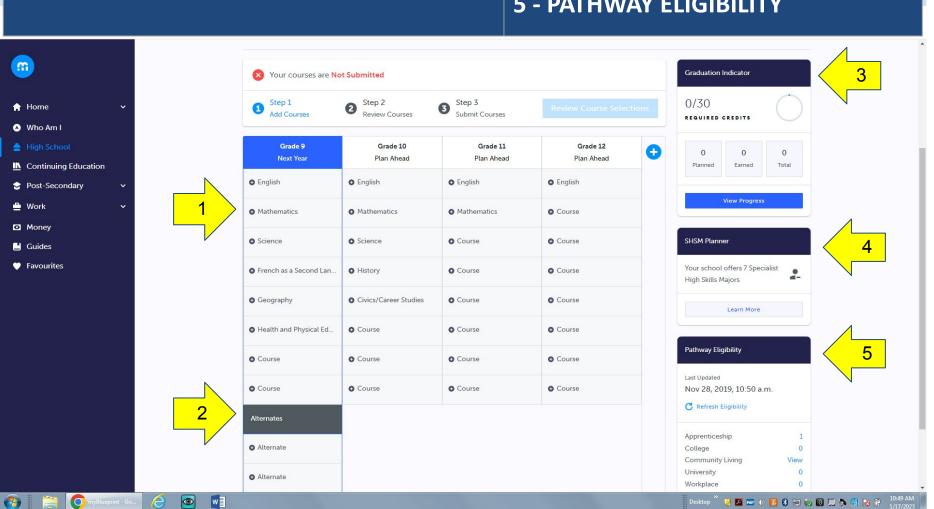
→ click on High School and then PLAN...



Note: Post-secondary and Work tabs have important information for future planning.

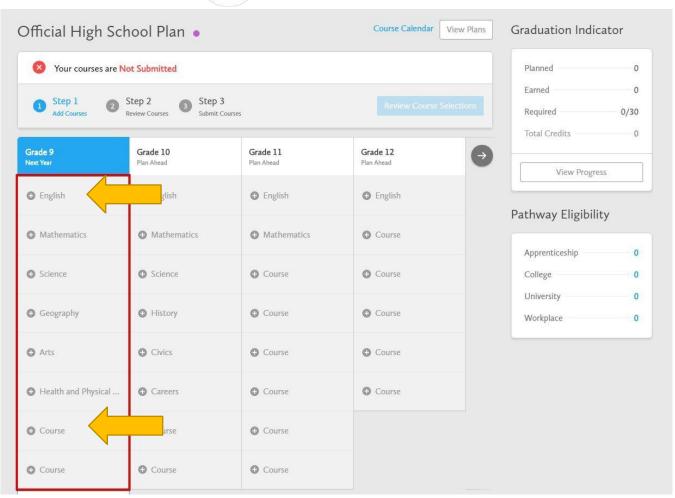
On the HIGH SCHOOL PLAN page you may find information by clicking on:



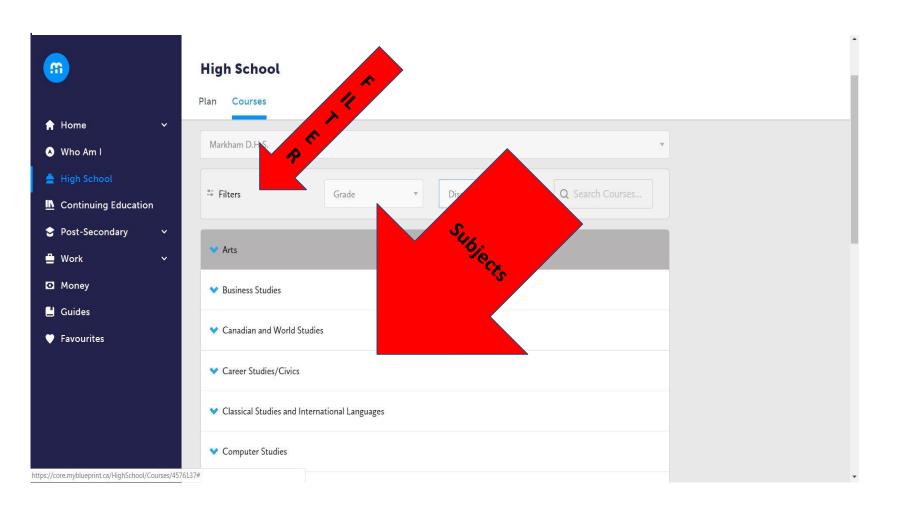


STEP 4: To ADD courses to your High School Plan, clicking on a +Compulsory will take you directly to this subject area OR click on +Course to select from ALL course offerings

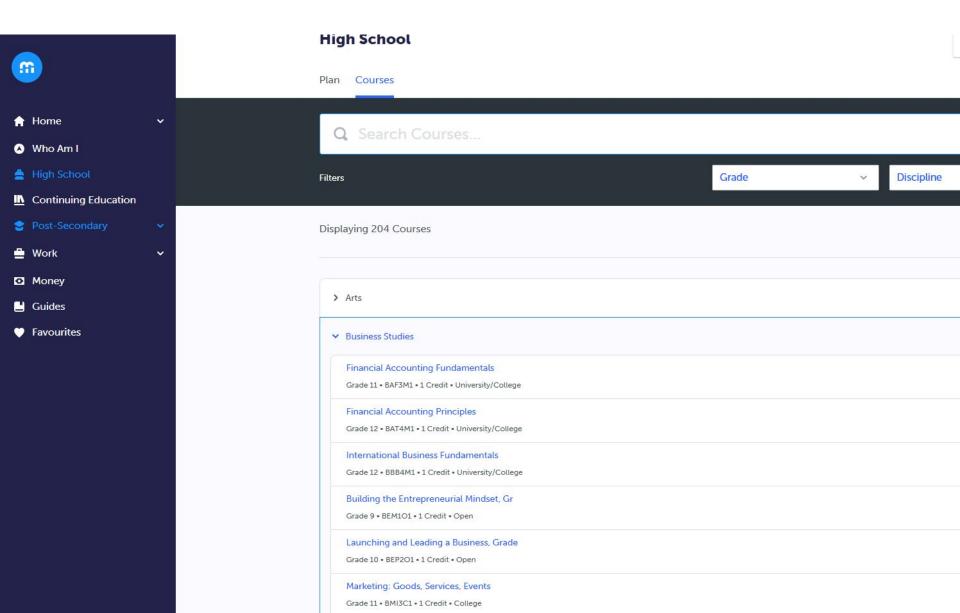




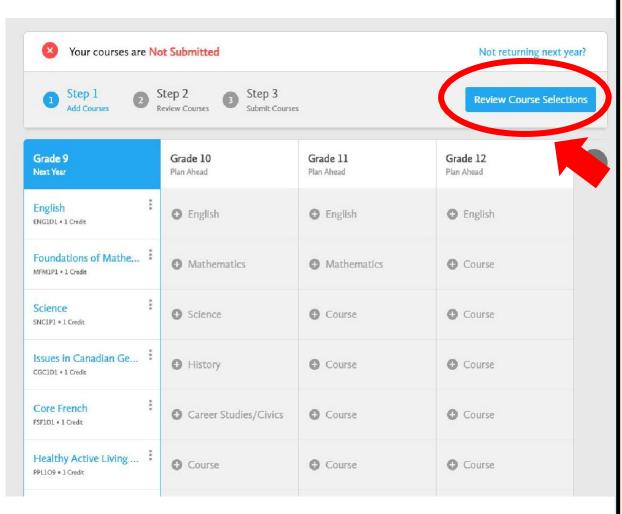
From +Course, a list of all subject disciplines will appear. Use the filter or the drop down arrows to reveal courses.



Then ... select a course and add it to your planner!



STEP 5:



After selecting courses and alternates, select "Review Course Selection". This provides a final review prior to submitting.

This may trigger Alerts such as "selected less than the minimum requirement", "did not select full amount of alternates" etc.

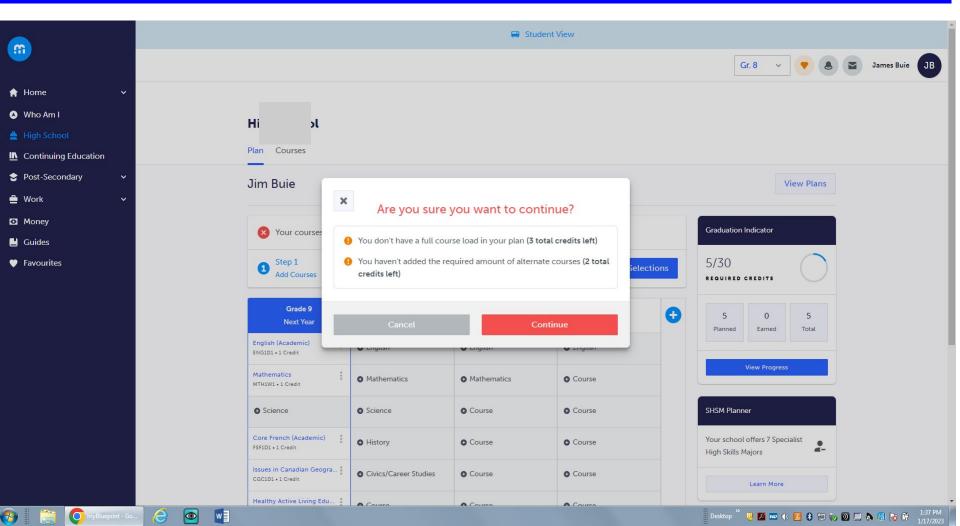
Your Guidance Counsellor will review and give final approval for all submissions.

Any submissions with an alert message(s) will be edited and/or addressed by your counsellor.

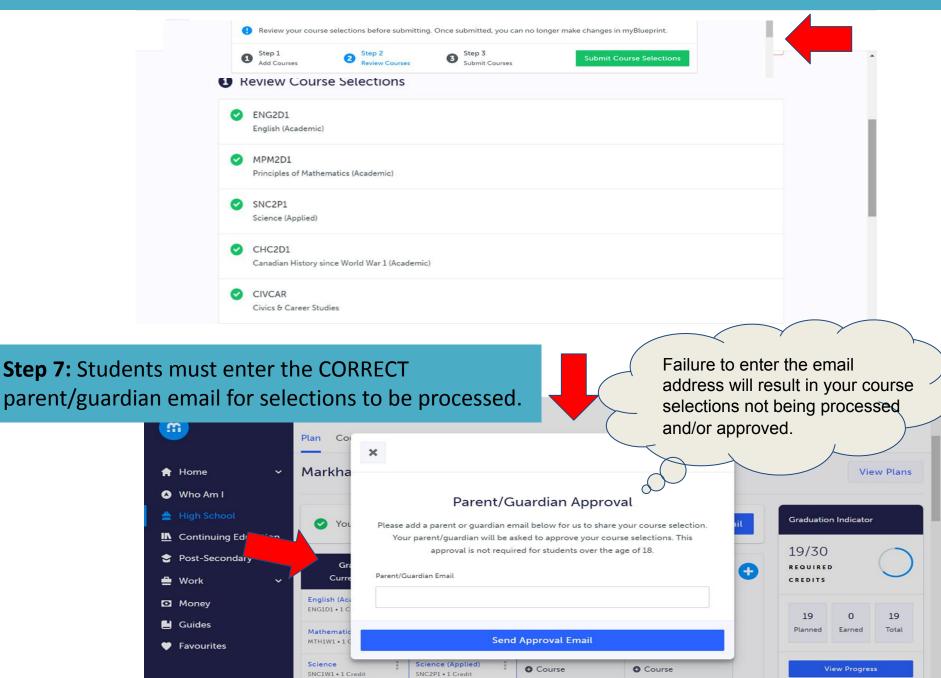
It is best that you fix the alerts before submission, if possible.

Example of Alert Message Please do not continue until errors are fixed.

- 1. You don't have a full course load in your plan
- 2. You have not added the required amount of alternate courses.



Step 6: Please ensure all of your "checkmarks" are green! Then Press Submit!



Final Steps for Course Selection



- After making final and wise decisions... and after reviewing with your parents/guardians...
 - → click submit between February 13th and 21st, 2025
- Early submissions are accepted but course selection is <u>not</u> on a first come first serve basis. Choose wisely & carefully.
- Equal consideration for timetabling of courses will be given to students who meet the deadline.

Submission deadline: Friday, February 21st, 2025

- Our Departments - Do you remember visiting our school...

Business Studies Computer Studies Co-op Drama English ESL **Family Studies** French as a Second Language Geography







Guidance History **Mathematics** Music **Physical Education** Science **Student Services Technological Studies** Visual Arts

Programs offered at Markham

Curricular Opportunities

Advanced Placement AP

Cooperative Education

Dual Credits

Exploring Opportunities Program (EOP)

Gifted Programming

Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP)

Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM)

SHSM Sectors

Arts & Culture

Health & Wellness

Construction

Horticulture & Landscaping

Non-profit

Transportation









Engaging in Learning















Experience Leadership

Markham **clubs** provide leadership opportunities. Examples are: DECA, LEAD, Music Council, SAC, SAA.







Student Athletic Association



Extra-curriculars!! Get Involved!!

African/Caribbean Excellence, Animation Club, Anime, Art Club, AV Team, Best Buddies, Book Club, Cheer, Chess Club, Classics, Compsci Club, Debate Club, Dungeons & Dragons, DECA, DSA, EcoMarkham, HOSA, HSA, Law Society, Mathletes, MEDLIFE, MSA, Peer Mentors, Prism, Puzzle and Logic Club, Robotics, Solar Dance, STEM, TSA, Women's Empowerment, Yarn Club, and...





















































Markham District









Marauders Athletics!













Spirit Days



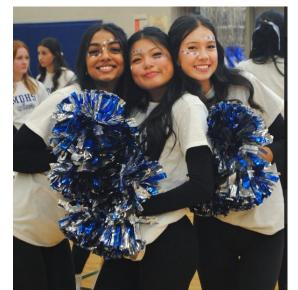














Markham District High School Cares

- Administration, Principal, Vice-Principals
- Guidance Department
- English Language Learner Support
- Program Supports (i.e. breakfast, Peer Mentors, etc)
- Student Success
- Student Services







Course Selection Checklist

- Login to your myBlueprint account
- ☐ Select courses using the High School Planner
- Submit your courses electronically online through myBlueprint
- □ Parent/Guardian approval: will be done electronically (ensure that we have the correct email address so that your parent/guardian can approve your selections) No paper copy is required.
- ☐ Deadline: Friday, February 21st, 2025

-Choose once - choose wisely-

Important Dates



Course Selection Opens

February 13th, 2025

Course Selection Deadline

February 21st, 2025

My Blueprint CLOSES to students on this day for all students.

Transfer Requests due to MDHS

Friday, January 31st, 2025

MDHS Course Selection Resource Material

All course offerings at MDHS may be found in:

- Your High School plan in myBlueprint
- MDHS Course Selection & Planning Guide pdf



***Visit the MDHS Guidance Google Site for all resources including this presentation.

MDHS Guidance Google Site

Go to YRDSB website

MDHS GUIDANCE

Home

Course Selection Resources

Graduation Requirements

Post-secondary Pathway Planning

Volunteer Community Involvement

E-Learning, Night School & Summer School

Specialist High Skills Major

Clubs & Sports Teams

Online Academic Resources

Markham District High School Guidance Department







Graduation Requirements



Post-Secondary Pathway
Planning



Volunteer Community
Involvement











Final Thoughts ...

- Consult with your teachers, SERT (where applicable) and parents/guardians about your course selections.
- Be realistic & wise!
- Be mindful of the deadlines. All students who meet the February 21st deadline are considered equally.
- There is NO rush to submit! No planners will be unlocked!
- GOOD LUCK!! We look forward to welcoming you to MDHS next year the MDHS CLASS of 2029!!
- If you have any questions, your Gr. 8 teacher(s) can reach out to us.