



Stouffville District Secondary School

Class of 2028

General Information & Course Selection Process
for Grade 8 Students



Grade 8 Open House

December 7, 2023

6:30-8:00 pm

- Musical Showcase
- Information Session
- Clubs and Teams Fair
- Self- Guided Tours
- Open Door Visits
- Gift Bag Draw
- School-aged Babysitting

**SDSS
GRADE 8
OPEN
HOUSE**

THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 7, 2023
6:30 - 8:00 PM

FEATURES

- ✓ Musical Showcase
- ✓ Information Session
- ✓ Club and Teams Fair
- ✓ Self-Guided Tours
- ✓ Open Doors Visits
- ✓ Gift Bag Draw
- ✓ School-Aged Babysitting

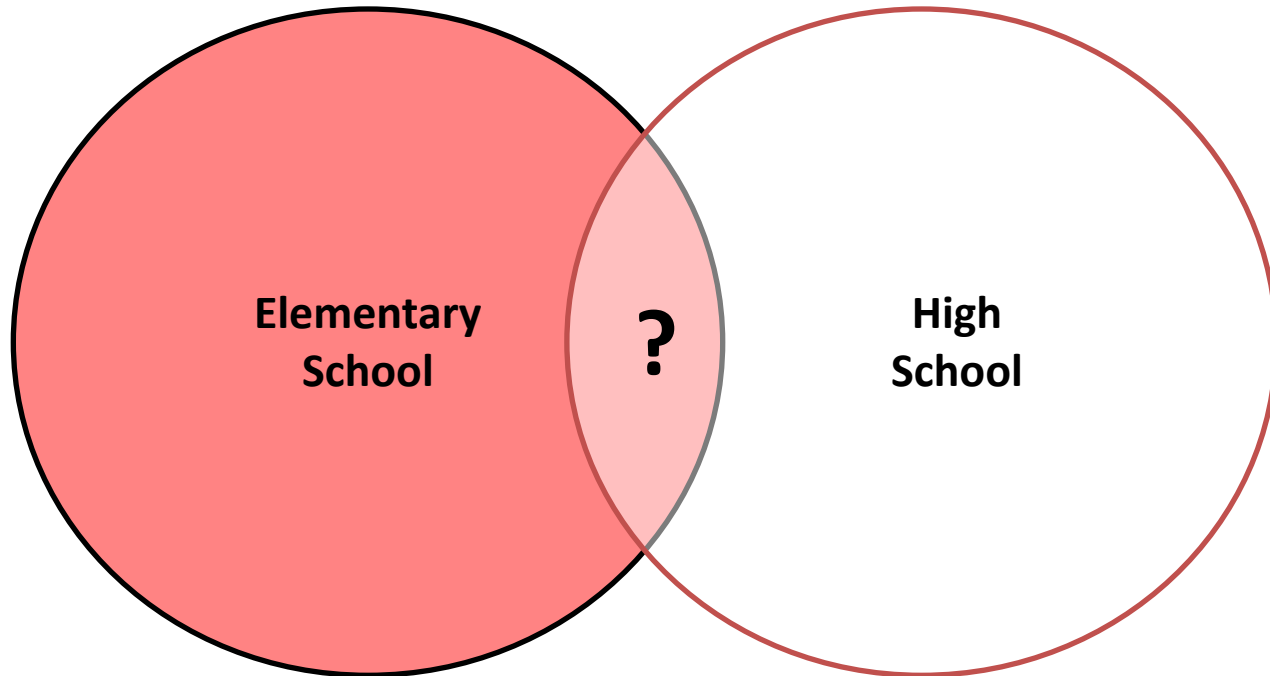
Come and join us to explore all of the amazing programs, options and opportunities that await you here at [Stouffville District Secondary School](#).

905-640-1433 | stouffville.dss@yrdsb.ca



Brainstorming Question

What do high school and elementary school have in common?





Brainstorming Question

How is Stouffville District Secondary School different from your elementary school?

Elementary
School

High
School



So, what's different?

- No recess
- Larger school (approximately 1350 students)
- Expecting ~400+ Grade 9 students next year
- Semester system – 2 semesters per year
- 4 courses (and teachers) per day
- 75 minute classes
- 1.5 hour final exams
- Credit system = 30 credits in 4 years
- Cafeteria and other specialized facilities (hospitality, autoshop, woodshop, etc.)



STOUFFVILLE DISTRICT SECONDARY SCHOOL

High School at a Glance for Grade 9 Students

Guidance Message

Welcome to the Stouffville District Secondary School Grade 9 Viewbook! We are very excited to have you join us in September and hope that you will have a wonderful time here. To ensure this happens, it is important that you carefully read this information as you make some important decisions about next year. In this Viewbook, there is a description for each of the grade nine elective courses, as well as an overview of what is required to graduate. There are instructions on how to electronically select your courses (starting in February) and information on various post-secondary pathways.

Stouffville District Secondary School is committed to encouraging learners to think critically, take ownership for their learning and engage with the changing world around them by developing resilience. We provide a variety of courses to support the learning needs of all students in our community.

In the senior grades, we offer the Specialist High Skills Major program, Co-op, Dual Credit and various experiential learning and reach ahead opportunities. The school also provides students with a wide variety of councils, clubs and athletic teams in the fall, winter and spring seasons. To learn more about our school and programs, we invite you to explore our school website (www.yrdsb.ca/schools/stouffville/district.ss). Additional regional information is available on the York Region District School Board's website.

HOME OF THE SPARTANS

GET INVOLVED! Learn new skills, meet new friends and have fun!

CLUBS		TEAMS			
Afro-Caribbean SA (ACSA) Art and Wellness Club Athletic Council Baking Club Best Buddies Program Book Club Breakfast Club Business Club Chess Club Christian Club	Culinary Arts Club Drama Club East Asian Student Association Empowered Student Partnerships Fitness Club French Club Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) Indian Student Association Math Club MLL Social Club	Music Council Muslim Student Assoc. Prom Committee Science Council Small Music Ensembles The Leadership Network Student Council Tamil Student Association Tech Crew Well-Being Team	Fall Basketball - Girls Cross Country Field Hockey - Girls Golf Rugby 7's Soccer - Boys Volleyball - Boys	Winter Badminton Basketball - Boys Hockey Volleyball - Girls	Spring Baseball - Boys Lacrosse Rugby 15's Soccer - Girls Track & Field Ultimate Frisbee

WHAT DO I NEED TO GRADUATE?

19 Compulsory Credits

Students must earn the following compulsory credits to obtain the Ontario Secondary School Diploma:

- 4 credits in English*
- 2 credits in mathematics
- 2 credits in science
- 1 credit in the arts
- 1 credit in Canadian history
- 1 credit in Canadian geography
- 1 credit in health and physical education
- 1 credit in French as a second language
- 1 credit in technological education
- 0.5 credit in career studies
- 0.5 credit in civics

Plus one credit from each of the following groups:

- Group 1
- 1 additional credit in English, or French as a Second Language, or a Native Language, or an International Language, or Social Science and the Humanities or Canadian and World Studies, or Guidance and Career Education, or Co-operative Education.
- Group 2
- 1 additional credit in Health and Physical Education, or the Arts, or Business Studies or French as a Second Language or Co-operative Education.
- Group 3
- 1 additional credit in Science or Computer Studies or Technological Education or French as a Second Language or Co-operative Education.

GRADE 9 COURSE TYPES

DE-STREAMED: De-streamed courses prepare students for the apprenticeship, college, university and workplace pathway. De-streamed courses are science, math and English. French and geography are offered at the academic level only.

OPEN: Open courses are designed to prepare students for further study in a subject and to enrich their education. Open courses are available in the arts, business, family studies, French, health and physical education and technology.

LOCALLY DEVELOPED: Locally developed courses support the needs of students who have been receiving significantly modified programming in Grade 8. Locally developed courses are available in English, Math and Science. (Grade 8 teacher recommendation required).

Dawn Laliberte - Principal
Nadia Bearcroft & Karen Fogleman - Vice Principals
Liz Davis- Superintendent of Schools; Melanie Wright - Trustee

11 Elective Credits

Students must earn 11 optional credits across their 4 years of high school. Optional credits allow students to explore areas of interest and enrichment. Grade 9 options are listed on the back of this viewbook.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test

In grade ten, all students write the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test. This is a requirement for graduation. The test includes several reading and writing tasks. At Stouffville District Secondary School we prepare our students by having them practice literacy activities, participate in after school programs, and complete targeted specific skill development through various grade ten classes.

Community Involvement

All Grade 9 - 12 students must complete a minimum of 40 hours of community involvement activities as part of the requirements for an Ontario Secondary School Diploma. A helpful hint is to encourage your child to complete at least 10 hours per year which will work towards completing the 40 hours necessary to graduate. Hours may begin to accumulate during the summer after grade 8.

Online Learning Requirement

Students are now required to earn two asynchronous Online Learning credits to graduate from secondary school. Student can opt out without penalty on My Pathway Planner beginning in Grade 11.

HONOURING ALL PATHWAYS

Students will learn about these post-secondary pathway options:

APPRENTICESHIP: hands-on training for those who want to work in a skilled trade; approximately 80% of training occurs on the job and 20% in a classroom.

COLLEGE: students may earn a certificate, diploma, advanced diploma or a bachelor's degree; combines theoretical knowledge and practical experience.

UNIVERSITY: students earn a bachelor's degree; theoretical academic training.

WORKPLACE: jobs for students who have completed high school; training is unique to each circumstance.

Selecting Your Courses



Step 1— Select Compulsory Courses

In Grade 9 all students must take:

- English
- Math
- Science
- French
- Geography
- Health and Physical Education

Step 2—Select Elective Courses

Students must select 2 electives and 2 alternates from the courses below.

Please know that alternates are used when electives cannot be timetabled. It is highly recommended that students select either an ARTS or TECHNOLOGY course in grade 9.

ADA101 — Drama *ARTS

This course provides opportunities for students to explore dramatic forms and techniques, using material from a wide range of sources and cultures. Students will use the elements of drama to examine situations and issues that are relevant to their lives. Students will create, perform, discuss, and analyze drama, and then reflect on the experiences to develop an understanding of themselves, the art form, and the world around them.

AMU101 — Music *ARTS

This course emphasizes the creation and performance of music at a level consistent with previous experience and is aimed at developing technique, sensitivity, and imagination. Students will develop musical literacy skills by using the creative and critical analysis processes in composition, performance, and a range of reflective and analytical activities. Students will develop an understanding of the conventions and elements of music and of safe practices related to music, and will develop a variety of skills transferable to other areas of their life.

AMR101 — Repertoire *ARTS

This course emphasizes the performance of music at a level that strikes a balance between challenge and skill and is aimed at developing technique, sensitivity, and imagination. Students will participate in creative activities that teach them to listen with understanding. They will also learn correct musical terminology and its appropriate use.

AVI01 — Visual Arts *ARTS

This course is exploratory in nature, offering an overview of visual arts as a foundation for further study. Students will become familiar with the elements and principles of design and the expressive qualities of various materials by using a range of media, processes, techniques, and styles. Students will use the creative and critical analysis processes and will interpret art within a personal, contemporary, and historical context.

BT101 — Information and Communication Technology in Business

This course introduces students to information and communication technology in a business environment and builds a foundation of digital literacy skills necessary for success in a technologically driven society. Students will develop word processing, spreadsheet, database, desktop publishing, presentation software, and website design skills. Throughout the course there is an emphasis on digital literacy, effective electronic research and communication skills, and current issues related to the impact of information and communication technology.

HFN101 — Food and Nutrition

This course focuses on guidelines for making nutritious food choices. Students will investigate factors that influence food choices, including beliefs, attitudes, current trends, traditional eating patterns, food marketing strategies, and individual needs. Students will also explore the environmental impact of a variety of food choices at the local and global level. The course provides students with opportunities to develop food preparation skills and introduces them to the use of social science research methods in the area of food and nutrition.

TJ101 — Exploring Technologies *TECHNOLOGY

This course enables students to further explore and develop technological knowledge and skills introduced in the elementary science and technology program. Students will be given the opportunity to design and create products and/or provide services related to the various technological areas or industries, working with a variety of tools, equipment, and software commonly used in industry. Students will develop an awareness of environmental and societal issues, and will begin to explore secondary and postsecondary education and training pathways leading to careers in technology-related fields.

TX101 — Exploring Hairstyling and Aesthetics *TECHNOLOGY

This exploratory course introduces students to concepts and skills related to hairstyling and aesthetics, including hair, nail, and skin care applications. Students will develop an awareness of related environmental and societal issues and will begin to explore secondary and postsecondary pathways leading to careers in the field.

Step 3—My Pathway Planner/ Online Course Selection

Course selection in the YRDSB is done online using My Pathway Planner. You can use this program to select courses, explore career and education options, and develop a career plan.

How to access and select courses:

- Go to www.yrdsb.ca/schools/stouffville/district.ss and select on the right hand side of the page.
- Login by using your GAPPs username and password.
- Once you are logged in, you will be on the "Dashboard". Here, you can begin the process of accessing your classes, setting goals, and/or setting up your portfolio. You can also save information about careers and post-secondary institutions you have researched.
- To enter your course selections for the next school year, click on "High School" from the list of options in the menu on the left hand side of the screen.
 - To choose a compulsory course (grayed font), click on the button. All of the courses in that discipline will appear.
 - To choose an elective course, click on the Course button.

A drop-down menu will appear with all disciplines available in our school.

Select the discipline you are interested in, or use the search box in the top right corner of the filter bar.

If you click on the course name or code, the description and prerequisites for the course will appear to the right.

To add the course to your selections, click the blue "Add Course" button.

Return to your course selection planner and the chosen course will appear.

Continue until you have selected all courses.

This symbol indicates a "Guidance Message" for you to read.

Hover over the blue symbol and a note will appear.

To make changes to your course selection, click on the icon to change or edit your selection.

- To review your course selection, click on the Review Course Selections button at the top of the planner.
- Review your course selections before submitting. Once submitted, you can no longer make changes.
- To submit your course selection, click the Submit Course Selections button.
- You will be prompted with a Send Approval Email to get parent/guardian approval. Please ensure your selections are approved by a parent/guardian so that your course selection submission is successful.

IMPORTANT DATES

Grade 8 Open House
Thursday, December 7, 2023
6:30 - 8 pm

Course Selection Timelines

Opens: February 15 @ 9:00 am
Closes: February 23 @ 4:00 pm

FOLLOW US

@stouffilledss

@stouffville_guidance



Experience Stouffville District Secondary School



TO GRADUATE I NEED....

	credits in English
	credits in mathematics
2	credits in _____
	credit in the Arts
1	credit in Canadian _____
	credit in Canadian geography
1	credit in _____
1	credit in _____ as a second language
1	credit in _____
0.5	credit in _____
	credit in Civics
	additional (Group) credits
	elective credits

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

I will write the **literacy test** in grade _____.

I need to complete _____ hours of **community involvement**.

I need to do _____ **online learning courses** but can opt-out with no penalty in my grade 11 year.

What are some healthy ways to take care of your own health and well-being? Fill the jar below!



MY GRADE 9 ELECTIVE CHOICES ARE:

WHERE CAN I FIND MEANINGFUL VOLUNTEERING EXPERINCES?



Exploring SDSS

10 MINUTES





Exploring SDSS

TIME IS UP!



**QUIZ
TIME!**



Quiz Time!

The SDSS school mascot is a...

- A. Raven
- B. Viking
- C. Wildcat
- D. Spartan



Quiz Time!

The SDSS school mascot is a...

- A. Raven
- B. Viking
- C. Wildcat
- D. **Spartan**



Quiz Time!

Which of the following is NOT one of the course types offered in Grade 9?

- A. Destreamed
- B. Locally Developed
- C. Closed
- D. Open



Quiz Time!

Which of the following is NOT one of the course types offered in Grade 9?

- A. Destreamed
- B. Locally Developed
- C. **Closed**
- D. Open



Types of Courses

Grade 9

Destreamed

- Replacing academic and applied courses
- English, Math & Science
- Geography and French





Types of Courses

Grades 9 & 10

Open

- Elective courses
- An opportunity to explore an area of interest for all students





Types of Courses

Grades 9 & 10

Locally Developed

- Courses for students who have been receiving significantly modified programming in grade 8
- English, Math, Science





Types of Courses

Grade 9 Health & Physical Education

All-Gender - PPL101

Girls - PPL108

Boys - PPL109





Quiz Time!

To graduate, I need ___ hours of community involvement.

- A. 10
- B. 20
- C. 30
- D. 40



Quiz Time!

To graduate, I need ___ hours of community involvement.

- A. 10
- B. 20
- C. 30
- D. **40**



Diploma Requirements (OSSD)

1. 30 credits
2. Successful completion of the Ontario Secondary School Literacy requirement
3. 40 hours of Community Involvement
4. Online Learning Requirement (complete two online asynchronous courses or opt-out in your grade 11 year)





Quiz Time!

To graduate, I must complete _____
English credits.

- A. 3
- B. 4
- C. 5
- D. 8



Quiz Time!

To graduate, I must complete _____
English credits.

- A. 3
- B. 4**
- C. 5
- D. 8



Quiz Time!

To graduate, I must complete 3 credits in which subject area?

- A. Mathematics
- B. Arts
- C. Science
- D. Technology Studies



Quiz Time!

To graduate, I must complete 3 credits in which subject area?

- A. **Mathematics**
- B. Arts
- C. Science
- D. Technology Studies



Compulsory Credits

- 4 credits in English (1 credit per grade, max. 3 ESL credits)
- 3 credits in Mathematics (at least 1 in Gr. 11 or 12)
- 2 credits in Science
- 1 credit in the Arts (music, visual arts, drama)
- 1 credit in Canadian history
- 1 credit in Canadian geography
- 1 credit in Health and Physical Education
- 1 credit in French as a second language
- 1 credit in Technology - **new**
- 0.5 credit in Civics (Grade 10)
- 0.5 credit in Career Studies (Grade 10)



Compulsory Credits

Plus ... one from the EACH of the following:

Group 1: **ONE** additional credit in English, or French as a Second Language, or a Native, Classical or International Language, or a Social Science and Humanities, or Canadian and World Studies, or Guidance & Career Education, or Co-op Education *

Group 2: **ONE** additional credit in Health and Physical Education, or Business Studies, or the Arts (music, visual arts, drama), or French as a Second Language, or Co-op Education *

Group 3: **ONE** additional credit in Science (grades 11 or 12), or Technological Education (grades 9-12), or Computer Studies or French as a Second Language, or Co-op Education *

- *a maximum of 2 credits in cooperative education can count as compulsory credits;*
- *French as a second language can count as a Group 2 or Group 3, not both*



***NEW* Technological Education Requirement**

- As announced in March 2023, the Ontario government is implementing a new high school graduation requirement
- Students entering Grade 9 in September 2024 will now be required to earn a Grade 9 or 10 Technical Education credit as part of their OSSD.
- No additional information has been provided since the announcement
- We have 10 Grade 9 or 10 Technological Education course options at SDSS:
 - **Grade 9** - Exploring Technologies, Hairstyling & Aesthetics
 - **Grade 10** - Construction Technology, Technological Design, Computer Engineering Technology, Hospitality & Tourism, Communications Technology, Transportation Technology, Hairstyling & Aesthetics

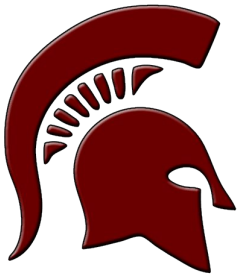


11 Elective Credits

- Allows students to explore areas of interest and enrichment
- Can support career pathways
- Various opportunities available







Course Selection

In order to meet graduation diploma requirements, students will take the following courses in grade 9:

1. English
2. Mathematics
3. Science
4. Geography
5. French
6. Health & Physical Education
7. Elective 1 (recommend art or tech)
8. Elective 2



Course Selection

Students can choose 2 elective credits from the following:

1. Drama
2. Music
3. Visual Arts
4. Exploring Technology
5. Exploring Hairstyling and Aesthetics
6. Food and Nutrition
7. Information and Communication Technology in Business
8. Learning Strategies (must have an IEP)

Note: If a student chooses to not take an Arts course (Music, Visual Arts, Dramatic Arts) in Grade 9, it is strongly recommended that they take one in Grade 10



Supports and Programs





Special Education

Identified students can receive the following classroom support:

- Learning Strategies classes
- Monitoring/in-class resourcing
- Accommodations
- Learning Centre access
- Student transition plan to post-secondary education, work and/or community living





Student Success

Our student success team provides support for students without an IEP who are experiencing barriers to success. Our team is made up of:

- Student Success teacher - Ms. Taccone
- 2 Child and Youth Workers - Ms. Simick and Ms. Rotondi
- Guidance and Administration

In addition to supporting students with social-emotional challenges, they support with

- classwork
- credit recovery
- peer-tutoring





ESL Support Program

- Students new to Canada may need help to develop the level of proficiency in English required for success at school.
- ESL courses are offered from Level A – E and support the transition into regular English classes.
- Speak to your teachers to see which level would be appropriate for you
- Supports/accommodations will continue throughout



Sports at SDSS

Fall

Basketball—Girls

Cross-Country

Field Hockey—Girls

Golf—Boys & Girls

Rugby 7's —Boys & Girls

Soccer - Boys Varsity

Volleyball—Boys

Winter

Badminton—Boys & Girls

Basketball—Boys

Hockey— Boys & Girls

Volleyball—Girls

Spring

Baseball— Boys

Lacrosse— Boys & Girls

Rugby 15's - Boys & Girls

Soccer — Girls

Track & Field - Boys & Girls

Ultimate Frisbee - Co-ed





Clubs at SDSS

Afro Caribbean Student Alliance (ASCA)

Art & Wellness Club

Athletic Council

Baking Club

Best Buddies Program

Book Club

Chess Club

Christian Club

Culinary Arts Club

Business Club

Drama Club

East Asian Student Association (EASA)

Empowered Student Partnerships (ESP)

ESL Social Club

Fitness Club

French Club

Gay Straight Alliance

Indian Student Association (ISA)

Music Council

Muslim Student Association (MSA)

Prom Committee

Small Music Ensembles

Science Council

Student Council

Tamil Student Alliance (TSA)

Tech Crew

The Leadership Network

Well-Being Team





Stouffville District
Secondary School

iLeD

(Innovative Leadership & Entrepreneurship Development)

CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

 BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 2024 !!



LEADER

iLED

(Innovative Leadership & Entrepreneurship Development)

CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Program Rationale

To motivate students to seek and engage in courses and experiences that allow them to develop leadership and entrepreneurship knowledge and skills that will prepare them for future leadership roles and opportunities.

Program Components

Classroom
Leadership

Extra-
Curricular
Leadership

Community
Leadership

Volunteerism

iLED

(Innovative Leadership & Entrepreneurship Development)

CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Student Candidates for Program

Open to students in ALL pathways and of ALL levels of academic ability

Candidates must demonstrate:

- a commitment to their personal growth & development AND/OR
- a positive influence on others AND/OR
- a desire to actively initiate & create positive change

Grade 9 teacher and student self nominations accepted

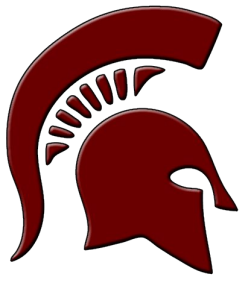
Grade 10 entry





Transfer Process

- Students mapped to Stouffville District Secondary School who are interested in attending a different YRDSB high school must submit their transfer form to your grade 8 teacher by **Friday, February 2, 2024**.
- On **Monday, February 12, 2024** families will learn whether or not their transfer request has been approved.
- Students wanting to register with a secondary school outside of the YRDSB must select “**Not Returning**” in My Pathway Planner during the course selection window (between February 15 and February 23, 2024).



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