

Options for the 2021-2022 school year

After consultation with students and staff, we will continue with the same complementary, (option) course procedures as this current school year.

In lieu of choice, we are offering a wide variety of complementary courses for students to experience during the school year. We have heard from students that this exposure to a number of different subjects was fun, engaging and eye-opening. Courses that students may not have chosen in the past were some of their favourites this year. We are also looking to bring back some popular courses such as Foods & Construction/Fabrication.

Students commented that in the past system of option choice, class numbers were limited and students may have been placed in their second or third preference. Choosing options based on their friend's choices was also a common theme that students indicated resulted in a less satisfactory experience. Students also shared their option preferences for next year. Maintaining our current structure allows students the maximum experience throughout the year.

Complementary courses would run for two and a half months and change quarterly. Students would remain with their homerooms for option classes and all students in a grade would take the same complementary courses as everyone else, (with the exception of Academy.)

NOTE: As is the case this year, Hockey & Cheer **Academy** students would not receive complementary courses on <u>Tuesdays & Thursdays</u>, instead opting to take part in Academy. For Grade 6 Academy students, this would mean they would have Art, FSL & Academy. For Grade 7 & 8 students, they would take part in Academy as well as M, W & F complementary course classes.

Students in Grade 6 would experience Art & French as a Second Language as part of their weekly curriculum. On top of that, non-Academy students would take the following on **Tuesdays & Thursdays**, (one course per quarter;)

- Foods & Fashions
- Construction/Fabrication
- Drama
- Music

Students in Grade 7 & 8 would experience two different complementary courses each quarter for a total of EIGHT for non-Academy students.

GRADE 7	
Monday, Wednesday & Friday	Tuesday & Thursday
 Art Communication Technology Fabrication/Construction Foods/Fashions 	• Film Studies The other three courses will be determined based on staffing, (still TBD) as well as consultation with grade 6s to ensure an engaging and diverse course offering.

TENTATIVE COMPLIMENTARY COURSE OFFERINGS FOR 2021-2022

GRADE 8	
Monday, Wednesday & Friday	Tuesday & Thursday
 Art Communication Technology Fabrication/Construction 	 Driver's Education Computing Principles Sports Medicine
Foods/Fashions	• 1 more- TBD based on staffing

BAND 7 & 8: Band is a full-year option. In the past, students chose band in lieu of three other options. This coming year, we are able to offer Band to non-Academy students in grades 7 & 8 who are interested while still participating in all other option classes. Band will take place on Tuesday & Thursday in block 6 during our Community, (Tuesday) & Catchup, (Thursday) blocks.

DRAMA Production/School Play: Once public health restrictions are lifted, we will be able to offer this as an extracurricular program for students in grades 6, 7 & 8. Students will be able to audition for roles as well as volunteer to join the backstage crew.

Please know that we are not opposed to looking at a choice-based system after the start of the school year but genuinely feel that our current system gives students a wide range of experiences that help them make the most informed choices for high school based on their passion and interest.

This system would also allow us to maintain cohorts as a proactive safety measure during the Pandemic.