

Why is it important to stay in the OCDSB for Secondary School?

Options and Pathways



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High School Considerations

- Location, Location, Location...
- What else should we consider?
- What are some reasons that could make staying in the public system and coming to South Carleton for high school better for your children and why?



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50% more electives*:

- To graduate with OSSD students need 18 compulsory credits + 12 electives
- In Catholic system, Religion Class = 4 credits, reducing the number of elective choices from 12 to 8
- Add this to fact that many courses required for almost any pathway are considered electives, the true elective choices in the Catholic system can be near zero



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Impact of reduced electives:

- To truly understand the impact one needs to understand the credit system, and understand how pathways to postsecondary destinations are impacted by the religion requirement in the Catholic system
- To do this I'll outline how the credit system works and discuss several fairly typical examples



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Compulsory Course template

GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
English	English	English	English
Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics	
Science	Science		
Canadian Geography	Canadian History		
French	Civics/ Career Studies		
Physical Education	Two other “group” credits		
Arts			
Tech, 2nd Arts or 2nd Phys Ed			

ENGLISH STREAM “STEM” pathway

GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
English	English	English	English
Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics	Advanced Functions
Science	Science	Biology	Calculus
Canadian Geography	Canadian History	Chemistry	Biology
French	Civics/ Career Studies	Physics	Chemistry
Physical Education	Computer Science?	A senior social science	Physics
Arts	Computer Engineering?	Communication Technology?	
Tech, 2nd Arts or 2nd Phys Ed	Outdoor Ed? Business? Art? Foods? Dance?	Fitness? Guitar? Spanish? Yoga? Law?	

Catholic System English “STEM” pathway

GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
English	English	English	English
Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics	Advanced Functions
Science	Science	Biology	Calculus
Canadian Geography	Canadian History	Chemistry	Biology
French	Civics/ Career Studies	Physics	Chemistry
Physical Education	Computer Science?	A senior social science	Physics
Arts*	Computer Engineering?	Communication Technology?	Religion
Religion	Religion	Religion	

French Immersion “STEM” pathway

GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
English	English	English	English
Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics	Advanced Functions
Science	Science	Biology	Calculus
Canadian Geography	Canadian History	Chemistry	Biology
French	French	Physics	Chemistry
Physical Education	Civics/ Career Studies	French	Physics
Arts*	Computer Science?	A senior social science	French
Tech, 2nd Arts or 2nd Phys Ed	Dance? Art? Outdoor Ed?	?????	

Catholic system F.I. “STEM” pathway

GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
English	English	English	English
Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics	Advanced Functions
Science	Science	Biology	Calculus
Canadian Geography	Canadian History	Chemistry	Biology
French	French	Physics	Chemistry
Physical Education	Civics/ Career Studies	French	Physics
Arts*	Computer Science?	A senior social science	French
Religion	Religion	Religion	Religion

Differences?

- Double the true elective choices (6 vs 3)
- Double the opportunities for spare or additional courses in grade 12
- Actual opportunity for coop experience
- Even more pronounced in French Immersion Stream (4 vs only 1!)
- And this doesn't even address the religion embedded in the curriculum in all courses



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Non-”STEM” pathways

- With the French Immersion non-”STEM” pathways the impact is still huge. The 4 religion + 3 additional french + gr 11 science + gr 12 math leaves only 3 real choices within your 30 credits to discover areas of interest and/or potential (vs 7 in OCDSB)
- With the English stream non-”STEM” pathways the impact is less, but the religion still takes the place of four courses that could be arts, phys. ed., tech, co-op etc.



Final word on electives

- All the above assumes that students are successful in every course, and that they have a pathway planned early enough
- But it is very hard to have a pathway planned until you try courses, discover strengths/limitations and really learn about where you want to go. In a system where you have more limits on your choices, you have more limits on your pathways.



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D.E.L.F.

- The D.E.L.F. is the Diplôme d'étude en langue française
- Globally recognized program to assess French language
- Significant advantage for students looking for part-time, summer, or permanent work that requires French language proficiency



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No compulsory fees

- OCDSB has made commitment to follow the Ministry of Education directive on ensuring there is no cost to access the curriculum.
- No course fees, no lab fees, no shop fees, no cost Outdoor Education, and so on.
- Some costs for voluntary activities such as field trips and extra-curricular programs (athletics, clubs, AP, etc)



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Firm class size caps

Classes have “hard” caps that ensure smaller class sizes and lower student:teacher ratios to better support students

- Locally Developed/Essentials 17
- Practical 20
- Junior (grade 9 and 10):
 - Applied 24, Open 26, Academic 28
- Senior (grade 11 and 12):
 - College 25, Open 28, University 30



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International Certificate Program

- The International Certificate Program (I.C.P.) creates more globally aware student citizens and links students with potential travel opportunities
- I.C.P. is another opportunity for students to demonstrate self-selected enrichment to post-secondary and employers
- Participants earn the certificate by: Studying an international language; taking internationally-focused classes; understanding global issues; participating in an internationally focused project of their choice, and more.



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Student Success Model

- The Student Success program is an initiative from the Ministry of Education that is in place in all school boards
- Credit Recovery/Rescue
- OCDSB offers extensive ongoing credit intervention or rescue during a course
- Also support for ILCs (independent learning courses) and on-line courses for all students.



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Transition Supports

- The OCDSB is focused on creating positive transitions for our students moving from grade 8 to grade 9
- We have a LINK crew program which matches trained senior student leaders with the incoming grade 9 students
- Grade 8 preparation/visits includes tours for students, open house for parents, secondary guidance teachers to feeder school for option selection support, and more....



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Transportation

- While some parents and students may look at the need to take a yellow school bus as a negative, the fact is that school buses are the safest mode of transportation for getting children back and forth to school (source: NHSTA).
- For Stittsville parents, South Carleton offers an OC Transpo run from the school to Stittsville every day at 4:30



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Facilities

- New buildings look nice on the outside, but aren't always an advantage...
- Traditional buildings like ours have spaces such as auto shop, foods room, wood shop, art rooms, etc. that are built on a much bigger scale in the older buildings than in new facilities



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Special Programs



- SHSM programs (manufacturing, house building, digital information technology, health and wellness, transportation) offer Red Seal diploma and additional certifications for students recognized within industry
- In addition to Auto, Wood, and Comm Tech courses, we also offer Manufacturing Technology, Tech Design, and Computer Engineering courses.



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Special Programs



- Dance, Music, and Performance Drama at every grade level
- Lots of wellness options: Foods, Fitness, Outdoor Ed, even a new Yoga program
- SPARK program: pairs personal fitness and Math in a special timetable format to provide focused support for at risk grade 10 students. Leads to improved learning throughout the day.



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Final thoughts

- Is location the best reason to choose a school or is it program?
- In the same way that going out of town for university or college for the best programs might be the right thing for your child, travel time on our very safe buses to get to improved program might also be in the best interest of your child...
- Please come visit us on evening of Feb. 8th, 2018 for our Open House



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