

New Westminster Secondary School

2025 – 2026

Grade 8 Parent Information Evening

Sandra Singh: Director of Instruction, Learning and Innovation

Pamela Craven: Director of Instruction, Secondary Programs

Susana Quan: Principal

Harinder Mahli: Vice-Principal

Gary Pattern: Vice-Principal

Miriam Schellenberg: Vice-Principal



New
Westminster
Schools

Counsellors:

Sarekha Jagpal, Marika Melvin, Nancy Milne,
Matthew Mitchell, Dave Mori, Jennifer Towers



Land Acknowledgement

New Westminster Schools recognizes and acknowledges the Qayqayt First Nation, as well as all Coast Salish peoples, on whose traditional and unceded territories we live, we learn, we play, and we do our work.

2025 – 2026 Administrators



M. SCHELLENBERG
Vice-Principal

Ms. Miriam Schellenberg
Vice-Principal
“A – C” Student Support

mschellenberg@sd40.bc.ca



H. MAHLI
Vice-Principal

Ms. Harinder Mahli
Vice-Principal
“M–R” Student Support, Sigma Support

hmahli@sd40.bc.ca



G. PATTERN
Vice-Principal

Mr. Gary Pattern
Vice-Principal
“D–L” Student Support

gpattern@sd40.bc.ca









S. QUAN
Principal

Ms. Susana Quan
Principal
“S – Z” Student Support, International
Student Support

squan@sd40.bc.ca

2025–2026 Counsellors

| | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
|  | <p>Mr. Matthew Mitchell mmitchell@sd40.bc.ca “A–Ce,” International Education</p> |  | <p>Ms. Nancy Milne nmilne@sd40.bc.ca “Me – Sa” Student Support</p> |
|  | <p>Ms. Marika Melvin mjmelvin@sd40.bc.ca “Ci – Ho” Student Support</p> |  | <p>Ms. Jennifer Towers jtowers@sd40.bc.ca “Sc–Z” Student Support</p> |
|  | <p>Mr. Dave Mori dmori@sd40.bc.ca “Hr – Mc” Student Support</p> |  | <p>Ms. Sarekha Jagpal sjagpal@sd40.bc.ca “Sigma” Student Support</p> |

An overview of the NWSS Course Planning process will be the focus for tonight's presentation.

If you have any questions, please email your child's counsellor.

We may have a few minutes at the end of tonight's presentation to answer a few questions as well.

This PowerPoint Presentation will be uploaded to our school website.



Extended Day Timetable

| Monday – Friday | Start | End | Total minutes |
|-----------------|-------|-------|---------------|
| Block A | 8:00 | 9:20 | 80 |
| | 9:20 | 9:24 | 4 |
| Block B | 9:24 | 10:44 | 80 |
| | 10:44 | 10:48 | 4 |
| Block C | 10:48 | 12:08 | 80 |
| Lunch | 12:08 | 12:58 | 50 |
| Block D | 12:58 | 2:18 | 80 |
| | 2:18 | 2:22 | 4 |
| Block E | 2:22 | 3:42 | 80 |

School Mission

Mission Statement:



Our mission at New Westminster Secondary School is to develop responsible citizens and lifelong learners who respect learning, the environment, themselves and others.

This we believe:

Students, staff and parents working together to teach, model and reinforce our three simple School Rules will ensure a successful year for everyone:

Respect Learning
Respect the Environment
Respect Yourself and Others

Course Planning & Selection 2025 – 2026

will begin in *Mid-February*

Instructional Delivery Methods at NWSS

IN-CLASS LEARNING

FACE TO FACE CLASSROOM LEARNING IS INSTRUCTIONAL SESSIONS THAT ENABLE A STUDENT TO LEARN THROUGH VARIED INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS, UNDER THE DIRECT GUIDANCE OF A TEACHER IN A BRICK-AND-MORTAR BUILDING (NWSS).

ONLINE LEARNING

STUDENTS CHOOSING TO TAKE ANY CLASS ONLINE (NEW WEST ONLINE LEARNING OR OTHER GOVERNMENT REGULATED ONLINE SCHOOLS) MUST ENSURE THEY GET THEMSELVES REGISTERED IN A TIMELY MANNER, SUBMIT ASSIGNMENTS WEEKLY, AND ARRANGE TO TAKE TESTS IN THE ONLINE LEARNING CLASSROOM – 3039 (OPEN FROM 10 AM TO 4 PM EVERY SCHOOL DAY).

**Our Course
Description
Booklet is on our
school website:**

www.nwss.ca

->Students

->2025-2026

Course Selection



**NEW WESTMINSTER
SECONDARY SCHOOL
2025—2026**

COURSE DESCRIPTION BOOKLET

820 Sixth Street, New Westminster BC V3M 3S9

604.517.6220

www.nwss.ca



Ministry of
Education

Graduation Dogwood Diploma

52 **required** course credits (13 courses):

- 1) Language Arts 10
- 2) Language Arts 11
- 3) Language Arts 12
- 4) Social Studies 10
- 5) A Social Studies 11 or 12
- 6) Science 10
- 7) A Science 11 or 12
- 8) A Mathematics 10
- 9) A Mathematics 11 or 12
- 10) Physical and Health Education 10
- 11) A Fine Arts or Applied Design, Skills and Tech. 10, 11 or 12
- 12) Career Life Education 10
- 13) Career Life Connections 12
- 14) Indigenous Grad Requirement in grade 10, 11 or 12

French Immersion Program: 64 required course credits (16 courses):

These include courses from the above subject areas and Français Langue Seconde 10, 11 and 12



Ministry of
Education

French Immersion/Dual Dogwood

- French Immersion students can earn both a BC Certificate of Graduation (Dogwood Diploma) and a Diplôme de fin d'études secondaires en Colombie-Britannique
- FI students have 12 more required credits (for their French courses) for a total of **64** required credits and so require 16 elective credits (4 courses), for the same total of 80 required credits
- FI students write one additional graduation assessment for French, "Littératie 12"

Course #1: English Language Arts 9



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Course #2: Social Studies 9

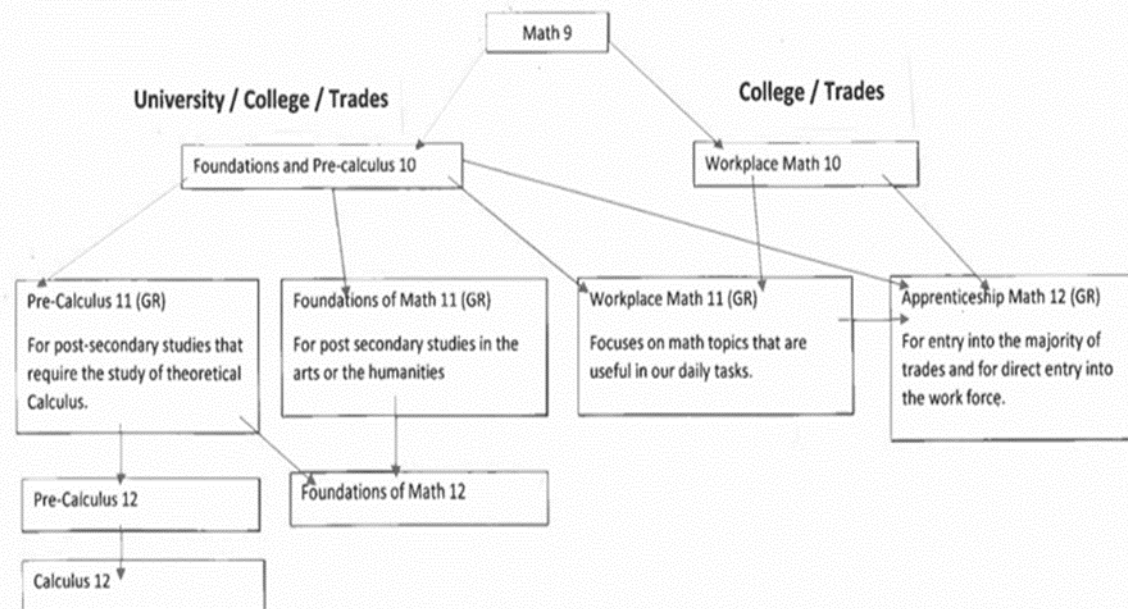
(Or Sciences Humaines 9)



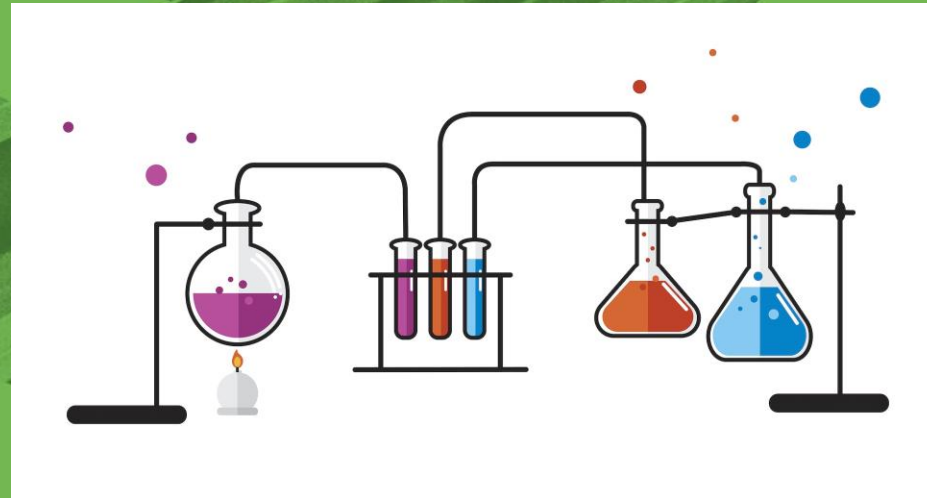
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Course #3: Mathematics 9

NWSS Math Opportunities



Course #4: Science 9 (Or Sciences 9)



Course #5: Physical & Health Education 9 (Education Physique et Sante 9)



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Course #6: Arts Education 9



Arts Education 9 Option #1

Semester Course Rotating Through:

- Dance 9
- Drama 9

Arts Education 9 Option #2 (\$10 Supply Fee)

Semester Course Rotating Through:

- Visual Arts 9-2D
- Visual Arts 9-3D

Individual Semester Long Courses:

- Concert Choir 9
- Guitar 9
- Concert Band 9 (Full year course, backed with English 9)

Course #7: ADST 9

Applied Design Skills, and Technologies #1

Semester course on rotation

- Woodwork 9
- Metalwork 9
- Electronics & Robotics 9
- Drafting 9

Applied Design Skills, and Technologies #2

Semester course on rotation

- Entrepreneurship and Marketing 9
- Information and Communications Technologies 9
- Media Arts 9
- Textiles 9

- RIM 9 – all term, useful prep for IB programme





Course #8: Electives and Optional Course Requests

Optional Electives

(Can be 8th, 9th, or 10th course)

Hockey Academy 9

Lacrosse 9

Football Academy 9

Leadership Athletics 9

Vocal Jazz 9

Jazz Band 9

Orchestra 9

*In addition to standard 8 timetabled courses

Languages

*Français Langue 9 (*Required for FI*)

French 9

Japanese 9

Korean 9

Spanish 9

Punjabi 9

Mandarin 9

Other Elective

Research In Motion 9 – all term, useful prep for IB programme



GRADE 9 COURSE REQUEST 2025- 2026



Please refer to our NWSS 2025 – 2026 Course Description Booklet (www.nwss.ca ; "student" tab = "Course Selection" tab) that will provide you with detailed information and support you with course selection. Students and their guardians are responsible to ensure successful completion of all courses required for graduation and post-secondary admissions. Course selection is subject to availability; update/change may occur without notice to suit the dynamic needs of our students and school.

GRADE 9 FRENCH IMMERSION COURSE REQUEST 2025- 2026



Please refer to our NWSS 2025 – 2026 Course Description Booklet (www.nwss.ca ; "student" tab = "Course Selection" tab) that will provide you with detailed information and support you with course selection. Students and their guardians are responsible to ensure successful completion of all courses required for graduation and post-secondary admissions. Course selection is subject to availability; update/change may occur without notice to suit the dynamic needs of our students and school.

Full Name: _____ Student # _____

Parent/Guardian Contact #: _____ Parent/Guardian Email: _____

Student Contact #: _____ (optional) Student Email: _____

Circle Middle School Name: Fraser River Middle School OR Queensborough Middle School OR Glenbrook Middle School

Circle Your Counsellor's Name: Mr. Mitchell (A-Ce, International Ed) Mr. Mori (He-Mas) Ms. Melvin (Ch-Ha)
Ms. Milne (Mat-Sam) Ms. Towers (San-Z) Ms. Jagpal (SIGMA)

Full Name: _____ Student # _____

Parent/Guardian Contact #: _____ Parent/Guardian Email: _____

Student Contact #: _____ (optional) Student Email: _____

Circle Middle School Name: Fraser River Middle School OR Queensborough Middle School OR Glenbrook Middle School

Circle Your Counsellor's Name: Mr. Mitchell (A-Ce, International Ed) Mr. Mori (He-Mas) Ms. Melvin (Ch-Ha)
Ms. Milne (Mat-Sam) Ms. Towers (San-Z) Ms. Jagpal (SIGMA)

RETURN THIS SIGNED FORM TO YOUR DIVISION TEACHER AND COMPLETE COURSE SELECTION ONLINE BY FEBRUARY 20th

RETURN THIS SIGNED FORM TO YOUR DIVISION TEACHER AND COMPLETE COURSE SELECTION ONLINE BY FEBRUARY 20th

| Grade 9 | Required Courses | Your Selection | Taking at NWSS or Online Circle One |
|-----------|---|-------------------------------|---|
| Course #1 | English 9 | English 9 | NWSS / ONLINE |
| Course #2 | Social Studies 9 | Social Studies 9 | NWSS / ONLINE |
| Course #3 | Mathematics 9 | Mathematics 9 | NWSS / ONLINE |
| Course #4 | Science 9 | Science 9 | NWSS / ONLINE |
| Course #5 | Physical & Health Education 9 | Physical & Health Education 9 | NWSS / ONLINE |
| Course #6 | Art Education 9 | | NWSS |
| Course #7 | Applied Design, Skills, and Technology 9 | | NWSS |
| Course #8 | Elective | | NWSS |
| Optional | Optional Course Request in addition to the 8 standard timetabled courses above | 1. 2. | NWSS |
| | Alternatives | 1. 2. | NWSS |

| Grade 9 French Immersion | Required Courses | Your Selection | Taking at NWSS or Online Circle One |
|-----------------------------|---|-------------------------------|---|
| Course #1 | English 9 | English 9 | NWSS / ONLINE |
| Course #2 | Français Langue Seconde 9 | Français Langue Seconde 9 | NWSS |
| Course #3 | Mathematics 9 | Mathematics 9 | NWSS / ONLINE |
| Course #4 | Sciences Naturelles 9 | Sciences Naturelles 9 | NWSS |
| Course #5 | Sciences Humaines 9 | Sciences Humaines 9 | NWSS |
| Course #6 | Éducation Physique et Santé 9 | Éducation Physique et Santé 9 | NWSS |
| Course #7 | Arts Education 9 | | NWSS |
| Course #8 | Applied Design, Skills, and Technology 9 | | NWSS |
| Optional | Optional Course Request in addition to the 8 standard timetabled courses above | 1. 2. | NWSS |
| | Alternatives | 1. 2. | NWSS |

Communicate with your Counsellor

Your MyEd “Notes to Counsellor” *must be the same* as the notes you include on your paper copy submitted to the Counselling Office.

(eg) ~ courses that need to be separated (IEP or accommodations)

~ courses that need to be paired with a “Support Block

Any Special Notes to the Counsellor

We have reviewed the above course selections and have completed and POSTED the selections online at <https://www.myeducation.gov.bc.ca/aspen/logon.do>

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____

Scan a copy of this form for your safe keeping.



Arts Education 9

ARTS EDUCATION

Arts 1: Rotation of Dance and Drama (MAE—09)
 Arts 2: Rotation of Visual Arts 2D and 3D (\$10 Fee) (MVA—09)
 Arts 3: Concert Choir (MMU—09C)
 Arts 4: Guitar 9 (MMU—09G)
 Arts 5: Concert Band 9 (MMU—09CB)
 (this is a full year course that is backed with English 9)

Applied Design, Skills and Technology (ADST) 9

ADST

Rotation 1 (4 courses on a rotation system within one semester) (MADPT—09)
 Woodwork 9
 Metalwork 9
 Electronics and Robotics 9
 Drafting 9

Rotation 2 (4 courses on a rotation system within one semester) (MADPT—09)
 Entrepreneurship and Marketing 9
 Information and Communication Technologies 9
 Media Arts 9
 Textiles 9

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Optional Additional Course Requests

Hockey Academy 9 (One Semester) (XLDCD09H)
 Lacrosse 9 (XLDCD09LAC)
 Leadership Athletics 9 (XLDCD09LA)
 Football Academy 9 (XLDCD09F)

Music

Choral Music (Vocal jazz) (MMU—09VJ)
 *Music 9 Jazz Band (MMU—09JB)
 Music 9 Orchestra (MMU—09O)

Musical Theatre Program 9 (Not Available in 2025-2026)

*To be in Jazz Band you must also register in Concert Band

Modern Languages

Français Langue 9 (French immersion)
 EFRA09)

French 9 (MFR—09)
 Japanese 9 (MJA—09)
 Mandarin 9 (MMAN—09)
 Punjabi 9 (MPUN 09)
 Spanish 9 (MSP—09)

Other Elective

*Research in Motion 9 (XLDCA09)

Student's Responsibility for Course Selection

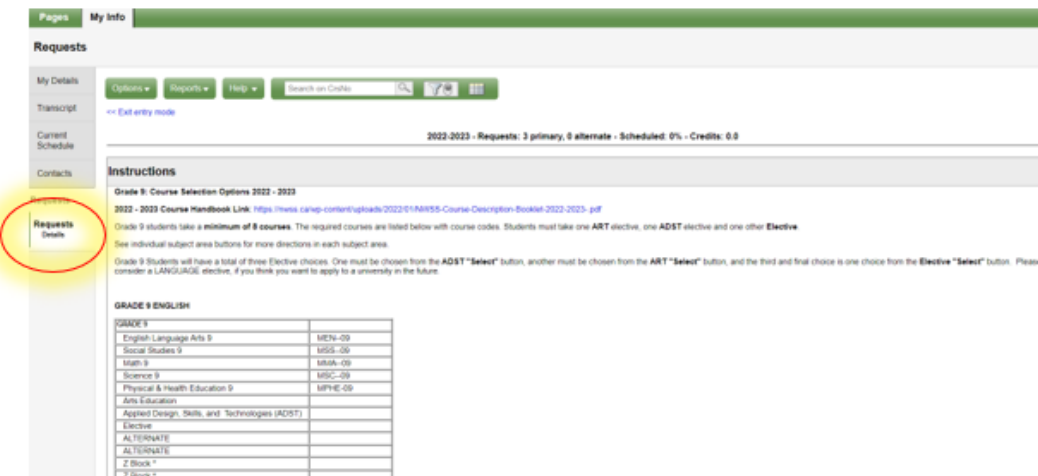
- 🌊 Read the Course Description Booklet – which will be available on the school website
- 🌊 Choose your courses wisely
 - 🌊 Consider your career and post-secondary plans
- 🌊 Have your course selection form signed by a parent/guardian, take a photo of it and enter your selections into MyEd BC
 - 🌊 **Your online course selections should match your paper course selections**
- 🌊 Your middle school will collect your forms and deliver them to NWSS

1) Log into MyEducation account (<https://myeducation.gov.bc.ca/aspen/home.do>) using the Student Account information provided by your child's Middle School.

2) Click on the tab "My Info"



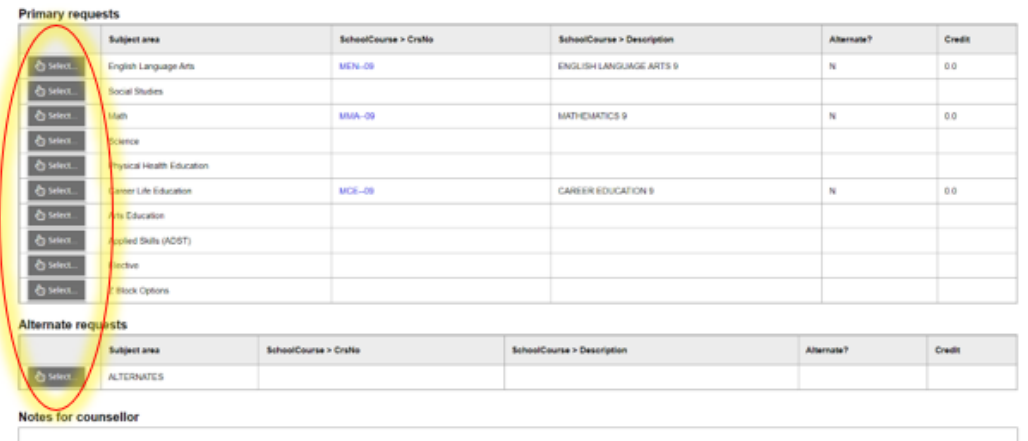
3) Select "Requests" on the left-hand side tab



4) Scroll to the bottom of the screen until you see the section "Primary requests"



side of your screen

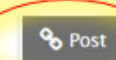


6) If you have any special notes to inform your counsellor, type it in the provided box.



7) This is the most important step! Click "POST"


Notes for counsellor



Last posted time: Approved time:

Spring 2025 Course Selection Online






When you've made all your selections be sure to click the  button at the bottom of the **Requests** front page and log out of your account.

Please note: You *must* complete this step to submit your course request

SUCCESS!!


If students have questions...

-  Speak to their subject teachers for more information and/or recommendations
-  Speak to their Counsellor
-  Speak to parents



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For More Information...

 The B.C. Certificate of Graduation or Dogwood Diploma:

<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/graduation>

The Dual Dogwood for French Immersion Students:

https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/ways-to-learn/french-programs/requirements_double_dogwood_french_immersion.pdf

 Provincial Graduation Assessments:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/curriculum-and-assessment/assessments/graduation>



IB Diploma Programme Handbook 2025-26

New Westminster Secondary School
IB World School



Message from our Coordinator

Welcome to the IB at New Westminster Secondary School!

Our IB Diploma Programme aims to embrace the philosophy of 'IB for All' where there are pathways to a diploma for all students. If you are interested in the experimental sciences, social sciences, humanities, social justice, or environmentalism – there are exciting options that can shape your final two years of secondary education.

IB is also exceptional preparation for post-secondary studies. The curriculum is comprehensive and engaging, focusing on methods and skills that you will encounter in your future studies. Universities recognize and embrace the benefits of an IB education and shape their admissions policies to reflect how well prepared IB students are for post-secondary. IB students are knowledgeable in diverse academic subjects, learn time-management to balance their studies, and to contribute to their community – something that Universities highly value in students as indicators of continued success. Our teachers at NWSS are regularly trained in IB practices, and many have graduate degrees in the fields they teach. Our philosophy is to make sure you are not only challenged in your classes, but also supported through your studies every step of the way through our inclusive approaches to teaching and learning.

At its heart, IB aims to develop well-rounded students that are internationally minded and ready to take on our shared challenges. We will work together to nurture your passions, challenge you, and inspire you as you look towards the future.

I look forward to meeting you, and please reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns.



Mr. Pawel Korczyk
IB Diploma Programme Coordinator

Pkorczyk@sd40.bc.ca

Personal Success

JOIN AN EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUB.

WE HAVE SO MANY CLUBS AT NWSS!

JOIN ATHLETICS

JOIN PERFORMING ARTS

JOIN STUDENT LEADERSHIP

BE INVOLVED IN COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

