

Welcome!

At a Catholic high school, we recognize that every student is created in the image of God with unique gifts, interests, goals and strengths. We appreciate your individuality as a student and want to make sure you have every opportunity to succeed while you are here.

Our Catholic values play an important role in how we deliver our high school programs. We believe that Catholic education fosters the search for knowledge as a lifelong spiritual and academic quest. We provide students with a unique learning experience that emphasizes our Catholic beliefs while recognizing other world religions. We nurture spirituality while preparing you for your post-secondary future.

SMCDSB Vision:

Nurturing faith, illuminating minds, inspiring hearts, and empowering hands ~ we are working together to transform our world.

CATHOLIC GRADUATE EXPECTATIONS

Our graduates are expected to be:



A DISCERNING BELIEVER



AN EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATOR



A REFLECTIVE, CREATIVE AND HOLISTIC THINKER



A SELF-DIRECTED, RESPONSIBLE LIFELONG LEARNER



A COLLABORATIVE CONTRIBUTOR



A CARING FAMILY MEMBER



A RESPONSIBLE CITIZEN

#SMCDSBwearsitwell



EDUCATION AND CAREER/LIFE PLANNING

Who am I?

What are my God-given abilities and talents?
What are my biggest accomplishments so far?
How can my skills and strengths help me?
What are my interests?

Who do I want to BECOME?

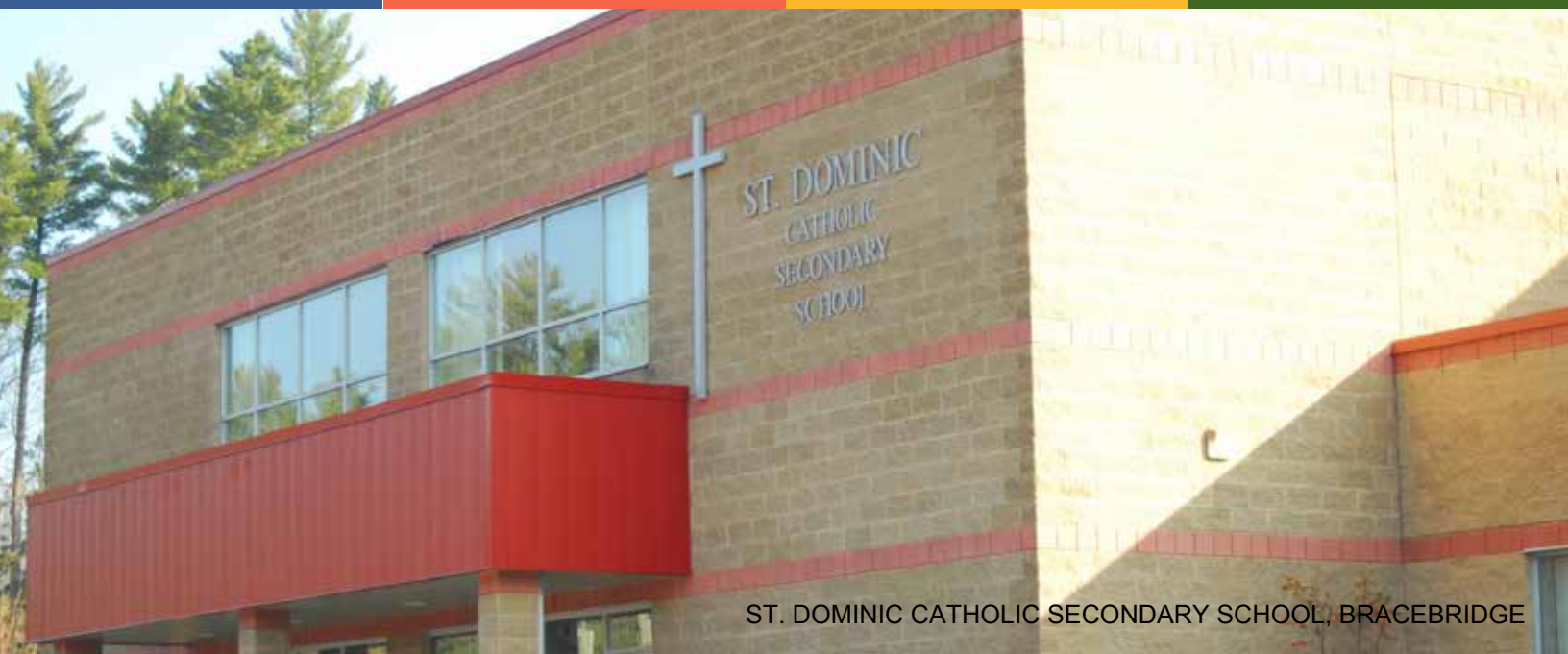
What occupations am I interested in? Why?
What are my occupation, education and life goals?
What is God calling me to do? What do I value?
Will my goals change as I get older?

What is my plan for achieving my goals?

What are the steps required to achieve my goals?
What courses do I need (9-12) to develop a plan for the future?
How does my faith support me in challenging times?
Who can I go to for support and guidance?
What challenges might I have with my plan and what are some possible solutions?

What are my opportunities?

What are the opportunities for community involvement, career and education exploration at my school?
What co-curricular and community-based opportunities can I participate in?
What specialized programs can I participate in?
What careers are related to my favourite subjects, interests, learning styles or strengths?



ST. DOMINIC CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL, BRACEBRIDGE

PLAN YOUR FUTURE

You have many options once you complete high school.

There are a variety of things you can do once you complete high school - perhaps you want to enter the world of work, train for an apprenticeship, volunteer in the community or pursue post-secondary education at college or university. Whatever path you choose, it is important to start planning now so that you are better prepared for the future.

We want you to have a high school program that complements and prepares you for your future aspirations. Regardless of the destination, we are here to work with you and ensure you are prepared for success.

Exploring Your Interests

Your opportunities for success are endless. The labour market is facing an aging workforce, rapid technological changes, demands for new skills and a shortage of qualified employees. These are all good reasons to start thinking about your post-secondary future.

With lots of available opportunities, you have the benefit of choosing a destination (community living, workplace, apprenticeship, college or university) that best suits your interests and abilities.

Choosing the Right Courses

We are here to help you make wise and informed choices and encourage you to research and gather as much information as possible to help you plan your post-secondary career. Throughout high school, you will be required to take both compulsory and elective courses. Choosing your courses is an exciting, but sometimes overwhelming experience. You want to choose courses that interest you and help you prepare for life after high school.

Your interests, skills, goals, needs and preferred learning style (s)



Appropriate courses and their curriculum expectations



The knowledge, skills, and experience necessary to make a successful transition to a specific post-secondary destination



Your Program Pathway

PATRICK FOGARTY CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL, ORILLIA



WHAT YOU NEED TO GRADUATE

COMPULSORY CREDITS

- 4** credits in English (1 credit per grade)
- 1** credit in French as a Second Language
- 3** credits in mathematics (at least 1 credit in Grade 11 or 12)
- 2** credits in science
- 1** credit in Canadian history
- 1** credit in Canadian geography
- 1** credit in the arts
- 1** credit in health and physical education
- .5** credit in civics
- .5** credit in career studies

All secondary school programs in the province of Ontario are based on a credit system. You must earn a total of 30 credits in order to receive a high school diploma (also known as the Ontario Secondary School Diploma - OSSD). One credit is equal to a 110 hour course that you must successfully complete.

+ 1 FROM EACH GROUP

GROUP 1:

1 additional credit in English, or French as a Second Language or a Native language, or a classical or international language, or a social science and the humanities, or Canadian and world studies, or guidance and career education, or cooperative education

GROUP 2:

1 additional credit in health and physical education, or the arts, or business studies, or French as a Second Language, or cooperative education

GROUP 3:

1 additional credit in science, or technological education, or French as a Second Language, or computer studies, or cooperative education

+ 8 OPTIONAL CREDITS

Build an educational program that suits your individual interests and meets university, college, apprenticeship or work requirements by carefully choosing optional or elective credits.

+ 4 RELIGION CREDITS

As a member of a Catholic school community, you will also take four religion courses, one each year of high school.



ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL, TOTTENHAM





+ 40 Hours of Community Involvement Activities

You must complete a minimum of 40 hours of unpaid community involvement activities at any time throughout your secondary program. Students can begin collecting these hours the summer before Grade 9.

You must complete this requirement on your own time, outside of normal classroom hours. All students must maintain and provide a record of their community involvement activities using the school forms that are provided. Your principal will decide whether you have met the requirements for both the Ministry of Education and the Board for these activities.



+ Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)

Students in Ontario are required by the provincial government to take the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) in Grade 10 and must pass the test to receive their OSSD. Students who do not complete the test successfully will receive additional help to prepare them for re-testing the following school year. Students who have been eligible to write the OSSLT at least twice, and have been unsuccessful at least once, may fulfill this requirement through the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course (OLC40). This course may also count as the Grade 12 English compulsory credit.

Students who do not pass the OSSLT have options - please refer to provincial testing on www.smcdsb.on.ca. Our website also provides information about OSSLT accommodations, special provisions, deferrals and exemptions.

CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION/CERTIFICATE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT

If you do leave high school without achieving all of your necessary credits, we could grant you an Ontario Secondary School Certificate (often called a Certificate of Education). To receive a Certificate of Education, you will need 14 credits including: 7 compulsory credits & 7 elective credits.

The 7 compulsory credits include:

- 2 credits in English
- 1 credit in Canadian geography or Canadian history
- 1 credit in mathematics
- 1 credit in science
- 1 credit in health and physical education
- 1 credit in the arts or technological education

Students who leave school before fulfilling the requirements for the OSSD or the Certificate of Education may be granted a Certificate of Accomplishment.

Both the Certificate of Education and the Certificate of Accomplishment recognize achievements and can be used for students who plan to take certain vocational programs, training or who plan to find employment after leaving school.



ST. JOAN OF ARC CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL, BARRIE

TYPES OF COURSES

P

Is an **applied course** which focuses on the essential learning concepts of the subject. You will develop knowledge and skill through both theory and practical applications, but the focus will be on practical applications. Familiar, real-life situations will be used to illustrate ideas and opportunities will be given to students to experience hands-on applications of the concepts studied.

D

Is an **academic course** which focuses on the essential learning concepts of the subject, plus additional related concepts. Although students will develop knowledge and skills in the subject through both theory and practical applications, the emphasis will be on theory and abstract thinking as a basis for future learning and problem solving.

O

Open courses are appropriate for all students and may be taken to meet compulsory or optional requirements for graduation, or personal interest.

L

Is a **locally developed course** (this means the school board develops the course content and it has been approved by the Ministry of Education). We may offer courses in English, mathematics, history and science for students who may not be suited to applied or academic courses and require additional background knowledge and skills. These courses may be counted as compulsory credits and are only available in Grades 9 and 10. Speak to your guidance counsellor for more information.

U

These courses will give you the knowledge and skills needed to meet the entrance requirements for **university** programs. Teaching and learning will emphasize theoretical aspects of the course content, but will also include concrete applications.

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL, BARRIE



M

These courses are designed to give you the knowledge and skills needed to meet the entrance requirements of specific **university and college** programs. Teaching and learning will emphasize both theoretical aspects and related concrete applications of the course content.

C

These courses will provide you with the knowledge and skills needed to meet the entrance requirements for **college** programs. Teaching and learning will emphasize concrete applications of the theoretical material covered in the course, and will also emphasize the development of critical-thinking and problem-solving skills.

E

These courses are designed to give you the knowledge and skills needed for you to directly enter the **workplace and other training programs** offered in the community. Teaching and learning will emphasize workplace applications of the course content, but will also explore the theoretical material that underlies these practical applications.

THE COURSE CODING SYSTEM

Every high school course is identified with a five-character code, for example ENG1D. Depending on what you plan to do after graduation, you will need to choose different types of courses.

ENG

The first three characters of course codes are issued by the Ministry of Education and relate to the subject and course being identified

1

The fourth character indicates the grade level, in this case 1 refers to Grade 9, i.e., offered in year one or Grade 9

D

The fifth character refers to the type of course, in this case D is the course code for academic
P - applied
D - academic
O - open courses
L - locally developed course
U - university preparation
M - university/college preparation
C - college preparation
E - workplace preparation

ST. PETER'S CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL, BARRIE



hello xello

Create your high school plan, access it any time, and stay organized!

Students can log in to Xello by going to their Student Connect page and clicking the Xello logo.

<https://smcdsb.elearningontario.ca>

This Dashboard will help you develop your Individual Pathways Plan (IPP).



ABOUT ME

- Matchmaker [Get Started](#)
- Personality Style [Get Started](#)
- Mission Complete
- Learning Style [Get Started](#)

EXPLORE OPTIONS

- Careers
- Schools
- Programs
- Saved Options

GOALS & PLANS

- My Plans

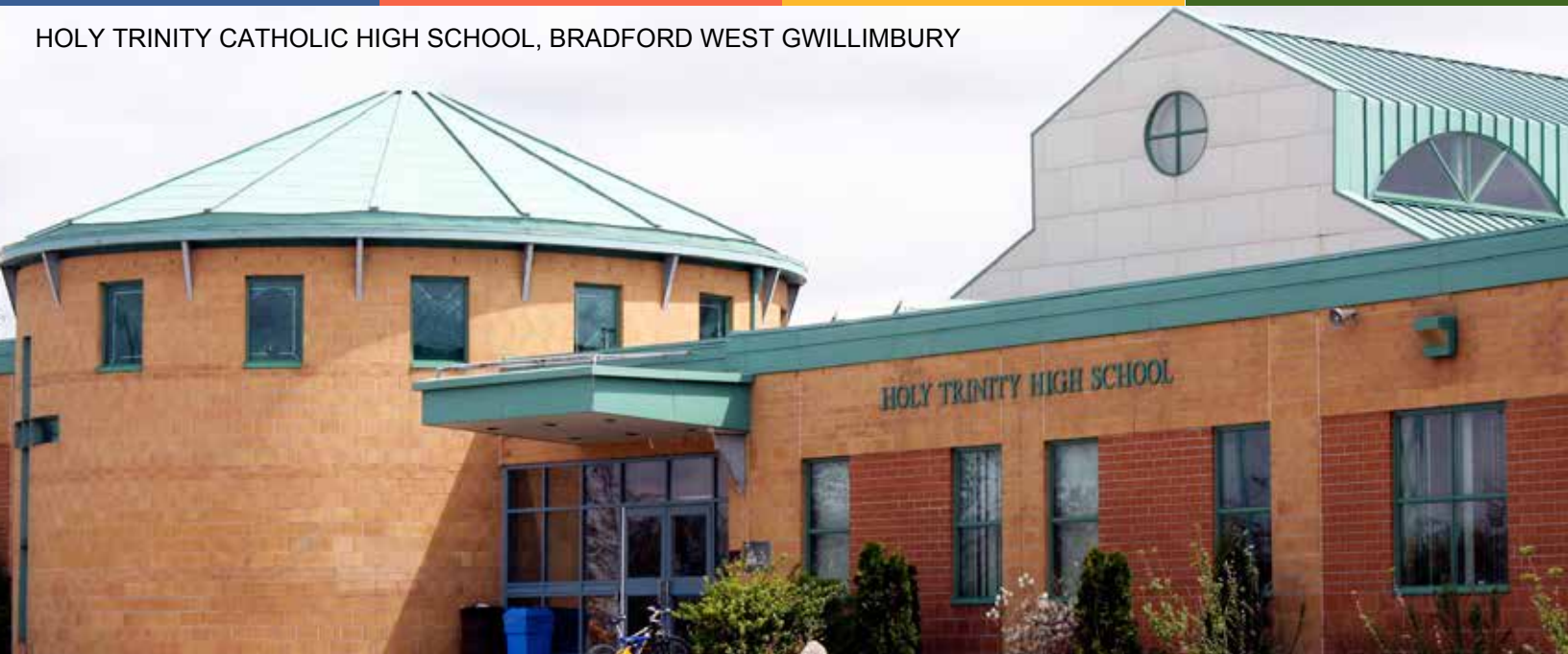
STUDENT COURSE PLANNER

GRADE 9 0 Credits	GRADE 10 0 Credits	GRADE 11 0 Credits	GRADE 12 0 Credits
Add English 9	Add English 10	Add English 11	Add English 12
Add Math 9	Add Math 10	Add Math 11	Add Math 12
Add Science 9	Add Science 10	Add Science 11	Add Science 12
Add French as a Second Language 9	Add Canadian & World Studies 10	Add Canadian & World Studies 11	Add Canadian & World Studies 12
Add Health & Physical Education 9	Add Career Studies 10	Add Career Studies 11	Add Career Studies 12
Add Elective 9	Add Elective 10	Add Elective 11	Add Elective 12
Add Arts	Add Arts	Add Arts	Add Arts
Add Group 1	Add Group 1	Add Group 1	Add Group 1
Add Group 2	Add Group 2	Add Group 2	Add Group 2

To choose your courses for next year, click on "My Course Planner" under "Goals & Plans." After conversations with your parents and your teachers, you will choose the level for your compulsory courses and the electives that interest you most.

Note: If your child has special education needs and currently has modified and/or alternative programming, courses should be selected with the support of the school team. Please schedule a transition meeting with the secondary school-based team.

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL, BRADFORD WEST GWILLIMBURY



HELP ALONG THE way

»»»—————«««
You may experience some bumps on your journey through school. The good news is you aren't alone – we have qualified & caring staff ready & willing to help you along the way.
»»»—————«««

Chaplaincy

Our school's chaplaincy team leader is there to help meet your spiritual needs & provide counselling, spiritual direction & support whenever you may need it.

Guidance Services

Our Guidance Department will help you select a school program that best suits your future educational & career aspirations. You can arrange for individual confidential counselling interviews to discuss matters of interest & concern.

Library Services

The library works cooperatively with teachers to ensure that your research skills & assignments reinforce classroom lessons. You can get individual help to organize projects & essays, locate information & set up presentations.

Special Education Resource Services

Students who received resource assistance while in elementary school may be able to continue that in high school. Our resource team is trained to provide many opportunities to enhance your learning environment.

Student Success Teacher & Team

The student success teacher & the student success team provide support for students who may need additional assistance to ensure personal & academic success.

Community Resources

Our schools work closely with local parishes, law authorities, fire departments, libraries & community family support programs to ensure that each student is safe & cared for throughout their educational experience with the Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board. If any person in your family requires support, contact your school for more information.

Student Evaluation

Teachers use a variety of ways to measure achievement including tests, assignments & projects. We base our measurement on curriculum learning expectations set out by the Ministry of Education. Visit our board's website at www.smcdsb.on.ca for more info.

Ontario Student Record (OSR)

The OSR documents the educational progress of a student enrolled in school. In fact, the OSR is required for any student attending a school in the province of Ontario.

Ontario Student Transcript (OST)

The OST is an official document maintained by Ontario schools for each student. The OST is kept in the student's OSR & retained for 55 years after a student leaves school. It is a record of all high school coursework & diploma requirements & is typically required when applying to post-secondary education.

Withdrawal from a Course in Grade 11 or 12

Students in Grade 11 & 12 can withdraw from a course 5 days after mid-term reports are distributed without it appearing on their transcript. Withdrawing from a course after that date means that the mid-term mark will appear on the student transcript.

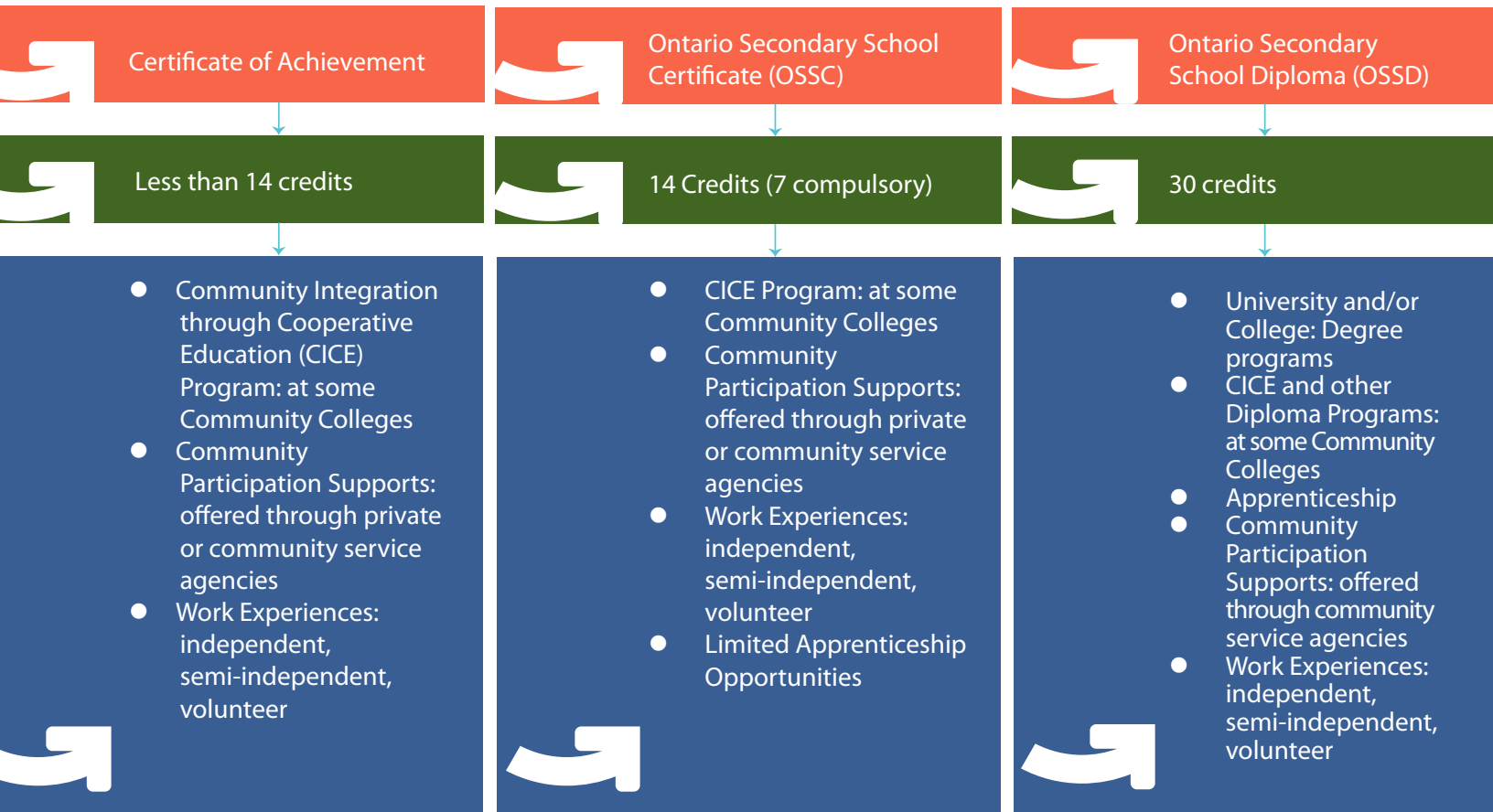
JEAN VANIER CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL, COLLINGWOOD



SPECIAL EDUCATION

We believe that each student is a unique gift from God and should be a valued and respected member of their school community. We want to learn more about your child's needs as they transition into this next phase of their education. Part of the process of supporting your child with the move into high school may include the development of a transition plan.

PATHWAYS



ST. THERESA'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL, MIDLAND



Successful Transitions for All

Goal 1 To support successful transitions into secondary school.

Goal 2 To have ongoing communication between home, school, parish and community partners.

Goal 3 To establish and review strategies and supports that are effective and beneficial for students transitioning into secondary school

Transition planning is about working together to understand and respond to your child's strengths, needs and interests. We look forward to meeting with you and your child. Your school team is here to work with you to ensure that your child has a positive, faith-filled experience in our Catholic schools.

Ongoing communication.

Discussion items for a specialized transition meeting. This is where we talk about your child's strengths, needs and interests.

Make a request for a transition plan meeting. This includes staff from the elementary and secondary schools.

A good plan is key to positive transitioning into secondary school.

1 What information does the school team need to know about your child?

SOMETHING for everyone!

Student Success Initiatives

Student Success is about improving student achievement and increasing program options and flexibility so that all students can be successful in high school. Students have unique interests, goals and strengths and should be given every opportunity to succeed.



Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

If you have acquired knowledge and skills outside of an Ontario classroom (both formally or informally), you can have your skills and knowledge evaluated against curriculum expectations in order to earn credits toward your OSSD. If you have knowledge or skills that you would like to use to achieve credits, you will have to undergo a formal evaluation and accreditation called Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR). For more information, speak to your guidance counsellor.

Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM)

SHSM is a program where students can get high school credits, work experience, certifications, and insights into a specific industry that they are interested in. The SHSM program enables senior students to gain valuable hands-on experience, while they are working toward their OSSD.

The purpose of this program is to help prepare students for life after high school. It allows students to direct their studies to a specific area of interest and prepares them for pursuing that interest either in the workplace, an apprenticeship, college or university.

Some examples of SHSM programs are:

- Arts and Culture
- Business
- Construction
- Environment
- Health and Wellness
- Hospitality and Tourism
- Non-profit
- Sports
- Transportation

Dual Credits

Dual credit is a course where you receive a college and high school credit at the same time - courses are taught by college faculty and supported by a high school teacher. Students who pass a dual credit course are given an optional credit at secondary school and are issued a college transcript. The course will be recognized at college if students choose to attend a program for which the course is a requirement. Dual credits give students the opportunity to sample post-secondary education, work in college labs, experience a new environment and build confidence.

Cooperative Education

Co-op education is a program that integrates academic study with practical workplace experience. A co-op credit provides students with an excellent opportunity to test drive a job to see if it is suitable.

Students can also apply two co-op credits toward compulsory graduation requirements. Typical co-op programs have students working two to four periods a day, plus in-school sessions and workshops.

Continuing and Community Education

Our board offers a wide range of continuing education courses for both elementary (Grades 7 and 8) and secondary students. Students can take courses in the summer to catch up or jump start their studies. Elementary students can even earn a high school credit before getting there.

Credit Recovery

When a student is not successful in a course, credit recovery may be an option. If deemed appropriate by the school team, a student will work under the supervision of a teacher to meet the missed expectations. After evaluation, and if the missed expectations are met, the student will receive a credit for the course.

I CAN - Math Learning Strategies (GLS10)

I CAN (Improving Confidence and Achievement in Numeracy) is a program aimed at students who may be coming to high school with gaps in their math understandings, which can result in low confidence and a negative attitude toward mathematics.

Throughout the first semester as part of a Learning Strategies course, teachers will have the opportunity to build relationships with students, address knowledge gaps and build confidence toward mathematics. This credit bearing intervention will help students be more prepared to take on the MFM1P (Grade 9 applied math) course in second semester.

e-Learning

The Simcoe Muskoka Catholic Virtual Learning Centre (SMCVLC) offers online courses to students that may not be available at their high school.

Students who take courses through SMCVLC are provided with space in their timetable, a computer with Internet access, and daily support from their online teacher to help them successfully complete the course.

For the full e-Learning course calendar visit the board website at smcdsb.on.ca or contact your Guidance Department for more information.

Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP)

Co-op students can learn a skilled trade while completing a high school diploma with the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP). A co-op student may be signed as an apprentice with an employer at the time of his/her placement. Students graduate with a diploma, skills in a trade, experience in the workplace, and a head start in a skilled profession.



PROGRAM PATHWAY WORKSEET

Use the following planner to map out your high school career. Be sure to keep in mind what you might want to do after you graduate. Also, refer back to the graduation requirements found in this booklet. See your guidance counsellor if you have any questions or concerns.

Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11
Religion	Religion	Religion
English	English	English
Math	Math	Math
Science	Science	
Geography	History	
French	Civics & Careers	

PLUS! 40 hours of community involvement
and OSSLT!

Grade 12

Religion

English

Community Involvement Activity Plans

Potential Post-Secondary Destinations:
Apprenticeship, College, Community Living,
University, Workplace

Notes

All of our secondary schools have important information about the following topics on their website:

- Code of conduct
- Attendance
- Dress code
- Safe schools
- Course of study
- Curriculum information

Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board
www.smcdsb.on.ca

St. Joan of Arc Catholic High School
joa.schools.smcdsb.on.ca

St. Joseph's Catholic High School
sjo.schools.smcdsb.on.ca

St. Peter's Catholic Secondary School
pet.schools.smcdsb.on.ca

St. Dominic Catholic Secondary School
dom.schools.smcdsb.on.ca

Holy Trinity Catholic High School
htr.schools.smcdsb.on.ca

Jean Vanier Catholic High School
jva.schools.smcdsb.on.ca

St. Theresa's Catholic High School
sth.schools.smcdsb.on.ca

Patrick Fogarty Catholic Secondary School
pfo.schools.smcdsb.on.ca

St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School
sts.schools.smcdsb.on.ca

