

Course Selection – 2013/14

Required Courses - Math, Science, Social Studies, English, Physical Education, Health and Career Education (HCE).

Grade 8 students must take a language course--either German 8 or French 8. They may take both if they wish and it can be schedule. The second one would be considered an elective.

Grade 8 and 9 students can complete PE and HCE as part of Hockey Academy. As well, Grade 8 and 9 students can complete HCE and an elective in the Personal Development course. Grade 8 and 9 students can take Fitness for Life PE instead of regular PE. Grade 9 students can request competitive PE or all girls PE instead of regular PE. Descriptions for these are with the electives.

The following are possible electives. Some of the courses may not be able to be scheduled.

The electives are sorted into the following categories:

Visual Arts
Performing Arts
Technology Education
Information Technology
Applied Skills
Languages
PE/HCE
Other

VISUAL ARTS

Art 8

Students will learn basic drawing skills and use these to complete the following: shading, masks, enlargement pictures, comic strips and line designs.

Art 9A

Students will build on previous basic skills to create the following: zentangle, oil pastel, charcoal, sketches, and ceiling tile. *No prerequisite*

Art 9B

Students will focus on projects that take a lot longer to complete and involve a variety of skills: wall/door painting, sketch/altered books and portraits. *No prerequisite*

Art 8/9 – Sculpture & Pottery

Students from both grades 8 and 9 may take this course. Students will learn basic sculptural techniques: hand built pottery, try the potter's wheel, wire, paper maché, and plaster carving. *No prerequisite*

Aboriginal Art & Cultural Experience 8/9

This course is open to all grade 8 & 9 students. Students will learn about Aboriginal culture and art through hands on experiences. Projects may include medicine wheels, ledger drawings, making drums or flutes, and beading. Lessons will focus on Athapaskan culture, residential school experiences, traditional foods, plants, and dances.

PERFORMING ARTS

Drama 8

This is a course that introduces a wide array of drama activities. In addition to building on skills developed in Drama 7, Drama 8 investigates reader's theatre, juggling, and stage fighting.

Drama 9

Drama 9 builds on the skills developed in Drama 8 with the addition of units on Theatresports, scene study, pyramids and balances, and if time permits, puppetry. *No prerequisite*

Musical Theatre 8/9 (= 2 electives – every day, first semester)

This course is open to grade 8 and 9 students and involves mounting a full scale production of a musical which takes place at the North Peace Cultural Centre in January every year. Students receive instruction in singing and acting and have the opportunity to work with a professional choreographer on an ongoing basis throughout the course. Musical Theatre does require considerable commitment outside of regular class time as rehearsals and shows take place after school and on weekends. *No prerequisite - not all students may be selected if there is a large interest.*

Musical Theatre – Crew 8/9 (= 2 electives - every day, first semester)

This course is open to grade 8 and 9 students and involves working on the production aspect of mounting a full scale musical that takes place at the North Peace Cultural Centre in January every year. This is a class for students who are interested in helping with costuming, set, props, lighting and sound design, or working as a Stage Manager but do not want to be onstage. Students will be required to work backstage or in the sound and lighting booth during the week production of the musical.

Dance 8/9

This course is based around the practice, presentation, theory and history of a variety of styles of dance, including Hip Hop, Jazz, Tap, Lyrical, Contemporary, and Ballet. It will be a participation-based course open to anyone who wants to learn something new or further their knowledge of dance.

Choir 8/9

In this class anyone who enjoys singing either solo or in a group is invited to attend. We will explore several styles of singing and songwriting. Students will learn the basics of music reading and sight reading.

Guitar 9

This course is an introductory course in which students with little or no experience on the guitar will be introduced to several different styles of guitar playing. The styles will range from basic chording to classical playing. Music reading skills will be part of this course.

Drumming 8/9

Students will learn to play a variety of African and Cuban percussion instruments while learning about different cultures and styles of music. Basic rock drumming patterns will also be learned on the drum set in the style of today. Instruction will be in the call and response style with the opportunity to expand our repertoire through the basic understanding of rock drumming tabs. No previous musical training is necessary for this course.

Band 8/9 (= 2 electives - yearlong)

It is expected that the student will develop a keen interest in playing the instrument, advanced technical ability on the instrument, an advanced sense of ensemble playing, and a skill and appreciation that will carry on beyond secondary school. Please note that all students will participate in Concert Band performances, all the evening rehearsals and related activities. Students will be evaluated on intonation, phrasing dynamics, balance, tone quality, tempo, articulation, and style for all performance tests, as well as attitude (self improvement, commitment, confidence, leadership, pride, involvement and ability to follow instructions). Materials: Students are expected to provide a Theory text and an ensemble Method book as prescribed by the instructor. Students using district owned equipment (including percussionists) will be levied user fee (per instrument) per year to cover costs of scheduled maintenance, as well as to offset depreciation. Parents are required to insure the instrument against damage and theft, at their own cost. If the instrument is not returned in its ORIGINAL CONDITION at the end of the school year, the user will be levied the cost of repairs.

TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

Woodwork 8/9 (Level 1)

This course is a beginning level of design and building skills in Woodwork where students will develop a safe attitude when working in a shop situation. The students will learn how to safely use hand tools and develop their marking and measuring skills on the first project (*Cross Puzzle*). In the second and third projects (*Salad Tongs* and *Sliding Bookrack*), the students will have the opportunity use most of the power machines in the shop. The fourth project (*Spinning Top*) will introduce students to wood turning on the lathe. Woodwork Level 1 is a prerequisite for Woodwork Level 2.

Woodwork 8/9 (Level 2)

This course will continue developing students' design and building skills in Woodwork. The students will further develop their marking and measuring skills with hand tools on their first project (*Triple Puzzle*). In the second and third projects (*CO2 Dragster* and *Small Box*), the students will have the opportunity to use most of the power tools in the shop while also focusing on advanced personal design. The fourth project (*Wall Sconce*) will further students' ability in wood turning on the lathe. Woodwork Level 2 is a prerequisite for either of the Advanced courses.

Prerequisite: Technology Education Woodwork Level 1

Woodwork 9 (Advanced 1)

This course will continue students' abilities within all aspects of woodworking. The first project (*Advanced Puzzle*) will challenge students' abilities in layout design and hand tool use. The emphasis for the second and third projects is for students to further develop their woodwork skills within the optional projects. Projects may include: laptop table, mailbox, step stool, and bookshelf. A more advanced lathe project will also be created: bowl, candlesticks, gavel, lamp, pen and pencil set, or turned box.

Prerequisite: Technology Education Woodwork Level 2

Woodwork 9 (Advanced 2)

This course will continue students' abilities within all aspects of woodworking with a focus on furniture design. The first project (*Joinery example*) will challenge students' abilities in layout design and hand tool use. The required project will be the step stool and the other projects will vary depending on the students' abilities and use of shop time.

Prerequisite: Technology Education Woodwork Level 2

Metalwork 8/9 (Level 1)

Students will be required to build a project in each of the following areas: Sheet metal bending, foundry, lathe, oxy-acetylene welding and basic hand tools. The emphasis in the shop is always on safety and the proper use of tools.

Metalwork 8/9 (Level 2)

Students will be required to build a project in each of the following areas: Sheet metal bending, foundry, lathe, oxy-acetylene welding and basic hand tools. The emphasis in the shop is always on safety and the proper use of tools. A student who has taken Metalwork 8/9 (Level 1) will continue to develop their skills by completing different projects.

Prerequisite: Metalwork 8/9 (Level 1)

Mechanics 8/9 (Bike Maintenance & Small Engines)

This course will focus on bicycle mechanics and maintenance and two and four stroke gas engines. The emphasis will be on shop safety and proper use of tools. Students will combine both theory and hands-on practice while dismantling and rebuilding a variety of bicycles and two stroke gas engines.

Drafting 8/9 (Level 1)

This is a course designed to acquaint students with a pictorial language used throughout the industry in all trades and manufacturing. The course teaches drafting fundamentals and provides hands-on experience for developing drafting skills and techniques. Students will be introduced to both manual and Computer Aided Drafting (CAD) to render solutions to orthographic, isometric and design problems.

Drafting 8/9 (Level 2)

This is a course designed to further expand students' knowledge with the pictorial language used throughout the industry in all trades and manufacturing. The course continues to teach drafting fundamentals and provides hands-on experience for developing drafting skills and techniques. The focus on this second level course will be on architectural design where students will develop various house plans and 3D models.

Prerequisite: Technology Education Drafting Level 1

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Computers 8/9 (Level 1)

In addition to working on and improving proficiency with word processing, presentation formats, and spreadsheets, students will be introduced to other programs such as web page design, graphic design and flash animation. The course will also cover issues including safety, privacy, piracy and ethical concerns surrounding the use of the Internet. This course will be largely project-based and student-directed.

No Prerequisite

Computers 8/9 (Level 2)

In addition to working on and improving proficiency with word processing, powerpoint presentations, and spreadsheets, students will further develop their skills working with graphic design, and photography. The course will also cover issues including privacy protection and ethics. This course will be largely project-based and student-directed.

Prerequisite: Computers Level 1

Yearbook 8/9

This is a computer course where students plan and create the school's yearbook. Students will learn desktop publishing, graphic design and photography basics while meeting strict deadlines for the publishing company. A real dedication is needed by the students as some outside class time is essential for photographing various events and for job completion.

No Prerequisite: can be taken consecutive years.

APPLIED SKILLS

Foods 8

This is a beginner's course introducing students to a basic knowledge of good eating habits and simple cooking skills. Students will study and practice safety procedures when working with food, stoves and equipment. They will learn how to prepare dishes in a creative way and to serve and eat them appropriately. Cooperative learning and working with team members is an essential part of the course. This is a practical and theoretical course.

Foods 9

This course is an exciting experience for students who have a continuing interest in nutrition, consumerism, and the principles of food preparation and presentation for the needs of the individual and the family. Topics such as breads, pastas, casseroles, Chinese and Mexican cooking will be covered. This is a practical and theoretical course. There is no prerequisite for this course.

Textiles 8/9

This course is designed to give students an introduction to the use of the sewing machine and exposure to basic sewing skills. In the craft section, students will have the opportunity to explore several craft options including embroidery, beading, quilting and cross stitching. A basic sewing kit is required.

LANGUAGES

French 8

Beginning oral and written skills are developed in units relevant to everyday activities and life. Students are encouraged and expected to participate during in-class activities and games. Students in Grade 8 are required to take a second language course.

French 9 (= 2 electives)

Students build on oral and written skills developed in French 8. Written and oral projects become more sophisticated and incorporate new vocabulary and grammatical concepts. *A good quality French/English dictionary is required.*

Prerequisite: French 8

German 8

German 8 aims to develop listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills at a basic level. The course will expose students to various culture and traditions of the Germanic world. Students in Grade 8 are required to take a second language course.

*Higher level German courses may not be offered in school in the future.

German 9

German 9 aims to expand on the skills developed in German 8. An emphasis on developing more advanced speaking, reading and listening skills will complement greater ability in writing.

*Higher level German courses may not be offered in school in the future.

Prerequisite: German 8

PE/HCE

Hockey Academy 8 / Hockey Academy 9

Hockey Academy is available to grade 8/9 students. This is a skills based program that focuses on developing the students' basic hockey skills (skating, shooting, passing). Students spend two days per week on ice and are required to wear full hockey gear. The students also will receive instruction on: off ice preparation, leadership skill development, and Health and Career Education. There is a fee of \$500 per year for this program. This is a yearlong course and is offered during two blocks in the afternoon every second day.

Student Selection:

Interested students must complete an application package and return it to Dr. Kearney by May 21st 2013. A selection process may take place involving an interview if necessary. Students will be selected based on their attitude, behaviour, and leadership qualities. As this program requires student to leave school premises it is important that they are responsible for themselves, and respectful. Successful interviewees will be selected using a random draw process. (This selection process will only be used if we have too many applicants.)

Personal Development 8/9 (= HCE and 1 elective)

In PD 8/9 students will explore HCE topics such as healthy relationships, substance abuse prevention, sexuality, bullying, and job & career preparation. As well, they will complete visual and performing arts assignments and projects often integrating HCE content with the arts. Personal Development is a yearlong course and is equivalent to HCE and an elective.

Fitness for Life 8/9

Students choosing this PE course will work on developing a healthy lifestyle that they can continue through life. They will explore individual, small group and large group activities using community resources, especially free ones, to begin developing a healthy lifestyle. This course is a yearlong course just like the other PE courses.

PE 9 - All Girls

All Girls PE is only available to girls in Grade 9. Requesting the course does not guarantee enrollment. Girls will participate in activities that all students do such as volleyball, basketball, badminton, track and field, soccer, baseball, dance and gymnastics. As well there will be activities specifically for the girls such as yoga, walking track and Jazzercise. As with all PE courses, this course is year long. Gym strip and appropriate footwear are required.

PE 9 - Competitive

In competitive PE students will participate in activities that all students do such as volleyball, basketball, badminton, track and field, soccer, baseball, dance and gymnastics. Students in competitive gym are expected to participate fully every class, display positive behaviour and make significant progress in skill development. Requesting the course does not guarantee enrollment in it. As with all PE courses, this course is year long. Gym strip and appropriate footwear are required.

OTHER

Leadership 8 (second semester)

Students will learn about leadership styles and techniques and practice these skills as they **fully** participate in the planning and execution of school activities. In addition, there is a component involving using their leadership skills in a volunteer capacity in the community. Requesting this course does not guarantee that a student will be selected to take it.

Leadership 9 (first semester)

Students will learn about leadership styles and techniques and practice these skills as they **fully** participate in the planning and execution of school activities. In addition, there is a component involving using their leadership skills in a volunteer capacity in the community. Some Leadership 9 students will serve as mentors for Leadership 8 students. Requesting this course does not guarantee that a student will be selected to take it.

Library 8/9

Students will be library assistants. There will only be one or two students assigned to the library in a specific block. Requesting the course does not mean that students will get it. Teachers will be consulted regarding behaviour and work ethic. These students **MUST** be self-directed and reliable because they will typically be working on their own. As well they must be prepared to put in extra time during break and lunch and occasionally before and after school. Students will do or assist with tasks that may include: signing books in and out including textbooks, shelving books, conducting inventory, organizing the library, running contests and book fairs, providing lunch hour activities, writing book reviews, updating bulletin boards, ordering materials and initiating new and creative activities involving the library. Students who are not behaving appropriately and using that time will be removed from the course. This course is semestered but may be taken twice in one year.

Tutorial 9

Students who have demonstrated a significant need for extra help keeping caught up on coursework can request a tutorial block. This course is for students who are making the best possible use of their class time and are taking advantage of tutorials offered by their teacher(s). Students **MUST** come prepared to their tutorial block. (They must have some coursework to do and the necessary materials.) Students not making good use of tutorial time and students not behaving in class will be removed from this tutorial period. Grade 8 students may request a tutorial block; however, grade 9 students are scheduled into it first. A tutorial block is offered each semester.