

PINE RIDGE SECONDARY SCHOOL

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COURSE CALENDAR

2025-2026



MISSION STATEMENT

Pine Ridge Secondary School is committed to providing quality education and promoting success in an environment which recognizes diversity.

PINE RIDGE SECONDARY SCHOOL COMMON COMMITMENTS

WHAT

We are committed to inclusive, positive learning spaces
We are committed to innovative programming which engages all students' needs, ability, and pathways
We are committed to respectful interactions between all members of our school community

HOW

We maintain consistent, positive, structures and routines
We care for our physical and mental health
We provide opportunities for students to develop and practice learning skills
We support students academically and emotionally
We maintain high expectations and accountability

WHY

We value all our students
We believe all our students can learn, thrive, and succeed

Principal's Message

At Pine Ridge we are committed to ensuring student success. Success will look different for each student and as a result, their path to achieving their success should be individualized. Students will work in partnership with their families and school staff to make decisions around courses, pathway options, specialized programs, and other opportunities to prepare students for life after high school.

It is also important to reinforce with students that it is okay if they are not sure what they want to do in their future and it's okay to make decisions that differ from their close friends. Similar to a road map, there are many different roads that get you to a destination. At Pine Ridge, we are here to help students navigate that road and overcome any obstacles along the way.

This document will provide you with detailed information around options for students so that you can make informed decisions when deciding on courses and programs in which to enroll. If you have any questions or need some support in navigating your choices, please don't hesitate to contact one of our school counselors or administration.

M. Monk

Principal

Pine Ridge Secondary School

ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

For students entering High School Prior to September 2024.

If you started Grade 9 in or before Fall 2023 **What do you need** to graduate from high school?



18 Compulsory Credits

If you started Grade 9 in 2023 or earlier, you need the following to obtain the Ontario Secondary School Diploma:

Credits	Subject
4	English (1 credit per grade)*
3	Mathematics (Grade 9, Grade 10 and 1 Credit in Grade 11 or 12)
2	Science
1	Canadian Geography (Grade 9)
1	French as a Second Language
1	Canadian History (Grade 10)
1	Health and Physical Education
1	Arts (Drama, Music, Visual Arts, Media Arts)
0.5	Career Studies
0.5	Civics and Citizenship

Plus one credit from each of the following groups:

Credits	Subject
1	Group 1
	English or French as a Second Language**
	A Native Language
	A Classical or International Language
	Social Sciences and the Humanities
	Canadian and World Studies
	Guidance and Career Education
	Cooperative Education***
	First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Studies
	American Sign Language as a Second Language
1	Group 2
	Health and Physical Education
	The Arts
	Business Studies
	French as a Second Language**
1	Group 3
	Science (Grade 11 or 12)
	Technological Education
	French as a Second Language**
	Computer Studies
1	Cooperative Education***
	American Sign Language as a Second Language

- 1 30 credits in total
- 2 40 hours of Community Involvement
- 3 Completion of the Literacy Requirement
- 4 Earn at least 2 Online Learning Credits*

**Applies to students who entered Grade 9 in the 2020-21 school year. Due to the province-wide school closures from April 2021 to June 2021, these students may be granted one credit towards the graduation requirement.*

In addition, students must complete:

✓	12 elective credits †
✓	40 hours of community involvement activities
✓	the provincial literacy requirement

* A maximum of 3 credits in English as a Second Language (ESL) or English Literacy Development (ELD) may be counted towards the 4 compulsory credits in English, but the fourth must be a credit earned for a Grade 12 compulsory English course.

** In groups 1, 2 and 3, a maximum of 2 credits in French as a Second Language can count as compulsory credits, one from group 1 and one from either group 2 or 3.

*** A maximum of 2 credits in cooperative education can count as compulsory credits.

† The 12 elective credits may include up to 4 credits earned through approved dual credit courses.

‡ To opt-out of the online eLearning Graduation requirement, see your Guidance Department for a form or visit the DDSB website.



For students entering High School September 2024 or later.

What do you need to graduate from high school?



17 Compulsory Credits

Students must earn the following compulsory credits to obtain the Ontario Secondary School Diploma:

Credits	Subject
4	English (1 credit per grade)
3	Mathematics (Grade 9, Grade 10 and 1 Credit in Grade 11 or 12)
2	Science
1	Canadian Geography (Grade 9)
1	French as a Second Language
1	Canadian History (Grade 10)
1	Health and Physical Education
1	Arts (Drama, Music, Visual Arts, Media Arts)
0.5	Career Studies
0.5	Civics and Citizenship
1	Technological Education (Grade 9 or 10)
1	STEM Related Course Group
	Business Studies
	Cooperative Education
	Mathematics (In addition to the 3 compulsory credits)
	Science (In addition to the 2 compulsory credits)
	Technological Education (In addition to the 1 compulsory credit)

- 1 30 credits in total
- 2 40 hours of Community Involvement
- 3 Completion of the Literacy Requirement
- 4 Earn at least 2 Online Learning Credits

In addition, students must complete:

✓	13 elective credits
✓	40 hours of community involvement activities
✓	the provincial literacy requirement

Starting in September 2025, you must earn a new financial literacy graduation requirement as part of your compulsory Grade 10 Mathematics Course.

You will need to achieve a mark of 70% or higher to pass this new requirement.

The following apply to compulsory credit selections

- The Grade 11 English: Understanding Contemporary First Nations, Métis and Inuit Voices course to meet the Grade 11 English compulsory credit requirement.
- You can use the Grade 9 Expressions of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Cultures course to meet the compulsory credit requirement in the arts.
- You must earn 13 optional credits by successfully completing courses from your school's program and course calendar.
- Optional credits may include up to 4 credits earned through approved dual credit programs.



Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)

All students who enter grade 9 on or after September 2000 will be required to successfully complete the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT). This test is written in the 10th grade. The OSSLT measures basic levels of literacy and will be based on the literacy expectations up until the end of grade 9. Secondary School diplomas will only be awarded to students who successfully meet the provincial literacy requirement for graduation. Exemptions may be granted to students NOT working towards an Ontario Secondary School Diploma. In certain circumstances, students may be deferred until a later administration of the test. Students with an Individual Education Plan (IEP) may write the OSSLT with accommodations as long as those accommodations are contained in the IEP. How to help... Parents are encouraged to help prepare their children for the OSSLT. They can use the EQAO (Education Quality and Accountability Office) website at www.eqao.com to access more information about the test and practice lessons.

OLC401 - Pine Ridge offers the Ontario Secondary Literacy Course (OSSLC) to students who have been unsuccessful in completing the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT). For students who have been unsuccessful in completing the OSSLT, the OSSLC will meet the literacy requirement for the Ontario Secondary School Diploma.

Online learning graduation requirement

Beginning with students that entered Grade 9 in the 2020-21 school year, students must earn at least two online learning credits to get their Ontario Secondary School Diploma.

The online learning graduation requirement also applies to adult learners that will be entering the Ontario secondary school system starting in 2023-24 school year.

Credits earned during COVID-19 - Students can count one secondary school credit that was earned during the province wide school closures (from April 2021 to June 2021) towards the two online learning credits that they need to graduate. This applies to all Grade 9 students who were learning remotely due to the province wide school closures.

Opting out of the online requirement

Parents who wish to opt out or exempt their child from the online graduation requirement must complete the opt-out form available in Guidance or on-line. Exemption from the online learning graduation requirements may be requested by:

- the parent or guardian of the secondary student
- students who are 18 years of age or older
- students who are 16 or 17 years of age and have withdrawn from parental control

Community Involvement

As part of the high school diploma requirements, students must complete a minimum of 40 hours of community involvement activities. The community involvement requirement is designed to encourage students to develop awareness and understanding of civic responsibilities and the role they can play in supporting and strengthening their communities. These activities may be completed at any time during their years in the secondary school program. A single 40-hour activity or a series of shorter activities totaling 40 hours may be completed.

Students must complete and submit a "Community Involvement Activity Record" to the Guidance Office for the community involvement hours to be added to the students' academic record. Eligible activities are listed on the back of the "Community Involvement Activity Record" and are available in the Guidance Office. Students are encouraged to check with the guidance office for additional community involvement information and to visit "The Volunteer Resource Centre for Durham Region" website at www.volunteerdurham.org.

ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL CERTIFICATE

The Ontario Secondary School Certificate will be granted on request to students who leave school before earning the OSSD, provided that they have earned a minimum of 14 credits distributed as follows:

COMPULSORY CREDITS

- 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

7 Optional credits selected by the student from available courses

Students are not required to complete 40 hours of community involvement.

Students are not required to pass the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test.

CERTIFICATE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT

Students who leave school before fulfilling the requirements for the Ontario Secondary School Diploma or the Ontario Secondary School Certificate may be granted a Certificate of Accomplishment. This certificate may be a useful means of recognizing achievement for students who plan to take certain vocational programs or further training, or who plan to find employment after leaving school.

SUBSTITUTION FOR COMPULSORY CREDITS

To satisfy the needs of individual students, the principal may replace up to three (3) compulsory credits with credits taken from the remainder of those courses listed as optional. Any substitution must be in the best educational interests of the student in the opinion of the parent or guardian, principal and superintendent of education. The final responsibility for credit substitution rests with the Director of Education.

Since only three courses may be substituted, full application of this provision in the early years of a student's secondary school program may reduce the possibility of achieving a diploma.

ONTARIO STUDENT TRANSCRIPT

Students will have their successful grade nine and ten courses recorded on the Ontario Student Transcript (OST). The transcript will use the common course codes and titles, as designated by the Ontario Ministry of Education and Training and will be retained in the student's Ontario Student Record (OSR) folder. All Grade 11 or 12 courses taken or attempted by a student will be shown whether completed successfully or not.

ONTARIO STUDENT RECORD (OSR)

The OSR is the ongoing, confidential record of a student's educational progress through schools in Ontario. The collection of this information is authorized by the Education Act.

All students and the parents or guardians of students under 18 years of age have the right to examine the OSR and to receive a copy of its contents, if they so desire.

FULL DISCLOSURE

The Full Disclosure policy was implemented by the Ministry of Education and Training effective, September, 1999. All students taking grade 11 and 12 courses will be subject to this policy. All courses continued after the date of full disclosure (5 days after the first official report card is issued) will have the subject and most current mark recorded on their student transcript (OST) whether the course has been successfully completed or not. This information is to be made available to Community Colleges and Universities for them to consider when making admission or scholarship decisions. Parents and students who have further questions regarding this policy should contact the Guidance Department.

ALTERNATE EDUCATION OPTIONS

Durham Continuing Education

There is an extensive range of learning opportunities available through Durham Continuing Education. Some of these programs include:

Summer School, Night School, Learn at Home, Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) and Adult Education. Visit www.dce.ca for more information. These programs require prior approval from the guidance department and school administration. Night School and Summer School registration is available on the student's **myBlueprint** account. Information is also available at www.dce.ca.

Durham Alternative Secondary School (DASS)

The DASS program offers students an alternative setting to earn a diploma. Courses are offered at the Grade 11 and Grade 12 levels.

Additional information is available at www.durhamalternative.on.ca. Students interested in attending DASS should contact the Guidance Department or Vice-Principal.

Home Instruction

If a student will be absent for more than three weeks due to illness and can no longer attend school, the Durham District School Board will provide a qualified teacher to deliver course instruction at home. Parents must contact the Guidance Department and provide appropriate medical documentation.

Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL)

Eligible students must be registered in a Durham Public Secondary School. An attendance counsellor/social worker at the secondary school initiates the referral for SAL after consultation with parent/guardian(s), student and school administration. Contact the Guidance department for more information.

Centre for Success - School-Based Alternative Education

Students are referred to this program by administration, the student success teachers and guidance staff. Eligible students must be close to completing their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). This program runs off-site at Durham College. Students in the Centre for Success Program complete their secondary school diploma requirements in a small class learning environment. Students may earn new credits or recover credits. Dual credits are offered in this program. A college professor teaches the dual college/high school credit with support from the secondary school teacher.

Prior Learning Assessment & Recognition (PLAR)

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) is a formal process of evaluation and accreditation which allows students to earn high school credits. Prior learning is knowledge and skills that a student has acquired outside the traditional classroom. These learning experiences may meet the expectations and/or outcomes for a credit as outlined in the curriculum. Current Ontario secondary school students may challenge certain credits.

Students interested in obtaining credits through the PLAR Process, and who are currently registered in a Durham secondary school should contact their Guidance office.

Music Certificates Accepted for Credits

A student who has successfully completed Music Certificates as outlined in the Ontario Ministry of Education PPM number 133 may obtain a maximum of two credits towards their high school diploma. Contact your guidance counsellor for more information.

SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS

Cooperative Education

Cooperative Education is an experiential learning experience that integrates theory from classroom subjects with practical experience at a community placement. There is a classroom component and a placement component. Pre-placement sessions include health and safety training, review of career opportunities in the community, confidentiality, work ethics, the Employment Standards Act, the role of unions and the creation of a personalized placement learning plan (PPLP) for the student. Together the classroom lessons and placement experience provide students with:

- Credit(s) towards the OSSD
- Valuable experience for their future career destination
- Exploration of a career
- Hands-on training for employment opportunities after graduation
- Apprenticeship training in the skilled trades during high school
- Assessment and evaluation of learning

To apply for Coop students must:

- Have 16 credits
- Provide two teacher references
- Complete an interview with a Coop teacher to match student needs with potential placements

Participation depends on:

- Student's attendance and references
- The availability of a placement
- Successful completion of the related school subject prior to the placement or the concurrent timetabling of both the subject and Cooperative Education placement
- Successful interview with a community employer

Specialized Cooperative Education Programs

The **Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP)** is an opportunity available in Ontario Secondary Schools for **all students participating in Cooperative Education**. OYAP allows students to get a jump-start on their future in the skilled trades. OYAP students must meet all the requirements and elements of Cooperative Education in order to participate. Students can earn high school credits while they get experience in the trade of their choice. All students completing Cooperative Education placements in a skilled trade are considered OYAP students. Students also may have the choice of registering as an OYAP apprentice while at their placement. To register as an apprentice while completing Co-op credits, students must be at least 16 years of age and have 16 credits. Students must also have good academic standing and excellent attendance.

Additionally, the Durham District School Board offers students the opportunity to apply for **Accelerated Level One programs**. Students may earn the first level of their Apprenticeship training in the final semester of high school at a local Community College while also completing a Co-op placement in a skilled trade. Programs include: Automotive Service Technician, Child Development Practitioner, Cook, Electrical, Carpentry, Hairstyling, Plumbing, Welding and Industrial Mechanic Millwright.

To apply for the Accelerated Level One programs, students must be in at least Grade 11 and plan on completing all of their compulsory courses during the first semester of their Grade twelve school year. To begin the program in the second semester of their final year, students must have 26 credits including all compulsory credits completed. It is recommended that students complete at least one Co-op experience in a trade before applying to the Accelerated OYAP program. The Ontario Youth Apprenticeship program supports Student Success in our Secondary Schools including our Specialist High Skills Major Programs. Please visit the Coop Department for more information.

Construction Coop Internship (4 credits): CWE409

This program prepares students for employment. Students are placed at home building sites and participate in a variety of areas to help build a new home. Students are taught the skills required in the construction trades industry. Students earn four credits during this full day placement. Students that successfully complete the program may have an opportunity for employment and/or apprenticeship in the Construction Trades.

NOTE: *Students will be required to provide their own utility belt, hard hat, hammer, tape measure, utility knife, work boots and appropriate clothing for inclement weather. Students are responsible for arranging their own transportation to and from the worksite.*

Continuous-intake - COOPERATIVE EDUCATION

Continuous-intake cooperative education allows students to enter cooperative education programs throughout the school year rather than only at the beginning of a year, term, or semester. Students may be referred to the program by administration, guidance or the student success team. Additional information is available in the Guidance office.

SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJOR (SHSM)

The Specialist High Skills Major is a program that allows students to focus on a career path that matches their individual skills and interests. Each SHSM is a bundle of courses in a selected field combined with related courses, certifications and work experience. Students who complete a SHSM will receive a special red seal on their diploma and acknowledgement of completion of the program on their academic transcripts. SHSM's help students as they leave high school to be prepared with the knowledge, skills, and industry recognized qualifications desired by employers and post-secondary education and training institutions.

PRSS SHSM Programs

1. Arts and Culture - including Fashion, Dramatic Arts, Music, Dance and Visual Arts
2. Health and Wellness- including Social Service Work and Education
3. The Environment- including Outdoor Education

4. Business
5. Sports

Interested students must complete an application. Applications are available from the Department or Lead Teacher offering the program.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Program of Study

Students in grades 9, 10 and 11 are required to take 8 courses per year (4 per semester). After a student has successfully achieved 24 credits, a study period may be assigned at the discretion of the school administration. Students who have been granted a study period are expected to work in the library, cafeteria or to leave school property. Grade 12 students may take 6 courses in grade 12 if they have successfully completed 24 previous credits. 6 grade 12 U/M courses are required to apply to Ontario Universities.

Note: Students can earn a maximum of 34 credits (including repeated successful credits) according to the Ministry of Education. Students with an IEP can surpass 34 credits.

School Support Services

The Inclusive Student Services Department at Pine Ridge Secondary School provides program support to students with identified learning needs. Based on these identified learning needs, an Individual Education Plan is developed. The Individual Education Plan (IEP) for students in the mainstream program will be developed by the Academic Resource teachers. IEPs for any student in Small Classroom Placements will be developed by both their small classroom placement teacher in conjunction with their integration period teacher. The IEP is reviewed and updated on an annual basis.

It takes a true village or community to work together to ensure student success. Communication among staff members, parents, students, administration, and school board staff personnel for the benefit of student learning is coordinated through the Academic Resource teachers. Throughout the semester, classroom teachers work with the ISS department to monitor and provide necessary supports to help our identified students be successful. Any identified student and their guardian can check in with the classroom teacher or the ISS Department to discuss needed changes to their IEP to ensure the best supportive environment and learning plan is established. Students are encouraged to self-advocate if they require additional support or find themselves struggling in their classes.

Academic Resource

Academic Resource is a drop-in help centre accessible to all students with identified learning needs in our school. Students are referred to the Academic Resource room by:

- classroom teachers
- administrators

- guidance counsellors
- parent/guardian(s)
- the students themselves.

Individual assistance is available in the following areas:

- organizational skills
- study skills
- assignment completion
- test/examination preparation
- test/examination completion with accommodations as needed (i.e. oral testing, extended time, etc.).
- and any other alternative support to the classroom teacher (i.e. quiet space, self regulation, etc.

Such supports will be provided on a withdrawal basis, as well as in the regular classroom, whenever appropriate.

Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

Parents should be aware that information on the Board's SEAC and Special Education Plan is available. Please contact the Head of the Inclusive Student Services Department for more information.

Student Success Program

Pine Ridge Secondary School has instituted a Student Success Program that supports students with mentoring, tutoring, and advocating. The Student Success Team is comprised of the Student Success Teacher, along with a representative from the following departments: ISS, Guidance, ESL and Administration. The Student Success Team develops school procedures and models for the effective delivery of all student success initiatives. The Student Success Teacher (SST) is directly involved in student tracking and monitoring of marks and attendance. The SST acts as a facilitator for students, staff, and parents in an effort to improve communication and motivation to become successful at earning credits toward achieving an OSSD. Instruction, support, and interventions are provided for students at risk through the Student Success Program.

Credit Recovery Program

Credit Recovery programs help students earn the credits they have previously failed to achieve, as they develop the learning skills needed for academic success. The program will:

- Focus on improving learning skills
- Target particular curriculum expectations that students have failed to achieve
- Include behavioural or other supports
- Involve the recovery of more than one credit
- Involve both independent and group learning
- Accommodate continuous intake

Library Learning Commons

Through dynamic programming in the Pine Ridge Library Learning Commons, involving classroom teachers and Teacher Librarians, students can learn and develop the skills needed to work towards their goals. The Library Learning Commons is the heart of the school. It provides comfortable spots to study, a wide range of student requested fiction and non-fiction titles, plus access to electronic databases and other research tools. Students can access Library technology in person, and at home through the Library Learning Commons website at:

<https://sites.google.com/ddsb.ca/pine-ridge-llc>

Students can access a wide range of software, including DDSB and Pine Ridge Research Sites, as well as the Insignia and Sora Library catalogues. For students wanting a beautiful and calm place to work, they can access the Library Learning Commons at lunch or during spares. Student cards must be used to book and access Library resources. The Library also offers students access to a printer/photocopier during their spares, elearning periods, lunch and after school.

The Library also hosts and trains Library Volunteers, who gain volunteer hours while gaining valuable skills that they can transfer to the workplace. The White Pine Book Club takes place in the Library from December to May each school year.

English as a Second Language

The Durham District School Board offers English as a Second Language (ESL) and English Literacy Development (ELD) programs for our Multilingual Language Learners (MLL) whose home language(s) is a language other than English or is a variety of English that is significantly different from the English used in Ontario schools. They may be Canadian-born or newcomers from other countries. Multilingual Language Learners have diverse identities, backgrounds, and school experiences and have a wide variety of skills, strengths, and needs. Students may initially require educational accommodations to assist their development of English language proficiency. An initial assessment may be needed to determine English language proficiency for students who are new to Canada. This diagnostic tool places students on the Steps to English Proficiency (STEP) continuum of language acquisition and guides programming.

Pine Ridge Secondary School offers courses in English as a Second Language (ESL) to assist in the integration of these students. In addition to learning English or upgrading their language skills, these courses give students the opportunity to share their own cultures and learn about Canadian traditions and customs. As well, students will learn about the Canadian school system and available resources within the school and community. They will receive support to help them make friends and reach their full potential in a new cultural setting.

The following requirements apply to credits obtained in ESL:

- A student, regardless of the grade at which he/she enters the Ontario Secondary School system, may take a maximum of three (3) ESL courses for credit towards the four (4) compulsory English credits required for graduation.
- The remaining compulsory English credit must be earned at the grade 12 level in the regular English program.

Once registered at Pine Ridge Secondary School, a student's level of English will be assessed to determine the student's level of proficiency. Students will then be placed in one of the following ESL courses or ELD programming:

Beginning Communication in English ESL Level 1	Open	ESLAO1
English in Daily Life ESL Level 2	Open	ESLBO1
English for School and Work ESL Level 3	Open	ESLCO1
Study Skills in English ESL Level 4	Open	ESLDO1
Bridge to English ESL Level 5	Open	ESLEO1

Settlement Workers in Schools (SWIS)

Settlement Workers in Schools Durham, is a school-based program that assists newcomer students and their families deal with the adjustments to their new society and school system. The settlement worker comes into the school to connect families with initial settlement services. The program is open to all families in the school community.

SWIS Durham is a partnership of the Durham District School Board (DDSB), the Durham Catholic District School Board (DCDSB), Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) and Community Development Council Durham (CDCD).

SWIS Durham assigns a settlement worker to every school. A newcomer family may access a school based settlement worker regardless of their location in Durham. The SWIS Durham team through a network of institutions, community agencies, cultural organizations and support groups;

- Assists newcomers in accessing school and community resources
- Links newcomers with social and cultural services
- Assists school staff with responses to the diverse ethnic, cultural, religious and racial backgrounds of the population
- Assist newcomer youth and their families with integration into their local school

Guidance and Career Education Program

The Guidance Department has assigned counsellors to work with students to promote personal well-being and pathway planning throughout high school. Counsellors work with students individually and in groups for scheduling of courses and classes, course selections, career and post-secondary planning and personal concerns.

Counsellors assist students with post secondary school destinations: college, apprenticeship, university or the world of work. The Guidance Department also provides opportunities for community involvement opportunities, and educational opportunities such as exchanges, conferences, camps, etc. Referrals can also be made for a wide range of community support resources to support student mental health and well-being.

Education and Career Development

The Guidance Department offers many programs including career speakers, interest inventories, resume writing, work preparation, study skills, educational and career planning workshops, College and University application seminars and College and University guest speakers. Students may access these programs through voluntary sign-up or through classroom presentations.

Course Changes

It is very important that students select their subjects and courses wisely. Opportunities to make timetable changes are limited. Guidelines and dates for timetable changes are available in the guidance office, google classrooms, the student agenda and the school website. To change a subject in their timetable, a student must consult with a Guidance counsellor. Students require parental/guardian permission, in writing, to make a timetable change if they are under the age of 18 years. Not all timetable changes are possible. Each request will be dealt with on an individual basis.

Individual Pathway Plan

All students in grades 9 through 12 will be required to maintain an Individual Pathway Plan (IPP) which will help with setting goals, priorities and pathway planning. Students use the IPP to track the growth of their career development and pathway destinations. All students in grades 7 through 12 are required to develop, review and revise their IPP at least twice a year, (Ministry of Education). Students will set goals to improve their work and to review the success of their personal efforts and choices. It is expected that parents will play an active role along with students and teachers in the development and ongoing review of the IPP. The IPP is accessed on the student's **myBlueprint** account.

Education/Career Resources

The Guidance Department has a wide selection of Ontario college and university calendars. Out of province and U.S. information is also available in guidance and on-line. Information on apprenticeships, career self-assessments, colleges, universities, resume writing and scholarships are available. Students also have access to information regarding volunteer opportunities, which can be used for their 40 hours of required community involvement.

Ontario Credit System

Credit Definition

A credit is granted in recognition of the successful completion of a course, which has at least 110 hours of scheduled instructional time. The credit is granted by the principal of a school offering secondary school programs on behalf of the Ontario Ministry of Education and Training.

Prerequisite Courses

These are specific courses that the Ministry of Education has decided must be successfully completed before continuing in that area of study. These are indicated in the course description sections of this booklet.

Courses of Study

Copies of courses of study are available at the school office for parental perusal. Contact the school to make an appointment. Information on course outlines and Ontario Curriculum Policy documents may be found at the Ontario Ministry of Education Website, www.edu.gov.on.ca.

Course Codes

All Ontario secondary school courses are alphabetically and numerically coded to indicate year or grade, stream or level, and course content. Applied level grade 9 courses will no longer be offered as of September 2022.

HOW TO READ COURSE CODES

All Ontario course codes have six characters. For example English - ENG2D1:

ENG	2	D
Refers to the course type subject and/or course	Refers to the Grade level of the course	Refers to the course type/destination
A - Arts B - Business C - Canadian & World Studies E - English F - French G - Guidance & Careers H - Humanities & Social Sciences M - Mathematics N - Native Studies P - Physical Education S - Science T - Technological Education	1 - Grade 9 2 - Grade 10 3 - Grade 11 4 - Grade 12	Grade 9 and 10 D - Academic P - Applied L - Locally Developed O - Open W - Destreamed Grades 11 and 12 U - University C - College M - University/College E - Workplace O - Open

“1” - The sixth character refers to a special program or a timetable description specified by the Durham District School Board or Pine Ridge.

COURSE LEVEL DESCRIPTIONS FOR GRADE 9 AND 10 COURSES

Students in grade 9 core courses (English, Mathematics, Science, French, and Geography) – De-streamed or Locally Developed. All other courses will be taken at the Open level.

Students in grade 10 core courses (English, Mathematics, Science, History) - Academic, Applied or Locally Developed.

Inclusive De-streamed	W With the introduction of this curriculum, all high school students will take the Math, Science, Geography and English courses in Grade 9 which will allow for the same eventual opportunities for all and an improved ability to pursue the pathway of their choice after their K-12 education. (Ontario Ministry of Education, 2021)
Academic	D Academic courses focus on the essential concepts of the discipline plus additional related concepts. Academic courses develop student’s knowledge and skills by emphasizing theoretical, abstract applications of the essential concepts while incorporating practical applications, as appropriate.
Applied	P Applied courses focus on the essential concepts of the discipline. Applied courses develop student’s knowledge and skills by emphasizing practical, concrete applications of the essential concepts while incorporating theoretical applications, as appropriate.
Open Courses	O An open level course has one set of expectations for that subject at the grade 9 and 10 levels. Open courses are appropriate for all students and are not linked to any specific postsecondary destination.
Locally Developed	L Locally developed courses are intended for students who require flexibility and support in order to meet credit requirements. These courses review and reinforce the elementary curriculum expectations to provide the skills necessary for further study at the secondary level. Upon successful completion of Grade 9 locally developed credit students may proceed to a Grade 9 course or a Grade 10 Locally Developed course which provides a “stepping stone” from the Grade 9 locally developed credit to Grade 11 workplace preparation courses in that discipline.

COURSE LEVEL DESCRIPTIONS FOR GRADE 11 AND 12 COURSES - Destinations

Courses in grade 11 and 12 are offered in streams that are related to a student's destination after high school. The four destination related types of courses are:

University

U - Courses designed to prepare students for entrance to a college program following high school. Courses designed to prepare students for entrance to university programs following high school.

University/College

M - Courses designed to prepare students for entrance to college or university destinations after high school.

College

C - Courses designed to prepare students for entrance to a college program following high school.

Workplace

E - Courses designed for students planning to enter the workplace directly following high school.

Open

O - These courses are not specific to any particular postsecondary destination and are appropriate for all students.

Course Selection

The course selection for each student is subject to approval by the principal. Students should read this calendar and give thoughtful consideration to each course selected. Students should consult with their teachers and their guidance counsellor regarding appropriate course and stream selection. Class availability is dependent on student enrolment. Opportunities to make timetable changes after the course selection due date will be limited and will be based on course availability. Guidelines and dates for timetable changes will be available in the guidance office, google classrooms and the school website.

Enhanced programming and materials

“Enhanced Programming and materials are voluntary enrichments or upgrades to the curriculum or a co-curricular activity beyond what is necessary to meet the learning expectations for a particular grade or course. In some performance and production courses students may wish to use a superior product or consumable than that provided by the school, in which case they may be asked to pay the additional cost of the upgrade.”

Excerpt from Fees for Learning Materials and Activities Guideline, Ministry of Education - March 2011.

2025-2026 e-Learning

Durham District School Board (DDSB) offers a dynamic way to teach and learn through courses in an online eLearning platform. eLearning provides students with a flexible alternative to the face-to-face classroom. This online setting can support a student's educational plan when courses are not available to them at their home school, when a flexible alternative learning environment is required or when matching student preferred learning styles to programming needs.

The benefits of eLearning include:

- Access to online courses through video and interactive media
- Learning tailored to student needs
- Easy access to resources and courses
- More credit choices for graduation
- Opportunities for parents to engage with a student's education at home
- Access to more course options for small or isolated schools

Online Courses

The courses and online classroom will be provided by the Ministry of Education through e-Learning Ontario. These online courses:

- Meet the Ministry of Education curriculum expectations
- Are compliant with DDSB and Ministry of Education policies and procedures
- Are taught by qualified Ontario teachers who are full me day school teachers with the Durham District School Board
- Will be part of a student's timetable and appear on the student's transcript upon completion

Online Learning Environment e-Learning teachers interact with students on a regular basis online and consistently monitor their progress. This teacher-mediated system contains a wide range of collaborative and administration tools such as discussion rooms, quizzes, multimedia resources, internal email and student tracking. For these courses, all course material will be delivered in an e-Learning (fully online) format and therefore require students to have access to a computer with internet access. Students must complete an online orientation module before they begin to work on their e-Learning course. e-Learning final exams will be written online. Each e-Learning student will write his/her exam during the regular exam schedule at her/his home school. Each year, course availability can be found on myBlueprint.

Course Selection and Descriptions for 2025-2026

Below is the link to the Pine Ridge Secondary School Course options for 2025-2026. This information is on the myBlueprint website.

[Pine Ridge Course Selection](#)

Link to myBlueprint