

WELLAND CENTENNIAL SECONDARY SCHOOL

What you need to know about Cougar country...

BLUE, ORANGE, WHITE...in action!

Welcome to Welland Centennial Secondary!

STRONG, WELCOMING, PROUD.

These are the words that best describe the Centennial Community.

Home to quality educational programs, a variety of extra-curricular activities, strong athletics, outstanding arts programs, and innovative technology opportunities. Most importantly, we are a supportive school community that is diverse and inclusive with a welcoming atmosphere and amazing school spirit.

We take pride in the variety of opportunities offered to students to be involved in the school community. Our many clubs, teams, and activities meet the interests of all students and we encourage our Grade 9s to get involved in the school.

There are many activities and supports available to our Grade 9 students to help them with the transition to high school. These include our Grade 9 Welcome Day, "Catch a Slice of Cougar Life," assemblies, spirit weeks, senior student mentors, Homework Help, lunchtime math help, and Student Success monitoring. Our most important asset is the excellent and caring teaching and support staff who ensure that every student gets the supports they need to be successful at Centennial.

Please take the opportunity to tour the school and meet our staff and students.

We warmly welcome you to the Cougar family!

Mrs. T. Zonneveld
Principal

Mr. R. Zuccarello
Vice-Principal

Mrs. L. Cain
Vice-Principal



Grade 9 BBQ!

Grade 9 students and parents/guardians will be invited to the school for a day during the last week of August.

This exciting day includes:

- information session for students and parents/guardians
- tours of the school by our senior student mentors
- chance for students to get familiar with the location of their scheduled classrooms
- ice breaker games
- parent/guardian Q and A session
- BBQ lunch

More details about the Grade 9 BBQ will be emailed over the summer.

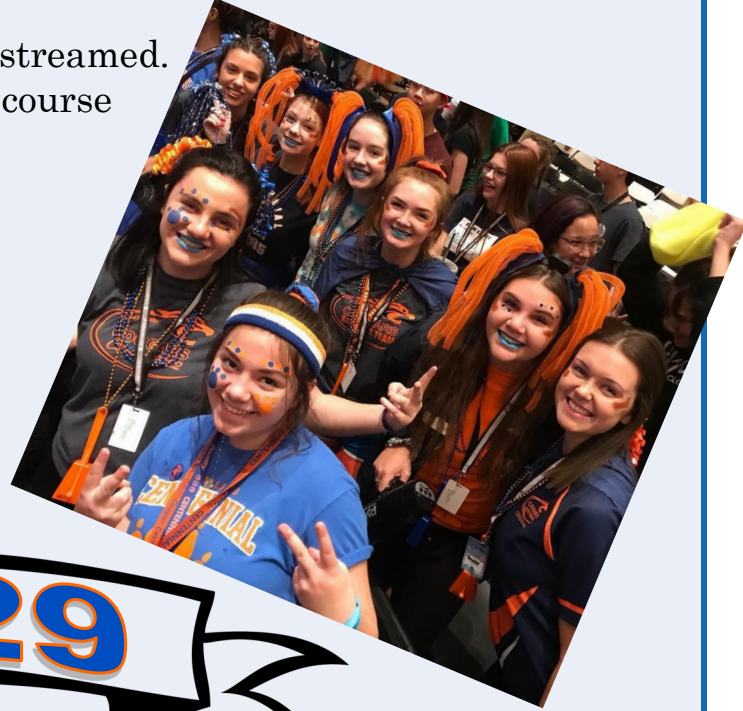
De-Streaming Grade 9 Courses

Research indicates that the practice of streaming students into pathways can limit their future opportunities. By de-streaming, students are empowered to pursue the futures they want, with doors open to all post-secondary options, including apprenticeship, college, university, or into the workplace.

At DSBN schools, all Grade 9 courses are de-streamed. Your Gr. 8 teacher will take you through the course selection process step by step.

Just imagine ...

Class of



What 8 courses am I required to take in grade 9?

6 COMPULSORIES

- ◆ English
- ◆ Geography
- ◆ Mathematics
- ◆ French
- ◆ Science
- ◆ Physical Education



2 ELECTIVES

Arts

- ◆ Visual Arts
- ◆ Drama
- ◆ Dance
- ◆ Instrumental Music
- ◆ Vocal Music

Business

- ◆ Building the Entrepreneurial Mindset

Technology

- ◆ Exploring the Skilled Trades
- ◆ Hospitality (Foods)

Note: Taking one Gr. 9 or 10 Technology credit is a graduation requirement.



Ontario Graduation Requirements



NEW REQUIREMENTS (Starting with the Class of 2028)

17 Compulsory Credits

4 English

3 Math (Score 70%+ in Gr. 10 Financial Literacy Unit)

2 Science

1 Geography (Gr. 9)

1 History (Gr. 10)

1 Arts

1 Health and Physical Education

1 French

1 Civics/Careers

1 Technology (Gr. 9 or 10)

1 STEM Course

Business

Computer Studies

Co-op

Mathematics (in addition to the 3 above)

Science (in addition to the 2 above)

Technology (in addition to the 1 above)

In addition to the 17 compulsory credits, students must complete:

13 Optional Credits (electives)

40 Community Involvement Hours

To encourage a greater sense of belonging in the community. Students can start working towards their hours after Grade 8 Graduation. **Students must document the following:** The name of the organization/establishment, email address of the person who supervised their involvement, the date, the tasks and number of hours they completed with each activity/event.

Provincial Literacy Requirement - OSSLT or OSSLC

Students must pass the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test. If they are not successful in passing the OSSLT, they will have the opportunity to meet this graduation requirement by taking the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course (OSSLC).

2 Online Learning Credits (Opt-out Option)

Students are encouraged to earn two credits online at some point during their four years of study, as part of the graduation requirements of the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). While online courses are a graduation requirement, students have the option of opting out.

Understanding the course codes...

Every course in an Ontario Secondary School has a six-character course code. Take a look at the example below to understand your course codes. The example below **SNC1W1** is the Science code for ALL Grade 9 students.

SNC	1	W	1
SUBJECT	GRADE LEVEL	STREAM	COURSE CHARACTERISTIC

Course Types by Grade

GRADE	COURSE TYPE	EXAMPLES	NOTES
9	W = De-Streamed D = Academic O = Open	Science (SNC1W1) French (FSF1D1) Business (BEM1O1)	All courses in Grade 9 are de-streamed regardless of the 5th character (W, D or O)
10	D = Academic P = Applied O = Open	Science (SNC2D1) Science (SNC2P1) Drama (ADA2O1)	Starting in Grade 10, students will choose the Academic or Applied pathway for Math and Science.
11 & 12	E = Workplace O = Open C = College M = College/University U = University	Math (MEL3E1) Geography (CGG3O1) Construction (TCJ3C1) Visual Arts (AVI4M1) Biology (SBI4U1)	In grades 11 and 12, students will choose courses according to their post-secondary destinations, and the required courses for specific programs.

Guidance counsellors are always available to help students and parents understand the various destinations each pathway prepares students for.

French Immersion Program

Our program allows students to further develop their ability to communicate in French. The ability to speak two or more languages enhances reasoning and problem solving skills, as well as creative thinking skills. The DSBN also offers students the opportunity to take the DELF exam in Grade 12 (for more information about the DELF exam, please visit us in Room 200). Our communication with parents/guardians will still be in English. We are also very fortunate to have a French speaking Resource Teacher who can support our students in French as needed.

For students to graduate with a French Immersion Certificate, they must take a **minimum of 10 credits** in the French language. These credits include: français (4 credits: Grades 9-12), sciences (Grades 9 & 10), géographie (Grade 9), histoire (Grade 10), carrières et citoyenneté (Grade 10) and **one** art visuel (Grade 9 or 10), géographie (Grade 11) or sciences sociales (Grade 11 or 12). Students who would like to take all 14 credits in French are welcome to do so!

J'aime le Français! 

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I be in classes with my friends? You may end up in classes with your friends, but we cannot schedule you into classes based on friendships.

How do sports teams work for age groups? Junior teams are grade 9 and 10s and senior teams are 11 and 12s. Sometimes there are Varsity teams which are all grades. You need to attend try-outs for all teams.

When do we get our lockers? On the first day of school, your teacher will assign you a locker.

When can we expect our timetable so we can find out our classes? You should get your timetable from the Student Portal online the week before school begins.

Is there a lot of homework? This will depend on the subject. Time is worked into classes daily to complete homework. Regular attendance helps ensure you understand and have the time to work on homework and ask questions to your teacher.

What time do we start and end the day? First bell is at 8:10 a.m. The end of day bell is at 2:10 p.m.

Can we go out at lunch? How long is lunch? Yes, you are free to go out at lunch. Lunch starts at 10:45am and ends at 11:30am. Be sure to be on time returning from lunch!

Combien de crédits en français, est-ce qu'il faut avoir pour obtenir mon certificat bilingue?
Vous devez compléter 10 crédits en français de 9e à 12e.

Do we offer intramural sports at lunch? Yes, the gym is open at lunch everyday for organized and non-organized sports.

What kind of mental health supports do you offer at Centennial? We have a full-time social worker on site.

What is Catch a Slice? Catch a Slice of Cougar Life is a fun-filled Grade 9 Activity day in September. It is a great way to get to know a lot of other students. It is an awesome day!

How do I find out what is happening around the school? Listen to the morning announcements, check the Centennial website, follow Centennial on Instagram (wcsscougs).

How do I get help for my classes? Ask your teacher, go to lunchtime math help or after school Homework Help, talk to someone in Guidance or Resource.

Specialist High Skills Major Program

The Specialist High Skills Major at Centennial is for students who are focusing on a specific career path and economic sector that matches their skills and interests. It is for students who enjoy learning in a real work environment, on the job with employers, as well as in school. Students receive training and certifications specific to the sector in which they are enrolled. WCSS currently offers 7 SHSM sectors: *Arts and Culture, Environment, Construction, Health & Wellness, Hospitality & Tourism, Information Communication Technology and Non-Profit/Education.*

