



Welcome to High School

2025-2026



OTTAWA-CARLETON
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD



Presentation Overview

Welcome and Introductions

High School Diploma Requirements

Course Selections inc. Course Electives

Q and A in the Foyer



Land Acknowledgement

We would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishinaabeg People. The Algonquin peoples have lived on this land since time immemorial.

We are grateful to have the opportunity to learn, work and live on this land.



EARL ADMINISTRATION



Christine Siwy

Principal

Kim Bruton

Vice Principal

Kimberly Lovatt

Vice Principal

Caitlin Abdo

Vice Principal

EARL DEPARTMENT HEADS

Anthony Anderson	Cooperative Education, Business, Technology
Naomi Watson-Laird	English, Languages, Library
Frances D'Alessandro	Fine Arts
Megan Port	Health and Physical Education
Stacie Torres	Mathematics, Computer Science
Nicole Charron	Science
Graham Kappel	Canadian and World Studies, Humanities
Michelle Walter	Student Services, Special Education

EARL GUIDANCE TEACHERS

Bobby Howe

Alpha = A - Ella

Greg Scheepers

Alpha = Elli - Liu, C.

Michelle Walter

Alpha = Liu, D. - Shen

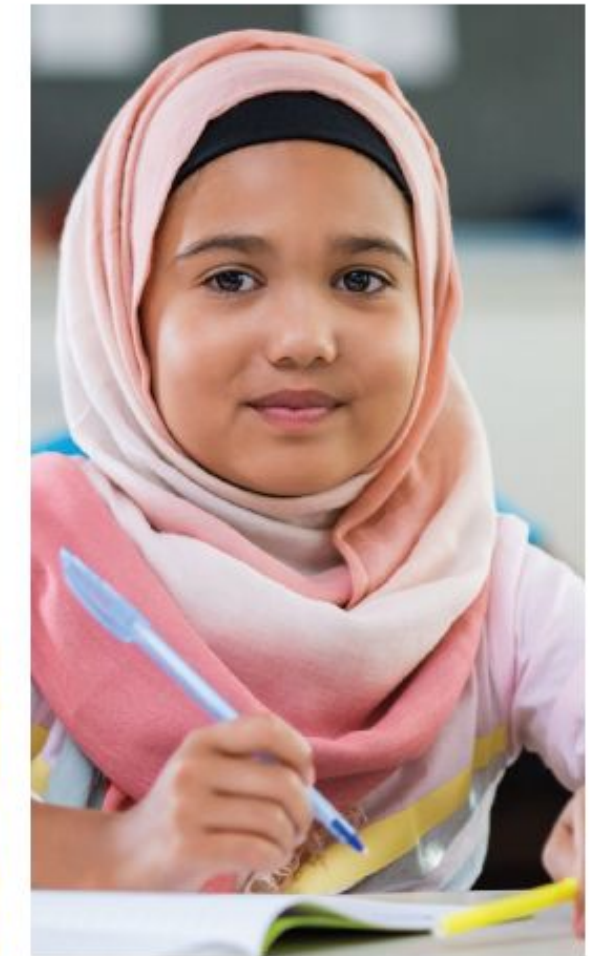
Debbie Lisak

Alpha = Shi - Z

A Place for Every Student

Students Are Why We Are Here

- We see you, we hear you and **student voices matter**
- Actions to create inclusive schools:
 - OCDSB Indigenous, Equity and Human Rights Roadmap
 - Anti-hate Toolkit
 - Identity-based support staff
- We continue to work together to dismantle barriers to learning and help all students achieve success.



OCDSB's Indigenous, Equity and Human Rights Roadmap



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Commitment to Equity

Indigenous Education

- Celebrate **Indigenous brilliance** by understanding historical and contemporary realities
- Ensuring Indigenous students have support, opportunities and resources to achieve academic success and personal well-being.



For more information, please contact **Chantel Verner** - System Principal of Indigenous Education (chantel.verner@ocdsb.ca)



Commitment to Equity

Supporting Black, minoritized, and 2SLGBTQ+ Students

- Building staff awareness and capacity
- Providing student opportunities
- Programming and supports for students
- Increasing engagement and connectedness



*For more information, please contact **Jacqueline Lawrence** - Diversity/Equity Coordinator (jacqueline.lawrence@ocdsb), or **Juliet Robinson** - System Principal of Equity, Inclusion, and Anti-Oppression (juliet.robinson@ocdsb.ca)*



Commitment to Equity

Students with Special Education Needs

- Ensuring high learning expectations for all students in all programs while prioritizing the dignity and well-being of students in inclusive classrooms.
- Consider each student's learning strengths, areas of need, work habits, learning skills, and readiness to learn in specific subject areas.



High School Graduation Requirements

For students who started Grade 9 on or after fall 2024

Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD)

Earned with the successful completion of:

- 30 high school credits (17 Compulsory + 13 Optional)
- 2 of the above credits earned through online learning courses (opt out available)
- 40 hours of Community Involvement Activities
- Provincial Literacy Requirement (OSSLT or OSSLC)
- Provincial Financial Literacy Requirement (part of the Grade 10 Mathematics course)

This Diploma keeps all doors open

Ontario Secondary School Certificate (OSSC)

- Granted on request to students aged 18+ who leave school before fulfilling the requirements for the Ontario Secondary School Diploma
- Requires a minimum of 14 credits.
- This Certificate may be a useful means of recognizing achievement for students who may plan to take additional training, or who plan to find employment after leaving school.
- This Certificate does not lead to college or university.

Certificate of Accomplishment (COA)

- Students who leave school before fulfilling the requirements for the OSSD or the OSSC may be granted a Certificate of Accomplishment.
- There is no credit requirement.
- This Certificate may be a useful means of recognizing achievement for students who plan to take certain adaptive programs, or other kinds of additional training, or who plan to find employment after leaving school.
- This Certificate does not lead to college or university.



Pathway Connected Learning Experiences

Cooperative Education

Students who are at least 14 years old can earn credits while working in the community with community partners.

Dual Credit

Students in Grades 11 or 12 have an opportunity to attend college and explore career and post-secondary opportunities earning a college and a high school credit.

eLearning

Students have the opportunity to learn in an online asynchronous environment supporting the completing of their learning around their unique schedule.

Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP)

Students who are at least 15 years old can earn co-op credits and gain apprenticeship training leading to a Certificate of Qualification with journeyperson in a skilled trade.

Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM)

Students can earn a SHSM designation on their OSSD by exploring career paths through a bundle of specific courses, certifications and connections with industry partners.

Trades and Technology

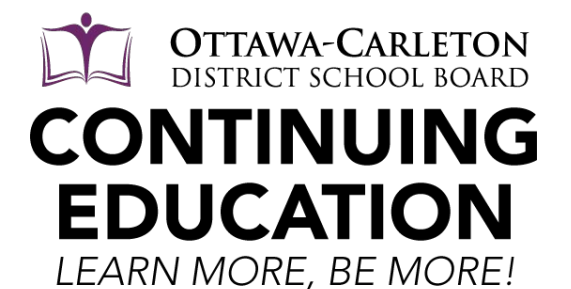
Students can learn through hands-on, experiential projects and explore interests in different areas of technology.



Continuing Education Programs

- **Elementary Summer School:** Literacy and Numeracy support for students finishing grades 6-8 and preparation for grade 9.
- **Summer School Credit:** A variety of grade 9 to 12 credit courses offered with some credit options for students finishing grade 8. Some COOP credit opportunities for Grade 11-12 students.
- **International and Indigenous Language Credit Programs (Secondary):** Language credit courses are available for Grade 9-12 students running from September to June. *A variety of languages are available.*
- **Specialised Programs:** For specific student groups during the school year and summer such as credit programs for Black Youth, 2SLGBTQ+ Youth, and English Language Learners.
- **Night School Credit:** Two sessions during the school year (Fall/Winter) offering a range of grade 11 and 12 courses.
- **Literacy and Numeracy (non credit):** Our Literacy and Numeracy Programs provide students in Grades 7 - 12 with a supervised opportunity to complete, review, practice and organize their work in order to help them achieve greater success at school.

For more information please visit our website: [OCDSB Continuing Education](#)



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Course Selection



- **Who should I talk to?**
 - Parents/caregivers, friends, school staff, other adults in your life
- **What should we talk about?**
 - Your wishes, hopes, and dreams
 - Hobbies and interests
 - What environment do you like to work in (e.g., shop, outdoors, classroom, etc.)?
 - Family history and traditions
 - Your thinking from your Individual Pathway Plans
 - Preferred learning style
 - Academic progress
 - Strengths
 - Learning and skills that you are working on



Xello: The Course Selection Tool

Quick Introduction to Xello



Xello is an online tool that students can use to explore career options, build skills, and reflect on how learning connects with career and learning goals. It is also the tool used for course selection.

With Xello your child will:

- **Build Self-knowledge:** Define their interests, skills, preferences, and aspirations so they can explore the opportunities right for them.
- **Explore Options:** Learn about career possibilities and educational pathways by exploring rich, engaging content and lessons.
- **Create a Plan:** Students can create dynamic actionable plans that outline the steps needed to achieve school, career, and life goals.
- **Learn & Reassess:** Interactive lessons help your child develop age appropriate skills and knowledge for success in school and beyond.

Xello: From a student's perspective

- 1 Dashboard
- 2 Lessons
- 3 About Me
- 4 Explore Options
- 5 Goals and Plans





How do I pick my courses?



Ontario High School Requirements

Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD)

40 Hours Community Involvement

30 High School Credits:

- 17 Compulsory High School Credits
- 13 Optional High School Credits

Ontario literacy requirement:

- Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test
or
- Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course

*New Financial Literacy Requirement (Grade 10)

- more MOE information to come

• **Compulsory Credits (total of 17)**

- 4 credits in English (1 credit per grade)
- 3 credits in Mathematics (Grade 9, 10 and a 11/12)
- 2 credits in Science
- 1 credit in Canadian Geography
- 1 credit in Canadian History
- 1 credit in French as a Second Language
- 1 credit in Health and Physical Education
- 1 credit in the Arts
- 0.5 credit in Career Studies
- 0.5 credit in Civics and Citizenship
- 1 credit in [Technological Education](#) (Grade 9/10)
- 1 credit from the [STEM-related course group](#)

• **Optional Credits (total of 13)**

- 13 credits from courses chosen by the student from available courses

• **Online Learning Requirement (2 of 30)**

- 2 of the 30 high school credits must be earned from online learning courses
- May opt-out of this requirement

40hrs
Volunteer



30
Credits



OSSLT



OSSD



Technological Education Course

Of the 17 compulsory credits, you must complete 1 from the following group:

- [Technology and the Skilled Trades – Grade 9 - TAS 10](#)
- [Grade 9 and 10 broad-based technology focus courses](#)



STEM Related Course Group

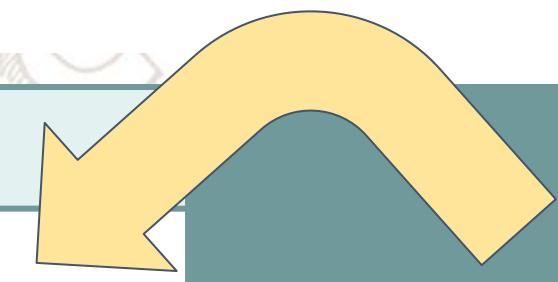
Of the 17 compulsory credits, you must complete 1 from the following group:

- business studies
- computer studies
- cooperative education
- mathematics (in addition to the 3 compulsory credits currently required)
- science (in addition to the 2 compulsory credits currently required)
- technological education (in addition to the 1 compulsory credit required)



OSSD Requirements - typical choices

Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
English 9	English 10	English 11	English 12
Mathematics 9	Mathematics 10	Mathematics 11	
Science 9	Science 10		
French 9	Canadian History 10		
Canadian Geography 9	Civics and Careers 10		
Arts -recommended	Tech Education 9 or 10*		
Physical Education -recommended			
Business (BEM10/F)** or Technology (TAS10)* or Learning Strategies (GLS10) - elective		<div data-bbox="1402 1159 2568 1376" data-label="Text"> <p>*1 Tech Ed course in grade 9 or 10 ** 1 additional STEM Related Course (can be taken in any grade)</p> </div>	



Research your goals for post-secondary, then plan your high school courses backwards!





Choose 8 Courses

English: ENL1W or ENG1L - compulsory

Mathematics: MTH1W or MAT1L - compulsory

Science: SNC1W, SNC1WF - compulsory

Geography: CGC1W, CGC1WF - compulsory

French: FIF1D, FSF1D, FSF1O - compulsory

Health & Physical Education: PPL1OP, PPL1OQ, PPL1O - recommended

An Arts Course - ADA1O, ATC1O, AVI1O, AMI1O - recommended

Business (BEM1O/F) or Technology (TAS1O) or Learning Strategies (GLS1O) - elective



Which Grade 9 French course is the right choice?

FIF1D - For French Immersion students only - Minimum of 3800 hours of French instruction before Gr. 9. Taught completely in French.

FSF1D - Academic Core French For students who have been in the Core French program, minimum of 600 hours of French instruction before Gr. 9. Taught mostly in French.

FSF1O - Open Core French - For students who are new to French. Taught in English.

Elective Courses - Notes



- **Arts, Business, & Technology programs**
 - no prerequisites for grade 10 courses
- **Music & Band are co-curricular**
 - 1 credit music and 0.5 credit Band

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION GRADE 9 OPTIONS

The Grade 9 Healthy & Active Living course is offered in a few forms:

- * PPL10P → Girls Grade 9 HPE
- * PPL10Q → Boys Grade 9 HPE
- * PPL10 → All Gender Grade 9 HPE

This course emphasizes regular participation in a variety of enjoyable physical activities that promote lifelong healthy active living. Students will learn movement skills and principles, ways to improve personal fitness and physical competence, and safety and injury prevention.



SPARK

THE REVOLUTIONARY
NEW SCIENCE OF EXERCISE
AND THE BRAIN



Supercharge Your Mental Circuits to
Beat Stress, Sharpen Your Thinking, Lift Your Mood,
Boost Your Memory, and Much More

JOHN J. RATEY, MD
AUTHOR OF *DRIVEN TO DISTRACTION*
with ERIC HAGERMAN

Ignite the SPARK

A program serving our grade 9 students, pairing personal fitness & well-being with classroom instruction to increase academic performance and numeracy learning capacity.

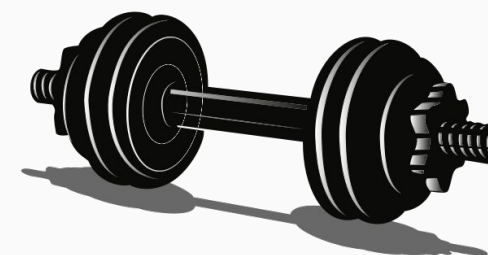
- Students who are part of our **Spark** program are enrolled in **Grade 9 Mathematics (MTH1W)** and **Grade 9 Fitness (PAF10)**.
- Unlike other courses, fitness and math would not flip on alternate days. The goal of Spark is to capitalize on the physical and emotional benefits of vigorous physical activity and improved cognitive processing.
- Please note registration is limited.

****Please indicate your interest in the EOM SS Spark program by choosing the interest flag titled "SPARK" in Xello when choosing courses for Grade 9**

Examples of daily fitness activities:

- Circuit training
- Spinning
- HIIT
- Preparation for a 5km race
- Resistance training

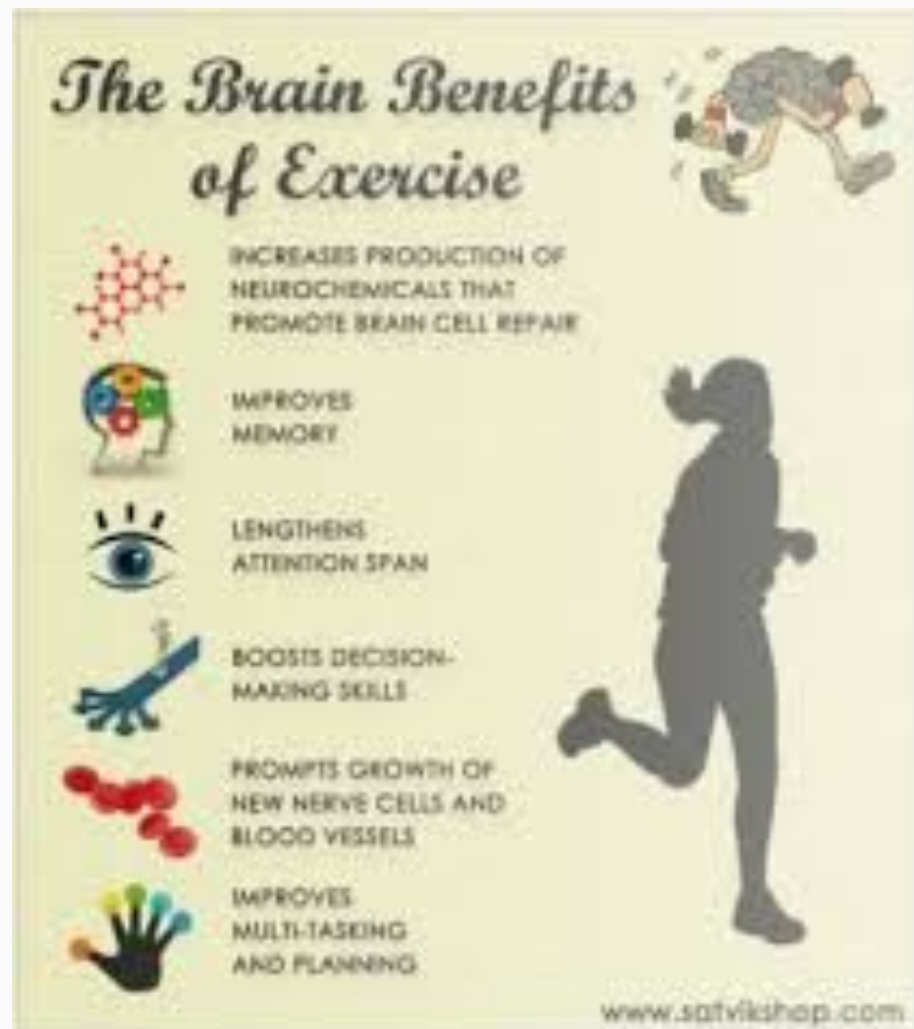
*This course emphasizes personal fitness and healthy living



WHY PHYSICAL EDUCATION MATTERS:

Research shows that **30 minutes of daily cardiovascular exercise** increases:

- **ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE** → gets students in learning zone as exercise optimizes one's mindset to improve alertness, attention and motivation;
- **ENHANCED POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR** → overall contentment, positive attitude, and ability to self regulate
- **BRAIN DEVELOPMENT AND COGNITION** → It prepares and encourages nerve cells to bind to one another, which at the cellular level, improves the brain's potential for logging in and processing new information; and
- **IMPROVED MENTAL FITNESS AND WELLNESS**



More Information from our Department Heads about Elective Courses

Frances D'Alessandro

- Fine Arts

Anthony Anderson

- Business

- Technology

Michelle Walter

- Learning Strategies



[FINE ARTS WEBSITE](#)

Dance - ATC10



**Learn the art of choreography
& dance technique.**

Gain self-confidence.

Challenge yourself physically.

Learn to work with others.





Drama - ADA10

**Develop public speaking,
social & group skills.**

Gain self-confidence.

Learn acting strategies.

Learn tech design elements.



Drama

Extra-Curricular:

- ★ [School Musical](#)
- ★ [Improv Team](#)
- ★ [AV Club & Design](#)
- ★ [Talent Shows](#)




Drama Program
photo slideshow,
click [HERE](#)





Music



A performance-based program for concert band instrumentation.

Build leadership and team skills.

Inspire a lifelong love and literacy of music.

Create lasting memories with friends.

Music - AMI10, AMR10

Full Credit: AMI10 Instrumental Music

Half Credit: AMR10 Repertoire Concert Band

Rehearsals are 2 times per week.

AMI10 and AMR10 are co-curricular.

Students must be enrolled in AMI10 to be in the Repertoire Band course.

New: AMR will not be visible on Xello - Students will be invited via email/Google Form to sign up for AMR band *after* they enrol for AMI



Music Events

Community Concerts.

Capital Regional MusicFest.

Band Trips such as:

New York, Virginia Beach, Boston, Halifax, Calgary, Banff.

Music Program, click [HERE](#)







Visual Arts

Learn the basics of:

2D and 3D Sketching

Pastels, Paint, and Clay

Challenge yourself creatively.

Develop your visual imagination.

Visual Arts Program, click [HERE](#)







Arts in Education Provides:

Creative process learning skills.

Workplace transferable skills.

Problem solving & time management skills.

A way to relieve stress & anxiety.

Balance in your high school experience.

All Art Courses & Descriptions, click [HERE](#) .



Arts Council:

EOM Arts Council:

Student-lead.

Run through Student Council's HEAD OF ARTS position.

Open to all grades, all fine art disciplines.

Presents creative activities throughout the year such as Open Mic Nights, Movie Nights, Art Showcase Events for the student body to participate in.



BEM10/E

Practical

Building the

Entrepreneurial Mindset

What is this course about?

In this course, students will learn what makes an entrepreneur thrive and the skills required to succeed in today's business environment.

Students will begin to develop their own entrepreneurial mindset, and learn why it's important to:

- take initiative,
- adapt to change,
- find creative solutions, and
- understand the financial considerations of entrepreneurship.



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What is this course about?

This hands-on course will use business software and applications to help students plan and develop their entrepreneurial ideas and learn how to present them.

Throughout the course, students will enhance their communications skills as well as develop and refine their project management skills, including:

- goal setting,
- time management, and
- networking.



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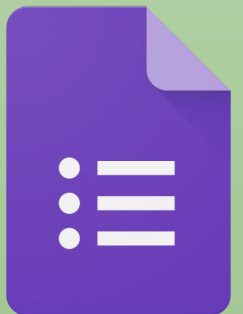


Learn how to:

Google Apps

- Google Docs,
- Slides,
- Sheets
- Forms,

3D Design & Printing



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Examples of 3-D Printer work

These are examples of work done in the Grade 9 class using one of our 3D printers.

- A box with a hinge
- The Earl Lion



Examples of 3-D Printer work

The students come up with a problem to be solved and then using the 3D printer develop a prototype solution.

- A holder for your Earbuds



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Earn:

Immersion credit BEM10F

- Offered as a French Credit which can be used for your french certificate

Transferable skills

- You will use what you learn for every course in your secondary academic career and beyond!

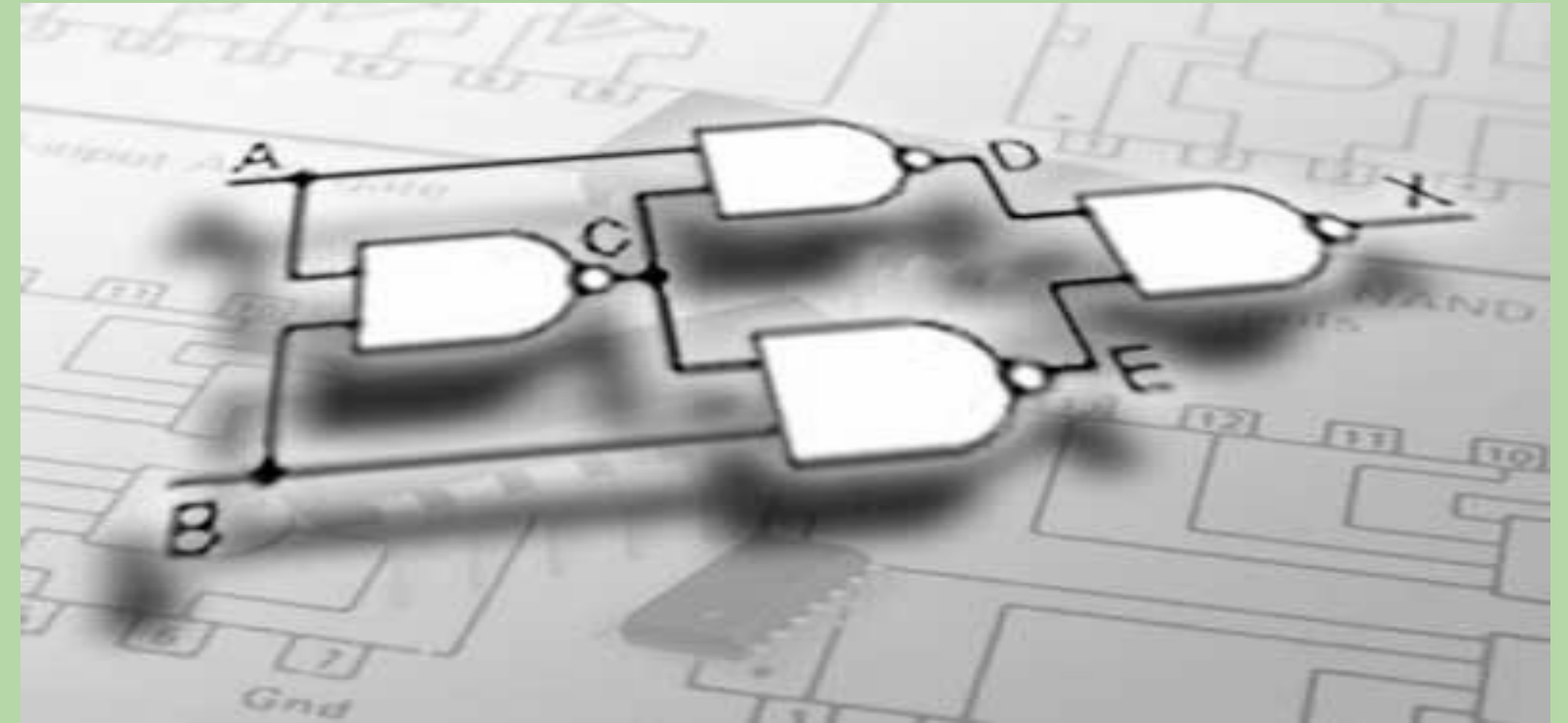
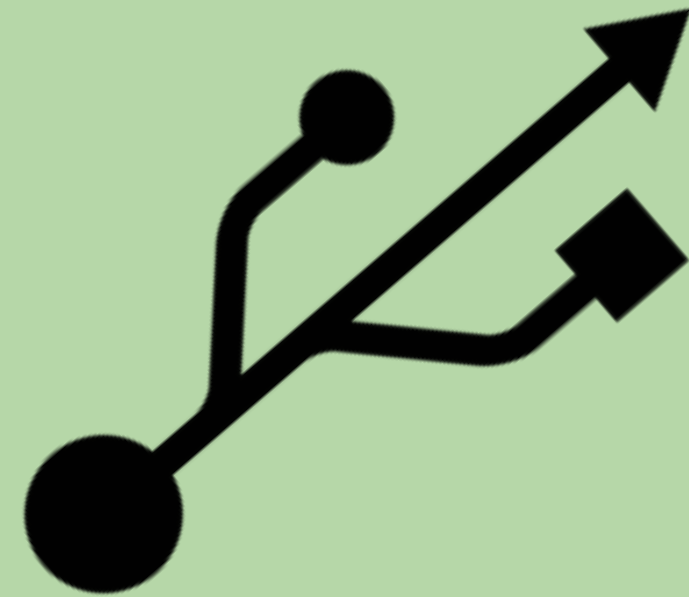


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DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY



TAS10 EXPLORING TECHNOLOGY



Department of Engineering & Technology

TAS10 - THE COURSE FOR EVERYONE!!!

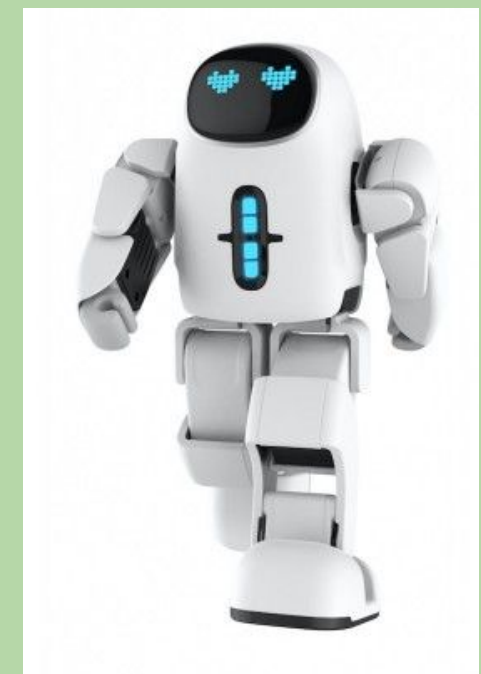


Do you like?

Art
Design
Electronics
Woodworking
Welding

CNC
3D Printing
Metalworking
Robotics
Programming

Artificial Intelligence
Engineering
Video Production
Mixing Music
Communications



Department of Engineering & Technology

TAS10 - THE COURSE FOR EVERYONE!!!



This hands-on course enables students to further explore the engineering design process and develop other technological knowledge and skills introduced in earlier grades.

Students will design and safely create prototypes, products, and/or services, working with tools and technologies from various industries.



Department of Engineering & Technology

TAS10 - THE COURSE FOR EVERYONE!!!

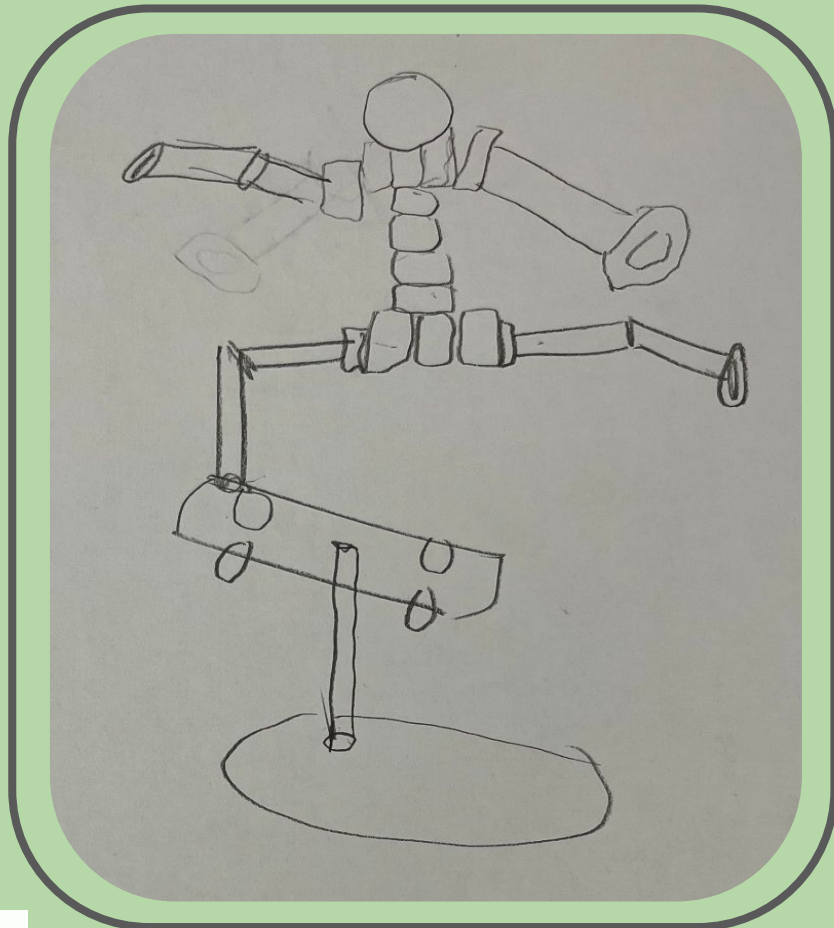
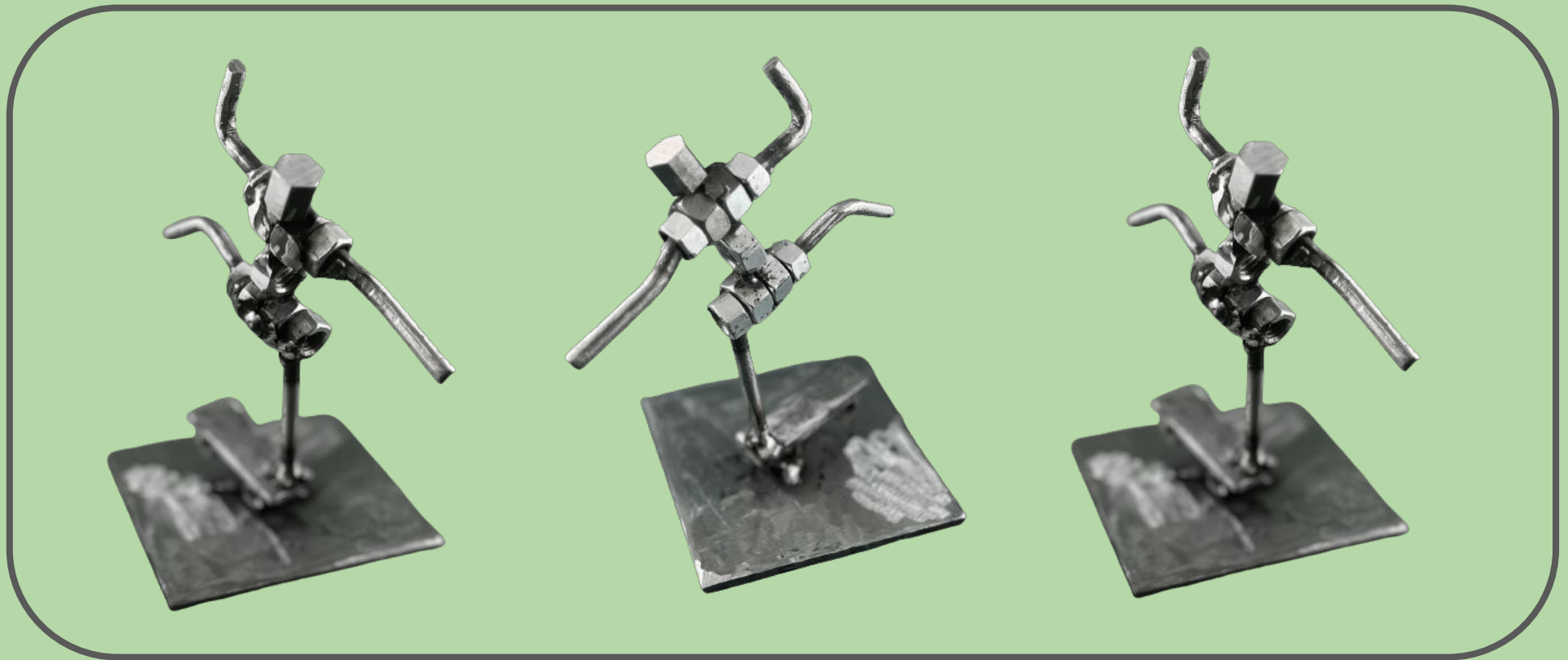


As students develop their projects to address real-life problems, they will apply technological concepts such as precision measurement, as well as health and safety standards.

Students will begin to explore job skills programs and education and training pathways, including skilled trades, that can lead to a variety of careers.



Department of Engineering & Technology



Three things I learned were:

- To be aware of my surroundings
- Be on task and follow a plan
- Safely use tools and PPE

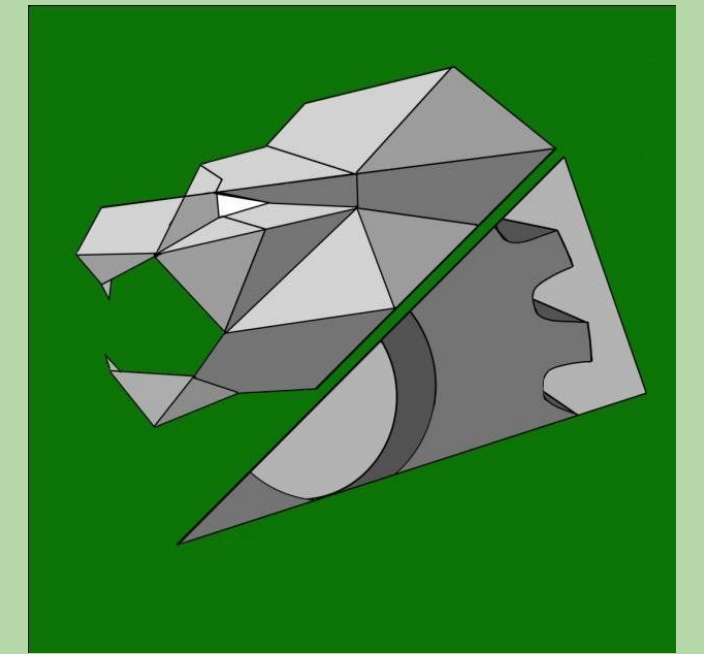


Department of Engineering & Technology

FIRST Robotics (FRC)

Students taking Exploring Technologies

TAS10** gain valuable skills for **FRC!



- Min. 2 competitions per year
- **LOTS** of scholarship opportunities



More Opportunities!

- Specialist High Skills Major in Manufacturing Engineering
- [Tetra Society](#)
- [Engineer in Residence](#) - Professional Engineers of Ontario



STEM begins
in **TAS 10!**



Learning Strategies: Skills For Success in Secondary School (GLS10)

- ❑ Helps students become better, more independent learners
- ❑ Helps students build confidence and motivation to pursue opportunities for success in secondary school and beyond
- ❑ Fosters skill development in these areas: literacy, numeracy, personal management skills, and interpersonal and teamwork skills

Course Selection Changes?



- ❑ The time to complete all of your thinking about course selection is now
- ❑ Changes will be considered under exceptional circumstances only
- ❑ Changes may require approval from Administration

Course Selection Timeline

Course selection starts: January 20, 2025

Earl of March: Jan 13th to 17th (Presentations)

Jan 20th to 24th (Xello Working Sessions)

Katimavik Elementary: Jan 27th to 31st (Presentations)

Feb 10th to 13th (Xello Working Sessions)

Course selection closes: February 28th

More Information on Earl of March Website

<https://earlofmarchss.ocdsb.ca/>

- ❏ [Graduation Requirements](#)
- ❏ [AP Information/EOM Courses](#)
- ❏ [Academic Certificates](#)
- ❏ [Department Information](#)
- ❏ Extracurricular Opportunities
- ❏ Student Council Initiatives



EARL OF MARCH SECONDARY SCHOOL

Thank you for joining us!

