

GRADE 9 GUIDE

2023-2024

Welcome

Bienvenue

Büdingen

Congratulations on approaching the conclusion of your elementary educational career! Your next academic experience – secondary school – may be one of the most rewarding and exciting events of your youth. What awaits you in secondary school at Lakehead Public Schools is a scholastic adventure that reflects your interests, strengths, and abilities. Together with your parents and guardians, Lakehead Public Schools will guide you toward the appropriate pathway to help you achieve the academic excellence you desire.

At a Lakehead Public Schools secondary school, you will be provided with the tools to succeed in all areas of the high school experience: education; leadership; competitive sports; and extra-curricular opportunities. Our three secondary schools also offer all students outstanding prospects and connections to promising careers through many specialized programs including French Immersion, Specialist High Skills Major Program, First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education, Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program, Special Education, the International Baccalaureate Programme, Alternative Programs, and more.

I encourage you to immerse yourself in the high school experience. Being involved in clubs, committees, and team activities helps to strengthen social skills and can lead to meaningful and lasting friendships. Volunteering outside the school may also contribute to enriching opportunities and valuable experiences.

I thank you for choosing to continue your educational pathway with Lakehead Public Schools. Your principal or guidance counsellor would be pleased to answer any questions you or your parents and guardians may have about how best to support your success and well-being at school. Lakehead Public Schools is committed to creating inclusive learning environments that are respectful and safe. I welcome you to secondary school and wish you success in this next phase of your academic career.

- Sherri-Lynne Pharand, Director of Education



You belong here





Lakehead
Public
Schools

Our Mission

We are committed to the success of every student.

Our Vision

We promote and support equity of opportunities and outcomes for students, in an environment that is accessible, safe, inclusive, and respectful.

We support every student and staff member to be inspired and successful lifelong learners.

Our Values

Inclusion
Respect
Integrity
Empathy
Responsibility

Your future starts here!

Welcome to high school, a time in your life where you will discover new and exciting opportunities and pathways.

During your journey, you will meet caring and supportive teachers, administrators, and other staff who will work with you to help you discover your potential and fulfill your goals. There will be important choices to make, and opportunities to enjoy a variety of experiences and explore careers options. These will open doors for your future.

This guide contains helpful information about courses, pathways, timetables, and tips for success to help you along this journey. It will also benefit your parents/guardians and our partners in education, whose involvement in the learning process will improve student achievement.

At Lakehead Public Schools, we remain committed to providing students with opportunities to achieve success in learning and life. Your future starts here...enjoy your journey!



Lakehead
Public
Schools

You belong here





Hammarskjold High School
80 South Clarkson Street
Thunder Bay, Ontario
(807) 767-1631
hammarskjold.lakeheadschoools.ca



Superior CVI
333 North High Street
Thunder Bay, Ontario
(807) 768-7284
superior.lakeheadschoools.ca



Westgate CVI
707 South James Street
Thunder Bay, Ontario
(807) 577-4251
westgate.lakeheadschoools.ca

CREATING PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS

Creating Pathways to Success puts students at the centre of their own learning, viewing them as the architects of their own lives. Students are encouraged to discover who they are, explore opportunities, pursue their passions, and design personal pathways to success.

Knowing Yourself

Who am I?

Achieving Goals
and Making
Transitions

What is my plan for
achieving my goals?

EDUCATION
AND CAREER/
LIFE PLANNING

What are my
opportunities?

Exploring
Opportunities

Who do I
want to become?

Making Decisions and Setting Goals

We are here to support you!

Your high school has a team of individuals who work together to provide supports for you. If you are unsure of who can help you don't hesitate to reach out to any adult in the school — they will help to connect you with a support person. The adults in your school can help you in charting your pathway to success.

The education and career/life planning program policy for Ontario schools is based on three core beliefs, namely, that:

- all students can be successful;
- success comes in many forms;
- there are many pathways to success.

Creating Pathways to Success is founded on a vision in which all students leave secondary school with a clear plan for their initial postsecondary destination, whether in apprenticeship training, college, community living, university, or the workplace, and with confidence in their ability to implement, and revise or adapt, their plan throughout their lives as they and the world around them change.





INDIVIDUAL PATHWAYS PLAN

Who do I want to become? A career is your path through life.

What are my pathways?

What is my plan for setting and achieving my goals?

Your Individual Pathways Plan (IPP) will help you find the answers!

In Grade 7, you began to document what you were learning in the Education and Career/Life Planning Program in an Individual Pathways Plan (IPP).

The IPP is an important tool that you will use as you move through school to your initial post-secondary destination.

Everything you learn about courses, careers and pathways will be stored in your IPP. You will be able to access all this valuable information as you begin planning your life after high school.

In the next few years, you will have to make decisions about education, learning, different jobs, work (paid and unpaid), family life, friendships, community involvement and leisure activities.

Career development requires you to understand who you are and what opportunities you have in both the world and the workplace, so that you can begin to make decisions about your future. Career development involves understanding your own strengths and interests, goal-setting, decision-making and awareness of opportunities.

Jobs in the future will belong to people with skills, attitudes and behaviours that include academic abilities, personal management skills and teamwork strategies.

You will need to have good work habits and the ability to make sound decisions, solve problems, plan effectively, work independently, communicate well, do research, evaluate yourself realistically, and explore new educational and career opportunities.



Pathway planning puts students at the centre of their own learning, viewing them as the architects of their own lives. Students are encouraged to discover who they are, explore opportunities, pursue their passions, and design personal pathways to success. Students and parents/guardians can access the IPP by logging into Xello. Go to lakeheadschoools.ca/classroomwebsites

You will have access to your IPP for one year after graduation from high school.



What do I need to graduate?

Here is everything that's required to graduate with your Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD).

18 COMPULSORY CREDITS

4 credits	in English (1 per grade)
3 credits	in Math (at least one credit in Grade 11 or 12)
2 credits	in Science
1 credit	in the Arts
1 credit	in Canadian Geography (Grade 9)
1 credit	in French as a Second Language or FNMI Language (Ojibwe)
1 credit	in Health & Physical Education
1 credit	in Canadian History (Grade 10)
0.5 credit	in Career Studies
0.5 credit	in Civics
3	additional credits (from specific areas)

1 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT HOURS

- Completed over your years in high school.
- Talk to a guidance counsellor for volunteer ideas. Use the Hour Republic app to submit completed community hours. Paper form options are also available.
- You can start earning your hours after graduating from Grade 8. This includes the summer before you start classes in Grade 9.

12 ELECTIVE CREDITS

2 E-LEARNING CREDITS

From the 30 credits required to graduate, two credits must be online learning (eLearning) credits. However, 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.

Please contact the school for a copy of the LPS eLearning Student Opt-Out Form or for further information on eLearning or the opt-out process.

1 LITERACY TEST

Successful completion of the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test in Grade 10.

Grade 9 Courses

In grade 9, six of your eight courses you select will be compulsory credits. You will need to choose two additional courses to complete your options.

Grade 9 students will begin high school by taking the following:

- Grade 9 Math
- Grade 9 Science
- Grade 9 English
- Grade 9 Geography
- Grade 9 French or Grade 9 FNMI Language: Ojibwe
- Grade 9 Health & Physical Education

+2 elective courses*

* Students will make a third selection during the course selection process, in case of conflicts in the timetabling process.

In Grade 10, the types of courses available will differ from the types of courses available in Grade 9. Because there are more options, students will need to be more reflective in making their choices.

Questions you may have...

How do I earn a credit?

To earn a credit, you need a final grade of 50% or more in a course.

What happens if I am struggling in a course?

- Talk to your classroom teacher.
- Access tutoring supports that are available through Student Success.
- Take advantage of multiple catch up opportunities.
- Speak with your guidance counsellor.

When can I start to earn my 40 Community Service Hours?

You can start to earn your community service hours after graduating from Grade 8. Community service hours must not be scheduled during class time.

How do I choose my courses?

There are many points to consider when choosing courses for your high school program. Because you are unique, it is important to consider the following:

- your interests, your likes, and your dislikes
- your learning preferences
- your strengths and weaknesses
- your background and experiences
- your pathway options

Students who select courses consistent with their interests, strengths, and learning style will achieve success in high school.

Where can I go if I have questions about course selection?

Your classroom teacher can help you with choosing courses. You can also call a Lakehead secondary school directly for information. Guidance counsellors are available to answer questions and provide direction. Students and parents/guardians can attend evening information sessions at Lakehead secondary schools. You can also talk to parents/guardians of other Lakehead Public School students, as they can also be helpful in providing advice in your planning.



GRADE 9 COURSES IN ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOLS

Starting September 2022, Grade 9 compulsory subjects: English, French, Geography, Math, and Science will no longer be offered in both applied and academic formats.

The province is requiring every school board in Ontario to begin moving in this direction. This change does not apply to students who are registered in the specialized programs such as PWP, multi-needs/special needs, or students planning on taking locally developed compulsory courses. Grade 9 students who originally would have registered in applied or academic courses will now be studying in the same course, just like they're used to doing in their elementary school. By doing this, more students will be empowered to pursue the futures they want, with doors open to all post-secondary options, including apprenticeship, college, university, or into the workplace.

Why did the province make this decision?

Ontario is the last province left in Canada to implement this change. This decision will give students equal opportunities by keeping all post-secondary choices and options open to everyone. It will help remove postsecondary barriers, and will allow students to have more time to experience secondary school before making decisions about their future.

Why is this good for my student?

It's important that your student, and every student, can access any opportunity they need while they're in secondary school to pursue the path of their choice. Everyone is given the chance to better determine their future pathways.

Will my academic level student continue to be challenged in their courses?

Yes! In fact, research is clear that all students benefit when they learn together with students of all achievement levels and interests. These courses will continue to enrich your student's learning and academic skills, while also developing their critical thinking.

What if my child is at an applied level and is not ready to take academic level courses?

Our teachers understand that every student brings a different set of skills and knowledge, and they plan for these differences. We have supports in place to ensure that all students can be successful.

What if my child learns best with different modes of learning?

The courses are developed to support all modes of learning. Additionally, many of the courses we offer are already designed to serve students of all learning pathways, including the arts, business studies, computer studies, family studies, healthy active living, and technology.

What supports will be in place to ensure my child can succeed in academic courses?

Your student's teacher will be a primary source of support. Parents/guardians are encouraged to communicate with the classroom teacher regularly to help support their student. Additionally, all secondary schools at LPS have Student Success Teachers and Special Education Resource Teachers, whose focus is to work with students who may need extra support or accommodations. Each school's Student Success Team monitors student progress and offers further support as needed by working with students and families. Guidance Counsellors, Principals, and Vice-Principals are always available to help students as well.





TYPES OF COURSES IN GRADE 9 & 10

Types of Courses in Grade 9 & 10

For most courses in Grade 9, there is only one course type available. You will select this course type when you are choosing your classes. For other courses, you will be asked to select a course type. For these other courses, you will need to consider the course type that is best suited to your needs.

Course Types

Destreamed Courses “W”

Destreamed courses are Grade 9 courses recently revised by the Ontario Ministry of Education. They are designed to provide a learning experience for a diverse group of students. In these courses students will learn the essential concepts of a subject and explore related material. These courses emphasize connections, real-life applications, and student experiences, allowing students to pursue all post-secondary options, including apprenticeship, college, university, or the workplace.

Academic Courses “D”

Academic courses focus on the essential concepts of a subject and explore related topics. They further develop students’ knowledge and skills through the study of theory and abstract problems. While they incorporate practical applications as appropriate, the emphasis on theory and abstract thinking serves as a basis for future learning and problem-solving. Schools have been working to ensure that these courses meet the needs of a diverse group of learners.

Open Courses “O”

Open courses are designed to prepare students for further study in a subject area and to enrich education. They include one set of expectations that are appropriate for all students and are not designed with the specific requirements of university, college, or the workplace in mind.

Locally Developed Compulsory Courses “L”

In locally developed courses, students will learn the most essential concepts of a subject. They are intended for students who require flexibility and support to meet the compulsory credit requirements in English, math, and science for the OSSD. Locally Developed Compulsory Courses allow students to succeed in high school by providing the opportunity to upgrade their knowledge and skills. They may review and reinforce curriculum expectations, knowledge, and skills essential to the development of a stronger foundation for further study in a subject area. Students who are recommended to take such courses may be working on modified curriculum expectations in grades 7 and 8 or are not yet working at grade level.

Pre-Advanced Placement (Pre-AP) “A”

Advanced Placement (AP) is a cooperative educational partnership between the high school and post secondary institutions. Advanced Placement provides students with an enriched learning experience by enhancing the depth and/or breadth of additional academic content as identified by post secondary institutions. Successful completion of the external AP examination(s) may exempt students from certain university courses. Students considering AP courses at the senior level can begin preparing and challenging themselves in the methods of AP skills development by taking Grade 9 Pre-AP courses.

International Baccalaureate Preparatory courses “B”

Superior Collegiate & Vocational Institute is proud to offer the International Baccalaureate Programme, consisting of two years IB Preparatory Courses in Grades 9 and 10, followed by the Diploma Programme in Grades 11 and 12. The Grade 9 and 10 IB Preparatory Courses at Superior CVI are designed to prepare and evaluate students for entry into the International Baccalaureate Programme. These courses cover The Ontario Curriculum in addition to providing enrichment in content and skill development. The pace of learning is faster than the corresponding course at the regular academic level, and the activities challenge the students to problem solve in innovative ways.



DECODING A COURSE CODE

Courses use a six-character course code for identification.

The first five characters of the course code are set out by the Ministry of Education. The sixth character is used by school boards to identify a specific characteristic of the course. A code can be broken down as follows:

M T H 1 W 1

3 letters
identify
subject

number
/letter
reflects
grade/
level

letter
shows
course
type

The first letter represents the course's department area:

A = The Arts
B = Business Studies
C = Canadian and World Studies
E = English, English Literacy Development, English as a Second Language
F = French
G = Guidance and Career Education
H = Social Sciences and the Humanities
K = Alternative (Non-credit)
L = Classical international and Native Languages
M = Mathematics
N = First Nations, Metis and Inuit Studies
P = Health and Physical Education
I = Computer Studies or Interdisciplinary Studies
S = Science
T = Technological Education

Grades

1 = Grade 9
2 = Grade 10
3 = Grade 11
4 = Grade 12

**International
Classical
Languages**

B = Level 1
C = Level 2
D = Level 3

**Native
Languages**

A = Level 1
B = Level 2
C = Level 3
D = Level 4
E = Level 5

Course Type

C = College
D = Academic
E = Workplace
L = Locally Developed
M = College/University
O = Open
N = Non-Credit
U = University
W = Destreamed

A number/letter for school boards to distinguish a course program

Examples:

1 = regular one credit course
2 = two credit course
5 = half credit course
A = Advanced Placement
B = International Baccalaureate
E = e-Learning course
F = French Immersion course
S = SHSM two-credit



DID YOU KNOW ...

- ▶ **The school year is divided into two semesters.**
- ▶ **You will take 4 courses per semester.**
- ▶ **Every high school has a bell schedule.**
- ▶ **Period 1 is your home room.**

How many periods in a school day?



Five. Periods 1 and 2 are in the morning, period 3 is lunch, and periods 4 and 5 are in the afternoon.

ACTIVITY 1

Review the information and complete the True or False Activity below.

1. Open courses are available and appropriate for all students.
 TRUE FALSE
2. A student does not have to take the same level in all courses.
 TRUE FALSE
3. Locally developed courses focus on the most essential concepts.
 TRUE FALSE
4. Grade 9 English is offered as an open course.
 TRUE FALSE
5. Students choose two elective courses in grade 9.
 TRUE FALSE
6. Your teacher can help you select an appropriate course type.
 TRUE FALSE
7. Grade 9 elective courses are offered as open courses.
 TRUE FALSE
8. All course types may lead to an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD).
 TRUE FALSE





DECODING COURSE CODES

ACTIVITY 2

Complete the matching activity below by matching the course code in the left column with the best description in the right column.

- | | | |
|------------|-------|----------------------------------------------------|
| 1. CGC1D1 | _____ | a. Grade 9, Physical Education, Open, 1 credit |
| 2. SNC2D1 | _____ | b. Grade 9, Exploring Technologies, Open, 1 credit |
| 3. ENG1L1 | _____ | c. Grade 10, Drama, Open, 1 credit |
| 4. PPL1O1 | _____ | d. Grade 9, Geography, Academic, 1 credit |
| 5. ADA2O1 | _____ | e. Grade 10, Intro to Business, Open, 1 credit |
| 6. TIJ1O1 | _____ | f. Grade 10, History, Academic, 1 credit |
| 7. CHC2D1 | _____ | g. Grade 9, French, Academic, 1 credit |
| 8. FSF1D1 | _____ | h. Grade 10, Science, Academic, 1 credit |
| 9. GLC2O5 | _____ | i. Grade 9, English, Locally Developed, 1 credit |
| 10. BBI2O1 | _____ | j. Grade 10, Career Studies, Open, 1/2 credit |

Answers: D, H, I, A, C, B, F, G, J, E



Do you know what the **ADVANCED PLACEMENT** program is?

All high school students can challenge themselves with courses in this enriched academic program. If you are an independent, motivated student who loves to learn, solve, analyze AND is curious about the world - AP is for you! Ask about the AP courses available at your high school!



WHY TAKE AP?

customized learning tailored to your strengths | excellent preparation for post-secondary studies | like-minded students | AP trained and certified teachers who are subject specialists!

apstudent.collegeboard.org

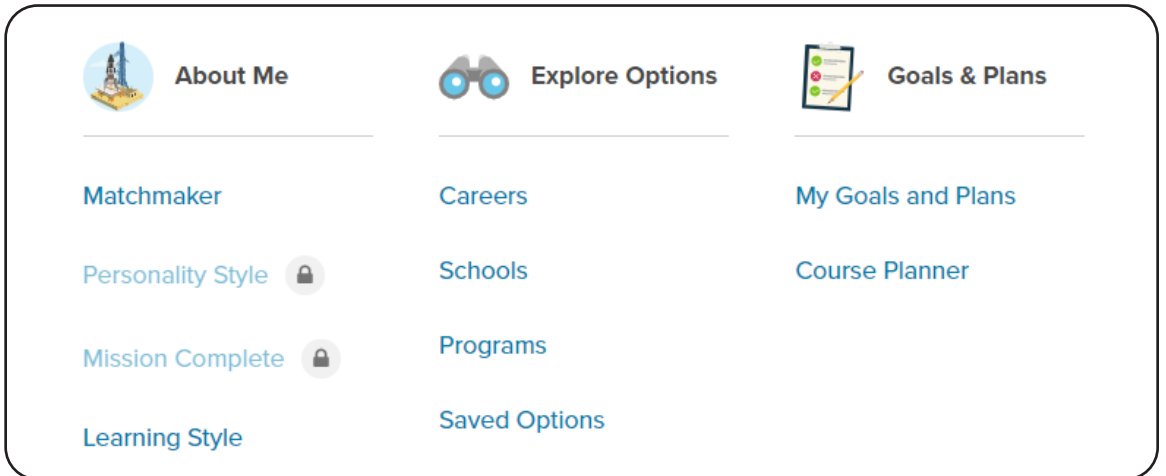


Students and parents can login to Xello by going to:

lakeheadschoools.ca/classroomwebsites

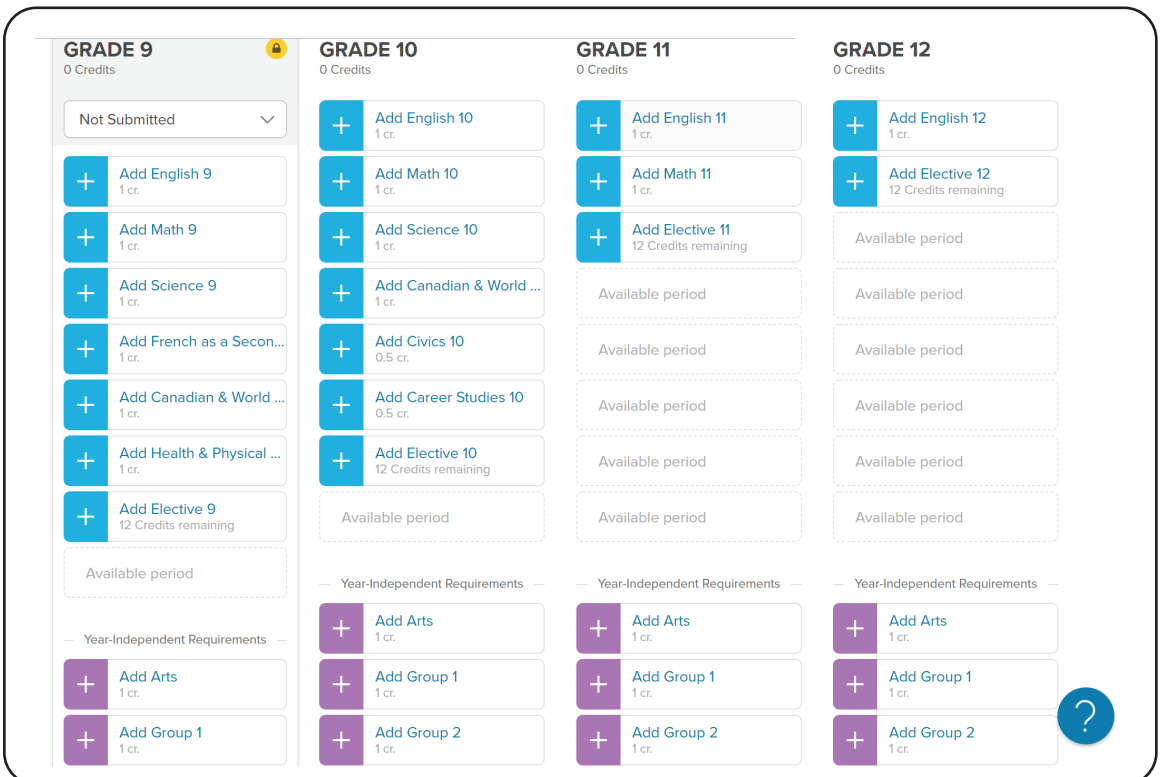
The username and password to login will be the same as the login students use to access any school computer. Once logged in, click on the Xello icon to access the student dashboard.

Use your classroom website login to enter the program. Your Student Dashboard will look like this:



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

STUDENT COURSE PLANNER





WE NEED YOUR HELP!

A Welcome to Grade 9 (Student Verification) form will be sent home with all Grade 8 students in February.

This form includes confidential personal student information.

We need families to do three (3) things to help ensure the move from Grade 8 to Grade 9 is seamless and smooth.

1. Families are asked to complete all sections carefully.
2. Each Grade 8 student has a zoned high school based on the Family of Schools. **If a high school transfer is requested** (*the student wishes to attend a high school that is not his or her zoned high school or if they wish to change the program they are zoned for i.e., French Immersion to English, English to IB, French Immersion to IB*), there is a spot to indicate which high school is requested and why. **It is important that each Grade 8 student complete the course selections for the correct high school. Please let the Grade 8 teacher know ahead of time if the decision has been made so that the correct form is prepared.**
3. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) and Grade 8 students are asked to consider the courses recommended by the Grade 8 teacher. **The completed, signed form is to be returned to the Grade 8 teacher on or before:**

February 17, 2023

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) will sign the form before returning it to the school. This signature indicates that the information is correct and has been reviewed, courses have been chosen, and perhaps a transfer has been requested. Once the forms are received by the Grade 8 teacher, transfers will be considered, and all students will select their Grade 9 courses:

February 24 - March 3, 2023

They will enter selections into the web-based tool XELLO with the support of the Grade 8 Teacher.

Thank you for taking the time to ensure the information is correct.

FRENCH IMMERSION

Hammarskjöld High School offers a French Immersion Diploma to students wishing to continue their study of the French language. To obtain the Diploma, students are required to take ten credits with French as the language of instruction. Four of these credits must be French Immersion language credits. French Immersion compulsory courses en français include:

Geography of Canada - Grade 9

Healthy Active Living Education - Grade 9

Civics - Grade 10

Career Studies - Grade 10

Canadian History since WWI - Grade 10

For the other French credits, students choose additional courses from the following:

Food and Nutrition - HFN20F

Cooperative Education - DC030F

Healthy Active Living Education - PPL20F

Food and Culture - HFC3MF

Introduction to Anthropology, Sociology, and Psychology - HSP3UF

The variety of course offerings and full immersion experience provide students with ample opportunities to enhance and refine their oral and written French language skills through structured and unstructured daily interaction. In addition, students will expand their knowledge of the language through the study of francophone culture and literature.

By the end of the four year program, students will participate easily in conversations and discussions, will be able to take courses at the college or university level in which French is the language of instruction, and will be able to accept employment in which French is the working language.

Hammarskjöld is proud to be a partner in the Centre DELF-DALF du Nord Ouest Ontario (Accredited Testing Centre) providing the opportunity for our Grade 12 students, upon successful completion of the DELF scolaire test, to obtain an internationally-recognized DELF certificate.

Exchange programs through ISE Ontario are available to further enhance language proficiency skills.



For more information about the French Immersion Program please contact Hammarskjöld High School.

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMME

Superior Collegiate and Vocational Institute

Superior CVI is proud to offer the International Baccalaureate Programme, consisting of two years of SCVI IB Preparatory courses in Grades 9 and 10, followed by the Diploma Programme in Grades 11 and 12. The IB Programme, a symbol of academic integrity in over 145 countries, is designed for students who are looking for a challenge as they enter high school, and are seeking classmates who have similar interests and attitudes towards school. The IB student is enthusiastic about learning and is eager to participate in a wide variety of school and community events. The first two years of the IB Programme help to prepare students for entry into the Diploma Programme, and provide students with an enriched and accelerated course of study which goes beyond The Ontario Curriculum.



The IB Diploma, designed to meet the highest standards required by any university in the world, is governed by the International Baccalaureate Head Office in Geneva, Switzerland. Students who complete the Diploma requirements place themselves at an advantage as they enter university, as the advanced nature of the IB curriculum exposes students to a significant amount of first-year university content. The IB Programme is open to all students in Thunder Bay, regardless of elementary school, and attracts students from outside the city, the province, and even the country.



IB WORLD SCHOOL

Mrs. Karen Watt
IB Coordinator
(807) 625-4001

SUPERIOR CVI

333 High St. N
Thunder Bay, Ontario
superior.lakeheadschoos.ca

HOMEWORK HELP

Mathify is a website that offers free math help to students in grades 4 to 12.

Tutors are available Monday to Friday 9:00am to 9:00pm (EST) and Saturday to Sunday 3:00 pm to 9:00pm (EST)

Students can access Mathify for free by logging in at www.tvomathify.com

DEVICES

All Grade 9 students will be provided with a board issued laptop.

WIFI is available in all high schools. As students bring their devices to school, our educators integrate teaching methods designed to ensure the devices support student learning. In today's global classroom, educators bring the world to students through the web.

Everyone is expected to use technology responsibly and ethically. We will ensure that students learn how to become good digital citizens.

We have a responsibility to ensure that schools provide the instruction necessary to use technology responsibly and ethically. This includes where, when, and how the use of social media is appropriate and what constitutes cyber-bullying. The use of personal electronic devices for academic purposes where their use does not conflict with current classroom activities will be permitted. Students will be encouraged to Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) to enhance the learning experience. Online and digital resources will be incorporated into lessons. Students will accept all terms and conditions of the Lakehead District School Board network and internet use.

More information on the rules around digital citizenship can be found at your high school.

OFFICE 365

Lakehead students and parents get a free complete version of Microsoft Office. Word, Excel, OneNote, OneDrive, and Powerpoint are included.

*To access Microsoft Office, visit:
www.lakeheadschoools.ca/office365*

