

# GRAND ERIE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD



*SUCCESS* for Every Student



# WATERFORD DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

**2021-22 SCHOOL PROFILE**



# WATERFORD DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

## Welcome to Waterford District High School

Waterford District High School has a very friendly and welcoming atmosphere. You are an important part of that environment. We welcome you whether you are just joining us for the first time or if you are a returning Wolf. We pride ourselves in the many opportunities available for you to get involved with school life. Please consider joining a team, club or committee. Your involvement enriches your school experience and benefits our community. This magazine is provided to highlight some of the opportunities at WDHS for you to be involved with. Be sure to get all your questions answered before you make your final decision.

When selecting your courses it is important to consult with teachers, student services and/or administrators to ensure you are on the path to success within secondary school and beyond. Investigate the various pathways (Apprenticeship, College, University, and Work) to discover differences between them, as well as the opportunities each provides. No one pathway is right for all students. If you or your parents have any questions, please contact the school at 519-443- 8657. Waterford District High School is committed to ensuring you reach your full potential.

## Waterford District High School Facts:

- WDHS was first established in 1892
- Our school colours are white (W), heliotrope (H) and scarlet (S)
- Our mascot is a wolf named 'Wolfie'
- We attract students from Brant, Norfolk and Haldimand
- We value tradition and continue to run important events, such as turkey dinners, staff versus student hockey games, and the much-loved Grad Skit
- Our connection to the community is strong and ever growing



Rob Malcolm  
PRINCIPAL



Geoff Stead  
VICE-PRINCIPAL

Jackie Caswell  
GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR

Jessica Dulmage  
STUDENT SERVICES

## Waterford District High School

227 Main Street,  
Waterford, ON N0E 1Y0

Tel: 519 443-8657

Phone: (519) 443-8657 (main)  
[granderie.ca/schools/wdhs](http://granderie.ca/schools/wdhs)

## Grand Erie Administration:

**DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION**

JoAnna Roberto

**SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION**

Denise Martins



# Guidance and Career Education

## Guidance And Student Success

These two departments work to help students transition from elementary school, into secondary school. We work on academic and life skills that allow students to be as successful as possible. When students reach grade 10, they begin to focus on career exploration, through the careers class. In grade 11 and 12, we work to create an exit plan, for after high school. To meet these goals, we offer:

- Help bridging the gap between home and school
- Transition support from grade 8 to 9
- Individual career counselling and Individual Pathway Planning (IPP)
- Information about college, university, apprenticeship and workplaces
- Timetable planning, changes, and special placements
- Assistance with applications for postsecondary pathways and financial assistance programs
- Referrals to support services

## Additional Supports

Students can make an appointment in the Guidance office to see the following support services:

- Guidance counsellor
- Student Success teacher
- Addictions counsellor
- STAR Counsellor
- Health Nurse
- Social Work
- Child and Youth Worker



## Learning Resource Teachers

- Annette Demontfort  
annette.demontfort@granderie.ca
- Laura Mackenzie  
laura.mackenzie@granderie.ca

Our Learning Resource Teacher (LRT) and Resource Room are located within our Learning Commons. Here students can chat about their Individual Education Plan (IEP), as well as access supports with their academic concerns.

## How Can Parents Help?

- Make vacation plans that will coincide with the school calendar. Students on vacation during school time miss a great deal of work.
- Waterford District High School's school day has been organized to help accommodate personal needs. Please schedule appointments (i.e. dental, medical, personal business) outside school hours, or on the 165

days of the school year when school is not in session.

- Permit absence only when absolutely necessary.
- Question your child about assignments, due dates and tests to be written before permitting absence.
- Discourage your child from working long hours at a part-time job. The Education Act forbids students who are required by law to attend school to work during school hours, punishable by fine to the employer.
- Make sure the school has your correct home and work phone numbers so you can be reached when needed.
- Call the school if your child is going to be absent AND send a note explaining the absence on the day they return to school.
- Stay in contact with your child's teachers. Direct concerns and queries to their homeroom teacher. The administration is also available to assist as required.



# Programs

## Co-Operative Education (Co-Op) and Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP)

### CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION (CO-OP)

Co-op is a planned learning experience that integrates classroom theory and learning experiences at a workplace which enable students to apply and refine the knowledge and skills acquired in a related curriculum course or a locally developed course. Co-op courses include a classroom component comprised of pre-placement and integration activities and a placement component.

Students earn co-op credits by integrating classroom theory with planned learning experiences in the community. Students are assessed and evaluated on their demonstration of tasks linked to curriculum expectations of the related course(s) as outlined

in Students' Cooperative Education Learning Plan.

Students interested in Co-op Education must apply for the program and complete an interview. Successful candidates will be notified and the recruitment process of an appropriate placement will follow. There is no formal restriction on the total number of co-op credits that students may earn in secondary school.

### OYAP

Students gain knowledge and experience in an apprenticeable trade while working at an eligible work placement. Students acquire hours toward the completion of their apprenticeship while earning credits.

An apprenticeship is an agreement between the student (who wants to learn a skilled trade), the school, the employer (who teaches the skills) and the Students' Cooperative Education Learning Plan.

Students will get a head start on becoming a fully qualified journey person with a skill set that is in demand. Apprenticeships are an excellent way of learning valuable work skills and are a viable alternative to traditional post secondary programs.

For more information speak to your school's Co-op or OYAP teacher.

Visit [www.apprenticesearch.com](http://www.apprenticesearch.com)

### TO BEGIN AN APPRENTICESHIP DURING SECONDARY SCHOOL A STUDENT MUST:

- Successfully complete 16 credits and be enrolled full-time in school
- Be 16 years of age or older
- Successfully complete the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Requirement
- Complete all compulsory credits required for an Ontario Secondary School Diploma





# Graduation Requirements

## COMPULSORY CREDITS (TOTAL OF 18)

### 4 CREDITS IN ENGLISH (1 CREDIT PER GRADE)

- The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course (OSSLC) may be used to meet either the Grade 11 or the Grade 12 English compulsory credit requirement.
- Grade 11 English: Understanding Contemporary First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Voices course may be used to meet the Grade 11 English compulsory credit requirement.
- For English language learners, the requirement may be met through earning a maximum of 3 credits in English as a second language (ESL) or English literacy development (ELD); the fourth credit must be a Grade 12 compulsory English course.

### 3 CREDITS IN MATH (AT LEAST 1 CREDIT IN GRADE 11 OR 12)

### 2 CREDITS IN SCIENCE

### 1 CREDIT IN THE ARTS

- The Grade 9 Expressions of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Cultures course may be used to meet the compulsory credit requirement in the arts.

### 1 CREDIT IN CANADIAN GEOGRAPHY (GRADE 9)

### 1 CREDIT IN CANADIAN HISTORY (GRADE 10)

### 1 CREDIT IN FRENCH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

- Students who have taken Native languages in place of French as a second language in elementary school may use a Level 1 or 2 Native language course to meet the compulsory credit requirement for French as a second language.

### 1 CREDIT IN HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

### 0.5 CREDIT IN CAREER STUDIES

### 0.5 CREDIT IN CIVICS

### 3 ADDITIONAL CREDITS, CONSISTING OF 1 CREDIT FROM EACH OF THE FOLLOWING GROUPS:

**GROUP 1:** English (including the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course), French as a second language, classical languages, international languages, Native languages, Canadian and world studies, FNMI studies, social sciences and humanities, guidance and career education, cooperative education

**GROUP 2:** French as a second language, the arts, business studies, health and physical education, cooperative education

**GROUP 3:** French as a second language, science (Grade 11 or 12), computer studies, technological education, cooperative education

*Note:* The following conditions apply to selections from the above three groups:

- A maximum of 2 credits in French as a second language may count as additional compulsory credits, 1 credit from Group 1, and 1 credit from either Group 2 or Group 3.
- A maximum of 2 credits in cooperative education may count as additional compulsory credits, selected from any of Groups 1, 2, or 3.

## Grade 10 - Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)

All students must successfully complete this test which will be administered by the EQAO (Education Quality and Accountability Office). Students will first write this test in the spring of their grade ten year. Unsuccessful candidates will be given the opportunity for remediation at the school and will be able to rewrite the test. Students identified through an IPRC (Identification, Placement, and Review Committee) will be allowed accommodations for writing of the test. Students not working towards an OSSD (Ontario Secondary School Diploma) may be exempted from writing the test.

## Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course (OSSLC)

Students who have written the OSSLT (Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test) once and were unsuccessful are eligible to take the OSSLC (Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course). Successful completion of the OSSLC satisfies the secondary school literacy graduation requirement.

## Community Involvement

Students are responsible to complete 40 hours of community service as a requirement for graduation. Grade 8 graduated students can start accumulating during the summer prior to entering grade 9. Grade 12 graduating students are required to have all hours submitted by June 30 of their graduating year. If hours handed in after that date, there is no guarantee that they will be included in the Fall Graduation preparations.

It is the responsibility of the student to find opportunities for achieving community service hours. Various opportunities are communicated through the announcements, Twitter, or on the bulletin board outside of the Guidance office throughout the year.

## Ontario Secondary School Certificate

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

**7 COMPULSORY CREDITS** (2 English, 1 Canadian Geography or Canadian History, 1 Mathematics, 1 Health and Physical Education, 1 Science, 1 Arts or Technological Education or Computer Studies)

**7 OPTIONAL CREDITS** Selected by the student from available courses

## Certificate of Accomplishment

Students who are not working towards an OSSD or an OSSC may be awarded a Certificate of Accomplishment upon leaving secondary school. The Certificate of Accomplishment is a useful means of recognizing achievement for students who plan to transition directly to employment after leaving school. The Certificate of Accomplishment is to be accompanied by the student's Ontario Student Transcript. For students who have an Individual Education Plan (IEP), a copy of the IEP may be included.



# Courses

## Grade 9 – 10 Course Pathways

### ACADEMIC COURSES (D)

Academic Courses are suited to students who are comfortable with theoretical concepts and enjoy solving problems by applying what they have learned.

#### ACADEMIC COURSES:

- Focus on the essential concepts of a subject and explore related concepts
- Develop students' knowledge and skills through the study of theory and abstract problems
- Incorporate practical applications as appropriate
- Present and evaluate curriculum at a measured/brisk pace according to students' needs
- Often lead to post-secondary education, including College, University, and Apprenticeship, or to Workplace.

### SPECIAL EDUCATION COURSES (K)

Special Education Courses allow students to focus on functional life skills and/or job readiness skills within schools that have a self-contained special education setting. Expectations are individualized for students who have a variety of strengths and needs. In some cases, these courses can be preparation for participation in Locally Developed Compulsory Courses.

#### SPECIAL EDUCATION COURSES:

May lead to a Certificate of Accomplishment, support work/living, and in some cases, an Ontario Secondary School Certificate (OSSC).

### LOCALLY DEVELOPED COURSES (L)

Locally Developed Courses are designed for students who have specific learning needs and require more direction in the classroom. Students will learn essential and practical concepts of a subject.

### LOCALLY DEVELOPED COURSES:

- Are intended for students who require a measure of flexibility and support in order to meet the compulsory credit requirements in English, mathematics and science for the OSSD (Ontario Secondary School Diploma) or (OSSC).
- May lead directly to the Workplace.

### OPEN COURSES (O)

Open Courses allow students to learn concepts and skills designed to prepare them for further study in the subject area. Generally, in Grade 9, optional courses are offered as open courses, for example music, art, drama, business studies, family studies, physical education and technological studies. Expectations are created for all students and these students can have a variety of learning skills.

### APPLIED COURSES (P)

Applied Courses teach students using real-life ideas and offer the chance to apply what they have learned to the work around them.

### THESE COURSES:

- Focus on the essential concepts of a subject
- Develop students' knowledge and skills through practical applications and concrete examples
- Use familiar situations to illustrate ideas
- Present and evaluate curriculum at a gradual pace according to students' needs
- May lead to post-secondary education, including College or Apprenticeship; or to Workplace

## Do I choose Applied, Academic, or Locally Developed?

It is important students select Grade 9 courses based on their strengths and interests. Being successful in all Grade 9 courses will give students more pathway choices as they progress through secondary school.





# Choosing Courses

In order to ensure student success, Grand Erie encourages all students to give careful consideration to the course type chosen in each subject area.

## Grade 11 - 12

There are five types of program pathways are offered:

### COLLEGE COURSES

Are designed to prepare students for college programs and apprenticeships.

### WORKPLACE COURSES

Are designed to prepare students for entry to the workplace and/or apprenticeship.

### UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE COURSES

Are designed to prepare students for either community college or university programs.

### OPEN COURSES

Are available to all students regardless of pathway.

### UNIVERSITY COURSES

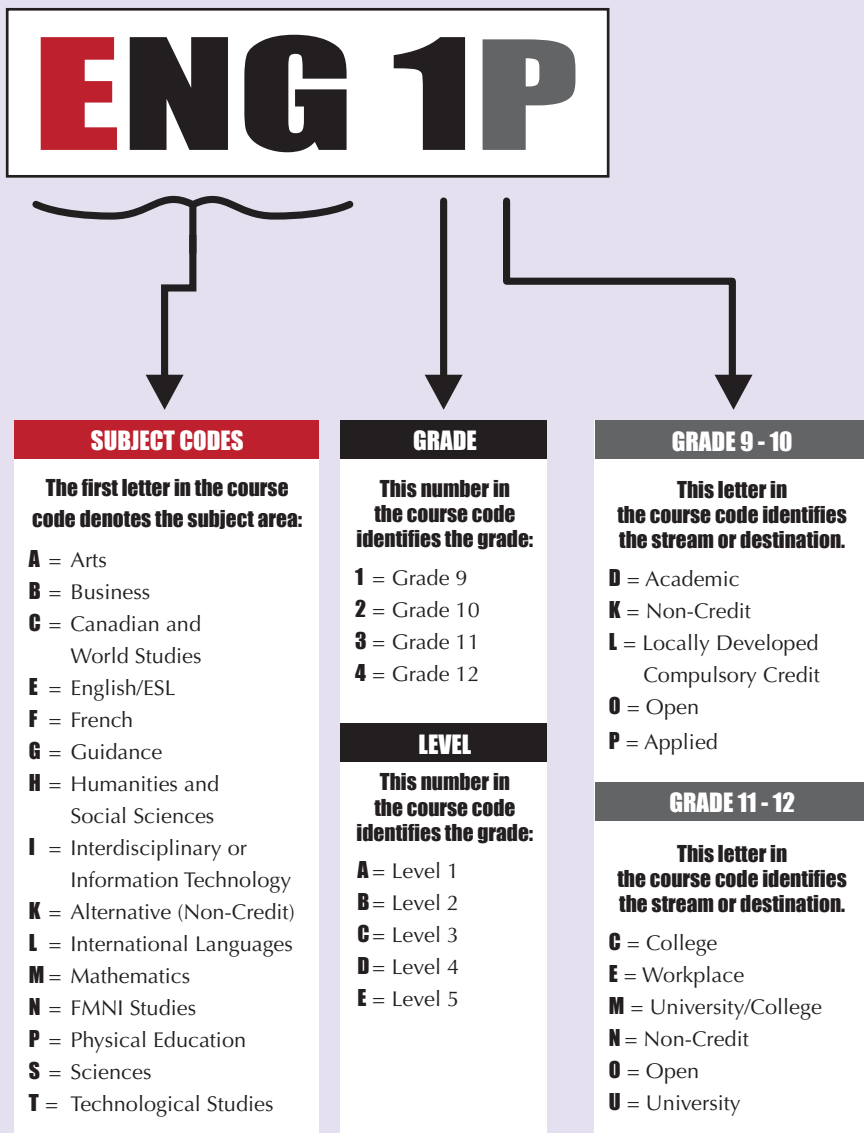
Are designed to prepare students for transition to a variety of university programs or apprenticeship.

## 12 Optional Credits

Optional credits may be earned in all subjects, including those named in the compulsory credit list, provided that such optional credits are additional to the compulsory credits.

The optional credits allow for concentration in a curriculum area of special interest.

**Every course in secondary school has a unique course code. All courses have the first five characters as mandated by the Ministry of Education.**



% GRADE RANGE	ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL	SUMMARY DESCRIPTION
80-100%	Level 4	A very high outstanding level of achievement. Achievement is above the provincial standard
70-79%	Level 3	A high level of achievement. Achievement is at the provincial standard.
60-69%	Level 2	A moderate level of achievement. Achievement is below, but approaching the provincial standard.
50-59%	Level 1	A passable level of achievement. Achievement is below provincial standards.
Below 50%		Insufficient achievement of curriculum expectations. Credit will not be granted.



# Opportunities

## Withdrawing from a course

If a student (including a student with a completed Individual Education Plan) withdraws from a Grade 11 or 12 course within five instructional days following the issue of the first provincial report card in a semestered or non-semestered school, the withdrawal is not recorded on the Ontario Student Transcript (OST). If a student withdraws from a course after five instructional days following the issue of the first provincial report card in a semestered or non-semestered school, the withdrawal is recorded on the OST by entering a 'W' in the 'Credit' column. The student's percentage grade at the time of the withdrawal is recorded in the 'Percentage Grade' column.

## Credit Recovery

Our provincially-recognized Credit Recovery program is an in-school program for students who have not successfully completed some of their courses. In a credit recovery classroom, students work on recovering previously failed courses and have the opportunity to get their credit accumulation back on track. Credit Recovery offers students a supportive environment that focuses on the key expectations of a course and also assists students

with pathway planning and developing improved learning skills that will help them in earning their Ontario Secondary School Diploma.

## DELf

The DELF (diplôme d'études en langue française, or French language studies diploma) is an internationally-recognized certification of proficiency in French for non-francophones. DELF exams take place in 175 countries worldwide. There are six separate diplomas possible, based on the six levels of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR): A1 and A2 (basic user), B1 and B2 (independent user), and C1 and C2 (proficient user). In Ontario, Grade 12 Core, Extended, and Immersion FSL (French as a Second Language) students have the opportunity to challenge one of the following three exams, under the guidance of their French teacher: A2, B1, or B2. French language skills are evaluated in the four areas of oral comprehension, oral expression, written comprehension, and written expression. Obtaining DELF certification not only opens doors to post-secondary and employment opportunities, it also serves as an official, internationally-recognized testament to a student's language learning journey and accomplishments. Grand Erie encourages its students in

all FSL pathways to challenge the DELF in their Grade 12 year.

## Dual Credits

Grand Erie District School Board has partnered with Conestoga College, Fanshawe College and Mohawk College to allow students to earn college credits before they graduate secondary school. These credits are delivered in three different ways within the Board:

### SCHOOL WITHIN A COLLEGE (SWAC)

Is offered by Conestoga in Brantford, Fanshawe in Simcoe and Mohawk in Ohsweken. If you are between the ages of 17 and 20 years old and need 5 – 10 credits to graduate, speak to your guidance counsellor about this program.

### TEAM TAUGHT

Is taught in combination with a college instructor and secondary school teacher during a student's regularly scheduled class.

### AFTER SCHOOL

Is taught by a college instructor (and supported by a secondary school teacher) after school in one of the local secondary schools. Students from other schools are welcome to enrol. Speak with your guidance counsellor for further information.

## eLearning

eLearning courses use a virtual classroom and are accessed by an electronic device. The teacher may be from a school in the Grand Erie District School Board, or from another school board in Ontario. In eLearning courses, students will not be face-to-face with their teachers. Students enrolled in eLearning courses are required to attend and engage in their eLearning courses regularly and consistently, as they do for their face-to-face classes.





# Opportunities

There is an Orientation Module available within Grand Erie eLearning courses, to support students' success in their online learning. Students will require access to a device to complete their learning. Grand Erie students have access to a device within their home school so that they can work on their course during the regular school day. Students may want to have access to a device and the internet outside of regular school hours. Please check the technical requirements for eLearning courses by selecting the link at the top of this page.

eLearning courses are typically taken by senior students to fulfil missing graduation requirements. This provides opportunities for students to be able to access courses that they might not otherwise be able to take in a face-to-face class. As well, eLearning is now commonly found at the post-secondary level (apprenticeships, college, or university), and is often used in workplace training. All students must be registered in a school in their home board before accessing eLearning opportunities. For this reason, schools may receive registration requests from students who are currently considered as home-schooled students.

To register for an eLearning course, students should see their guidance counsellors. Principals, in collaboration with the student and parent(s) and a guidance counselor, consider the best interests of the student when making decisions around facilitating access to eLearning.

## Grand Erie Learning Alternatives (GELA)

GELA provides an alternate opportunity for secondary school students who, for various reasons, are not experiencing success in a regular school setting or who want to re-enter school after leaving.

Scheduled day programs, booklet and e-Learning are available.

For more information, contact your school's Guidance Counsellor.

## NIGHT SCHOOL

Night school classes are offered in Brantford, Haldimand and Norfolk. They are offered Tuesday and Thursday evenings. A wide variety of compulsory courses are offered. For additional information call Grand Erie Learning Alternatives (GELA) 519 753-6079.

## SUMMER SCHOOL

Grand Erie District School Board will be offering summer school for grades 9 - 12 credits during the month of July. Locations will be sent to each school in the spring. For additional information call 519-753-6079.

## Indigenous Education Advisory Committee (IEAC)

IEAC is an advisory committee mandated by the Ministry of Education in September of 2017. The mandate of the committee is to enhance and improve Indigenous Education for all students. The committee reports to the board on the Board Action Plan and programming for both Elementary and Secondary panels. The committee is comprised of board personnel, community members and organizations with an interest in Indigenous Education, including parents.

## myBlueprint

At Grand Erie, we have a vision that all students leaving our secondary schools have a clear postsecondary plan. We support students with the tools they require to become the architects of their future.

As part of our commitment to Career Education and supporting

the ministry mandate for Creating Pathways to Success, we have moved forward with a board license of the myBlueprint Education Planner. Our license provides access to all students 7-12, their families, and all 7-12 staff in Grand Erie.

myBlueprint has been supporting Ontario school boards for 13+ years. The service supports teachers, empowers students, and engages parents with their child's education, career, and life planning. Accessible via the website on any browser, myBlueprint captures current progress in the classroom and offers a complete representation of a child's unique pathway.

myBlueprint's Education Planner is mobile-friendly, and ever-evolving to support the needs of Grand Erie students. The program allows students to view their graduation requirements and over 12,000 post-secondary programs across the country based on their Ontario specific courses.

Grand Erie and myBlueprint work together to create an Individual Pathway Plan (IPP) for all students. This plan becomes a valuable archive of student learning and a catalogue of resources they will need as they continue to plan. Visit [myblueprint.ca](http://myblueprint.ca) for more information.

## Ontario Student Record (OSR)

The OSR is the official, on-going educational record for each student and is stored in the school most recently attended by the student. Teaching staff, each student, and the parent(s) or guardian(s) of a student are entitled to have access to the student's OSR. Supervised access can be arranged by appointment during normal business hours. Transcripts of marks are issued on written or personal request.

# Opportunities

Once a student reaches the age of 18, by law, they control access to the OSR by anyone not mentioned above. Parents of adult students will only have access to a student's academic records upon written authorization from the student. All senior level courses remaining on a student's timetable five days after the first provincial report will be recorded on the transcript.

Transcripts requested after a student has graduated and is no longer attending secondary school are subject to a charge of \$5.00 per copy.

## Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

PLAR is the formal evaluation and credit-granting process whereby students may obtain credits for prior learning. Prior learning includes the knowledge and skills that students have acquired, in both formal and informal ways, outside secondary school. Students may have their knowledge and skills evaluated against the expectations outlined in provincial curriculum policy documents in order to earn credits toward the secondary school diploma. The PLAR process involves two components: "equivalency" and "challenge".

## Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

SEAC is an advisory committee mandated through the Education Act as a standing committee of each school Board. The committee reports to the school Board and makes recommendations to the board on special education programs and services. The committee is comprised of Trustees, Board personnel, community members, and associations representing a wide variety of interests related to students with exceptional needs.

## Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM)

Grand Erie District School Board, in conjunction with the Ontario Ministry of Education, offers SHSM programs to secondary school students.

Students enrolled in a SHSM program are required to complete a bundle of classroom courses, workplace experiences and sector certifications to receive a special designation on their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD).

Participation in an SHSM program

can help students prepare for apprenticeships, college, university or transition to work.

Grand Erie District School Board has programs in the following sectors:

- **Arts & Culture**  
Performance and Production, Journalism and Media
- **Construction**
- **Environment**
- **Health & Wellness**  
Fitness, Healthy Living, Health Care, Hairstyling
- **Horticulture & Landscaping**
- **Hospitality & Tourism**
- **Information & Communications**  
Technology
- **Manufacturing**
- **Sports**
- **Transportation**

## Special Education

Grand Erie District School Board special education programs and services are delivered in safe and enabling environments in order to promote success for students with special education needs. An enabling environment is positive, inclusive and fosters student independence and well-being. Each one of our Secondary schools has a Special Education department with Learning Resource teachers that can support the development and implementation of Individual Education Plans. Some of our schools have Self-Contained programs to support the learning needs of individual students for which the most enabling environment for them to meet their program goals is in a smaller class setting with higher staff to student ratio. In addition, system Student Support Services are available to support students and programming in the areas of Speech and Language Services, Psychological Services, Social Services and Behavioural Services.





# Extracurriculars

WDHS has many diverse clubs that operate before and after school, as well as during the lunch hour. Students pay an annual activity fee which allows them to participate in extracurricular activities, attend dances, and to enjoy the events and activities planned throughout the year. If you want to be involved, there are activities for everyone at Waterford District High School.

## Sports

### FALL:

- Tennis
- Golf
- Cross-Country
- Football
- Basketball
- Volleyball

### WINTER:

- Hockey
- Badminton

### SPRING:

- Cheerleading
- Rugby
- Soccer
- Track and Field
- Junior Football

## School Clubs

### BAND & CHOIR

Band and Choir rehearse throughout the year and perform at the Christmas and Spring Concerts as well as the Norfolk County Fair and local elementary schools. Every other year the band and choir have an opportunity to travel to an American city to experience the art culture and perform in a larger auditorium.

### SPRING MUSICAL

The Spring Musical offers a chance to act, sing, create and set the stage, control lights and sound, as well, as assist with directing. This is a great place to meet new people and explore

your talents. In the past, we have filled the house with popular performances such as; "Catch Me if you Can", "Footloose", "The Wizard of Oz", "Fiddler on the Roof", "My Fair Lady", and "Beauty and the Beast".

### STUDENTS' COUNCIL

Students' Council is a group of students who are elected to represent WDHS by planning school activities throughout the year. Elections are held in mid-April. Being on Council can be very rewarding and fun, as well as an excellent leadership experience to add to your resume!

### YEARBOOK

If you like writing, computer lay-out design or photography, then yearbook may be the club for you! Every year, students from every grade put together a book of events and memories that will be remembered for a lifetime.

### FAIR COMMITTEE

Every fall, Norfolk secondary schools compete at the Norfolk County Fair and try to outdo each other with the decoration of the grandstands and an

array of other events. If you have a lot of school spirit, come on out and help in September.

### PUMPKINFEST COMMITTEE

The Pumpkinfest committee is in charge of setting up and running the float for the annual Pumpkinfest parade. This is a great opportunity to interact with the community, hand out candy, and develop a positive image of the school! This is an ideal opportunity for anyone with a strong work ethic, community focus, and artistic skills.

### PROM COMMITTEE

If you want to help make prom a night to remember, then this is the club for you! A group of dedicated students work together to thoroughly plan the most memorable night of the year.

### ECO CLUB

Are you a student who is interested in learning more about conservation and its effect on the planet? Do you like science and exploring the environment? If so, then the Eco Club is for you!



# Extracurriculars

## PRIDE OF THE PACK

If you're looking to make positive social change within your school and community, then join Pride of the Pack.

This committee's goal is to create a dignified, kind and inclusive school environment for all students within our pack. We help plan school-wide events, fundraise for important social topics, and talk about life as a high school student.

## DRAMA CLUB NATIONAL THEATRE FESTIVAL

If you're looking to act or be part of a stage crew, then the Drama Club is the club for you. Students get together to work on a play that is up to 50 minutes long and student driven. The play goes on to compete at the annual Drama Club National Theatre Festival and has a chance to move on to compete at a provincial level!

This is a great opportunity to develop acting and theatre skills.

## ANIME CLUB

Anime club is a group of students who come together at lunch to watch anime and talk about the culture behind it. We organize a yearly trip, where we get to cosplay and meet actors and artists that are involved in making these creations come to life. If this sounds good to you then come out and join us!

## UNITED NATIONS

United Nations is a club that holds yearly assemblies to debate about issues affecting the world today. Students represent a variety of countries and tackle issues that range from poverty, to immigration, and global warming.

If you have a keen interest in discussion world issues then this is the perfect club for you!

## WDHS AWARD SYSTEM OUTLINE

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Points are awarded for participation in school activities, academic achievement. Students can earn School Letters when the specified number of points are accumulated. School Letters are awarded as follows:

- 1st School Letter W = Accumulation of a total of 10 points
- 2nd School Letter D = Accumulation of a total of 25 points
- 3rd School Letter H = Accumulation of a total of 50 points
- 4th School Letter S = Accumulation of a total of 75 points
- 5th School Letter Red = 100 points, frame for letters
- 6th School Letter White = 125 points, engraved plate to go on frame

## Library Learning Commons

The Library Learning Commons provides a safe, friendly environment, offering a balanced collection of print and digital resources to meet both curricular and personal interest needs. Through virtual and physical learning partnerships, we provide integrated learning opportunities which are global, connected, social, cross-curricular and interdisciplinary.

In partnership with classroom teachers, the teacher-librarian teaches guided inquiry, whereby students learn to define problems, form questions, explore ideas, analyse, synthesize and evaluate information and communicate new understandings. We strive to challenge students to think critically about the information they find, to instill in them a passion for reading and learning, and to equip them with multiple literacy skills for success in life after secondary school.

Our Learning Commons is used by all students! WDHS students enjoy access to non-fiction and fiction books, laptops, group or individual workspaces, a green screen, multiple whiteboards, Apple TV, 3D printer and its necessary technology, and finally, access to friendly staff that are there to help with any question you may have! On the social side, we offer reading clubs, board games, giant crosswords, competitions, workshops, and a place to gather at lunch hour.

## Link Crew

Link Crew is a team of Grade 11 & 12 students who work together to welcome our incoming Grade 9's to WDHS each year. We run an Orientation for incoming Grade 9's the week before school starts, and organize various events throughout the year, such as Grade 9 Day, Grade 9 Dance, exam study days and monthly school and academic related activities.





# Special Academic Programming

## Special Academic Programming

### CANADIAN AND WORLD STUDIES

This department covers three topic areas here at WDHS: civics, geography and history. Within these three areas students have the opportunity to look further into our past, how our government is set up, and how different geographic locations offer unique opportunities to its visitors and its local populations. These courses are interest forming “stepping stones” to show students career areas, such as teaching, law, law enforcement, museum curators, conservation officers, geologists, military personnel, librarians, civil engineers, journalists, town planners, and many other fields!

### CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION

Waterford's co-operative education program allows students to gain work experience in an area of their choice. This allows students to ‘test-drive’ a career before they leave secondary school. Co-operative education allows the students to earn credits that count toward their secondary school diploma.

We offer many placements within the school, the local community, as well as in Brant, Haldimand and Norfolk. Students have had placements with mechanics, electricians, hospitals, welders, hairstylists, teachers, daycares, conservation centers, and many more! We have had students complete placements in local businesses, stores, and community foundations.

For most students, co-operative education gives them the opportunity to make community connections and to gain experience that is different from the classroom experience. These connections and experiences have helped students gain a job or apprenticeship after secondary school!

### ENGLISH

For some students, studying English is just one more class that they ‘have’ to take.

Here at WDHS our English classes are vibrant areas of discussion, debates, drama, and diving into modern fiction and non-fiction. These classes teach students different genres of literature, short stories, poetry, drama, and to develop skills in reading, writing and speaking.

We strive to ensure that our students have a variety of materials that represent a wide variety of interests, social groups, and cultural connections. We want all students to feel represented in the different texts that they study.

And finally, we offer students assistance with participating in various writing contests, and have even had a few winners and one student publish their own novel!

### MATHEMATICS

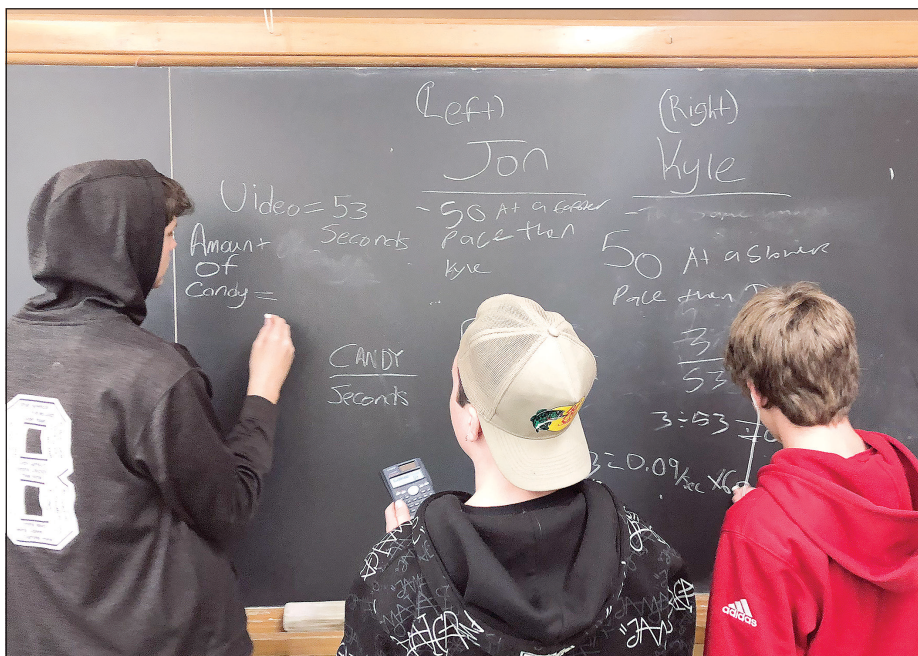
If you walk by a math class at WDHS, you'll notice a few things. The biggest is the use of technology. All our

math classes use SMARTBoards for lessons, as well as using Kahoots, 3D printer pens, digital graphing software, Excel spreadsheets, and other unique programs to help prepare students for modern mathematics.

Teachers rely on real-world connections to help students better understand these larger mathematical concepts. Senior math students also have the opportunity to show off their computing skills as they enter math contests against other Ontario students, or tutor other students in and out of the school.

### MUSIC

Our music department is a long-standing favourite here at WDHS. Students can take music courses to learn and perfect their singing talents, instrumental talents, musical composition and much more. Our music classes also encourage their students to participate in band, choir, or our yearly musical production! Each year the band and choir head out to many different schools to demonstrate their skills, compete at fair, and go on some awesome field trips within Canada and the United States!





# Special Academic Programming

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Healthy active living is an important part of life at WDHS. We offer classes in all grade levels, and of different varieties. This department wants to help students understand that being active is a key component to physical and mental well being, and this is accomplished through the courses offered as well as our Specialist High Skills Major in Health & Wellness. The Grade 9 and 10 courses provide students with the foundation to live a healthy life, as it covers physical activity, fitness, social interactions, dealing with drugs, mental health, sexuality and personal growth. Our Grade 11 and 12 students also have the opportunity to take a Personal Fitness style class, where students learn about their bodies, how they work, and how to create a balanced fitness program.

## SCIENCES

Once students have completed both of their Grades 9 and 10 science requirements, there are many different science courses that are open to them, at a variety of pathways. Students can choose to specialize in biology, chemistry, physics and environmental science. All of these subjects allow students a mix of textbook and hands-on experiences.

These senior science classes also work alongside our three Specialist High Skills Majors in Construction, Health & Wellness, and the Environment. You will frequently see our science classes buzzing around Waterford on bicycles as they visit the local habitats nearby.

## SOCIAL SCIENCES

Students taking courses in the Humanities

or Social Science areas, are exposed to a variety of different topics, designed to help them better understand how our society has developed to its current state. They have the opportunity to exercise and refine their critical thinking skills as they learn to question ideas of the past, and movements of the future. These classes cover topics that discuss how our society once functioned, the challenges of our current world, how and why people think and act the way they do, and finally, how we can better prepare the citizens of the future.

## TECHNOLOGY

Do you like hands on learning? Do you want to work in a shop? Here at WDHS we offer classes in:

- Hairstyling and Esthetics (cosmetology)
- Hospitality (foods)
- Transportation (auto)
- Manufacturing (welding)
- Green Industries (horticulture)
- Construction
- Tech Design (drafting & architecture)
- Communications Technology

We also offer students the chance to complete technology courses for their Specialist High Skills Major in either Construction, Environment or Health & Wellness. Our senior technology courses also offer students the opportunity to complete a Dual Credit course, where they earn a credit from Fanshawe College, at the same time that they earn their secondary school tech credit.

## VISUAL ARTS

Visual Arts offers many opportunities for artists and art enthusiasts. WDHS offers a variety of art classes that teach the basics of drawing and painting, to design, digital media, photography, and portfolio work.







## What is a Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM)?

An SHSM allows students to customize their secondary school experience to fit career interests.

Offered in Grade 11 and 12, an SHSM allows students to receive a specialized secondary school diploma that is recognized in various economic sectors in all four pathways.

## What does an SHSM look like?

An SHSM is a bundle of 8 to 10 Grade 11 and Grade 12 credits that include two experiential learning (co-op) credits.

## What do you get by taking an SHSM?

- Sector-recognized certifications and training
- Real workplace experience
- Learning experiences connected with post-secondary opportunities
- Skills and work habits required for employment success



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## SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJOR

### THE CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM HOMEBUILDING FOCUS

#### WATERFORD DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

The Construction Specialist High Skills Major allows students to develop valuable skills and knowledge, gain additional insight into post-secondary destinations, and obtain certifications to ensure they are ready for a career in the construction industry.

"Everybody's worried about getting a job, but this program takes a lot of that fear away."

**WDHS Student**

#### Benefits of the Construction Program:

- Double construction credits in grade 11 and 12
- Co-op placement in the construction industry
- Industry-recognized certifications (CPR, First Aid, Fall Arrest, Health & Safety, etc.)
- Exposure to various trades involved in the construction industry
- Real-world opportunities

### THE HEALTH AND WELLNESS PROGRAM WELLNESS FOCUS

#### WATERFORD DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

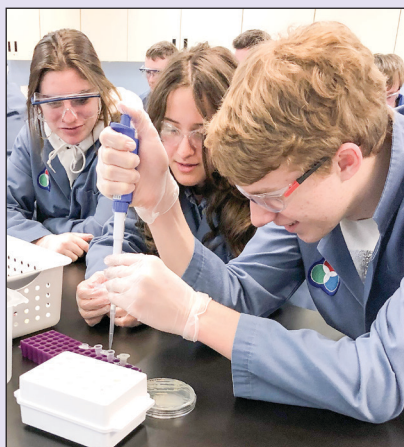
The Health and Wellness program allows students to focus their learning on an array of health fields through a combination of classroom and hands-on learning. Students have the opportunity to use professional technology in their respective discipline, enabling them to be prepared citizens for the Health and Wellness sector.

"This SHSM opened my eyes up to interesting careers I never knew existed and made me consider different options for my future."

**Paige Deschamps (Grade 12 student)**

#### Benefits of the Health and Wellness Program:

- Seven industry-recognized certifications (e.g. safe-food handling, CPR, AED)
- Gain health related work experience to apply to your resume
- Participate in unique field trips like "Discovery Days" put on by industry associations
- Discover emerging health and wellness careers through field trips and guest speakers



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## SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJOR

### THE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM

#### WATERFORD DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

This program allows students the opportunity to receive certifications from industry leaders in Habitat Restoration, Watershed Management, First Aid/CPR, GPS use and more. Students are prepared for a career in the environmental sector (development, sustainability, green practices, etc.) throughout many different career fields.

"I loved all the hands-on activities that we have done with the Grand River Conservation Authority, like habitat restoration and GPS navigation. I also liked riding bikes down to the ponds, testing water and spending time outdoors. It really made me appreciate nature in a new way."

**SHSM Participant**

#### Benefits of the Environment Program:

- Environmental learning: customize your schedule to select from classes that examine environmental and conservation topics in a variety of subject areas
- Get outdoors: explore local ecosystems, participate in habitat restoration projects and experience hands-on outdoor learning
- Industry-recognized, sector-specific certifications: eight certifications including Species Identification, GPS Navigation, CPR/First Aid, and Pleasure Craft Operator Card
- Look ahead to your future: gain experiential learning and career exploration through co-op placement and explore post-secondary opportunities in the environment sector



**WATERFORD DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL**





## Are you interested in an Apprenticeship?

Apprenticeship is an education and training program for people who enjoy learning by doing and who want to work in a skilled profession.

Once education and training is complete, you can receive a Certificate of Qualification, which identifies you as a skilled professional. This can lead to a career in a trade sector such as construction, industrial, motive power and service.

## How to enroll?

Students, 16 years of age or older, who are enrolled full-time in secondary school with 16 completed credits can speak with a Guidance Counselor. Be sure to also ask about Specialist High Skills Major, Co-op and Dual Credit, three additional programs that feature OYAP.



## Student Success

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[oyap.com](http://oyap.com)

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## ONTARIO YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

Join the thousands of high school students throughout Ontario who have chosen to take control of their future.

Earn high school credits while exploring the world of a skilled trade profession through the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP). Discover the educational opportunities that can give you an advantage.

## How does OYAP work?

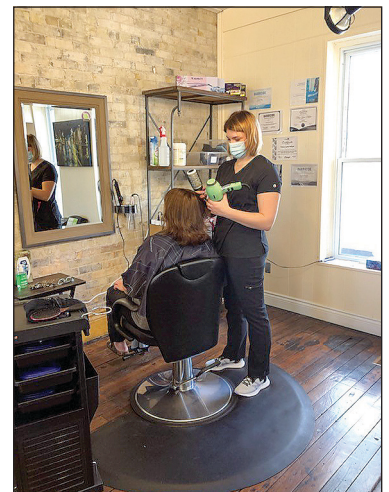
As an OYAP student, you will earn Co-op credits for work experience in an apprenticeship occupation while completing the requirements for your Ontario Secondary School Diploma. You may be formally registered as an apprentice while attending secondary school.

## What are the benefits of OYAP?

- Gain a head start towards a chosen career
- Ease the transition from school to work
- Increase opportunities for post-secondary training and employment
- Earn work experience hours in addition to secondary school credits
- Develop general and specialized job skills
- Understand employer expectations
- Significant reduction in post-secondary tuition costs
- Increase of employable opportunities

"OYAP was the right program for me. After I completed my two construction technology credits, I applied to the four credit accelerated carpentry OYAP for semester two. My construction classes taught me so much about building. We were able to help build a house for Habitat for Humanity. It was awesome; we were doing the things that we had been taught about, a real hands-on experience."

**Grand Erie OYAP student**





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