



GRADE 8 TRANSITIONS 2021

By Ms. Jones

What to Expect



VIRTUAL PARENT
INFORMATION NIGHTS



VIRTUAL GRADE 8
TOUR



COURSE SELECTION
FORMS

Parent Information Nights

- Heritage Woods Secondary – Tuesday, January 12th – Parent power point followed by an optional zoom meeting on Tuesday, January 19th (6:30-7:30pm) – pre-registration required. Contact tclerkson@sd43.bc.ca
- Port Moody Secondary – Tuesday, February 2nd with an option to submit questions.
- Gleneagle – Monday, January 18th with an option to submit questions.
- Pinetree – Wednesday, January 20th with an option to submit questions.
- Terry Fox – Wednesday January 20th at 6:30pm-7:30pm (will be a live zoom meeting) It will be recorded and available the next day.
- Charles Best – Tuesday, February 2nd at 7pm (will be a live zoom meeting)
- Riverside – Wednesday, January 13th – link will be available at 6pm on their website

Cross Catchment Transfer

- If you want to go to a different school than the one you live by, you can apply for a cross catchment transfer. Here are the details:
- Apply online by going to: www.sd43.bc.ca
- Applications open on Friday, February 5th at 9am and close on Wednesday, February 10th at 4pm
- Acceptance will be done through a lottery format. However, if you have sibling at that school, you are given preference.
- Parents will be notified by March 8
- If you have applied to a specialized program in the district, such as IB, you do NOT need to apply for cross catchment transfer.

Virtual Grade 8 Tour

- On January 29 students will be watching a video of their secondary tour in their classrooms. This video will highlight the elective choices for students as well as other opportunities available to students in high school.
- The video will also be accessible to parents/guardians after January 29th on the school website. You will find it under Quick Links, Course Planning/Booklet/Gr. 8 Info

Course Selection Forms

- On Wednesday, February 10th, HWSS counsellors will send out a power point to classroom teachers and Grade 8 students explaining how to fill out the course selection form.
- The forms will be due back by Wednesday, February 17th to the classroom teacher. Note: (Please return them on time, add the 2 extra electives and print neatly so everyone can read your writing!)
- The counsellor will look over the forms to be sure they are filled out properly and that they include a parent/guardian signature.
- The forms will be sent to HWSS so that the counsellors can register students in classes.
- If you return your form late, it will be your responsibility to get it to the main office at HWSS.

Honours Math 9 - HWSS

- In past years, HWSS has offered a Math 9/10 course. They are unable to offer it this year but instead will be offering an Honours Math 9 course.
- In the student course selection form, there will be a box to self select for Honours Math 9.
- This course is ideally suited for strong math students with well developed numeracy skills at the Grade 8 level.

Language Placement Assessment

- If you are a student who speaks French, Spanish, or Japanese already, you may write the language placement assessment.
- Let Ms. Jones know what language you can speak or have a great deal of knowledge about and she will help you reach out to Mrs. Karen Leeden (one of the HWSS counsellors) who will co-ordinate with the language teachers at HWSS.
- The assessment will be done via Teams with one of the language teachers on Wednesday, April 28th.

How to be Prepared for Secondary

- One of the biggest keys to success at secondary school is being able to **ADVOCATE** for yourself. This means being able to ask for help when you need it. If this is difficult for you, now is the time for you to start practicing it. Reach out to your teachers more if you don't understand something. You can do it in person or via email.
- Another key to success is **ORGANIZATION**. It's important to know what you have for homework and when it is due. This will keep stress levels down and you will experience a greater deal of success when you stay on top of your work. Have all your materials with you each day. If you struggle with organization, now is the time to work on this skill too. Reach out to your teacher or the counsellor or youth worker if you want some strategies on how to be more organized.