



**Mennonite Educational Institute**  
**Secondary School**

**Course Planning 2020-2021**

**For Grade 8 going into Grade 9**

**Presentation Handout & Course Calendar available online on the  
MEI Secondary Resources Link:**

**<https://www.meischools.com/resources/course-planning-for-mei-secondary-students/>**

# Course Selection Process

- Selection is done online through *MyEducation BC* student portal <https://www.myeducation.gov.bc.ca/aspen/logon.do>
- MEI will send to Parents/Guardians Login ID and temporary Password by email. You will have one week to discuss with your parents/teachers/counsellors to decide what courses you should be taking next year
- Portal opens on **April 6, 2020**
- Portal closes on **April 14, 2020**

# Purpose of Course Planning

To help students make wise decisions regarding:

- ❑ completing MEI and B.C. Ministry of Education Graduation requirements (Dogwood Diploma)
- ❑ choosing courses that will help prepare students for life after high school
- ❑ taking advantage of opportunities to use gifts and strengths, to further develop potential and to serve God and others

# Top 10 Factors to Consider in Course Planning

1. Time and Resources to live a BALANCED life (as much as possible - emotionally, intellectually, physically, socially, spiritually)
2. MEI grade promotion criteria
3. MEI Graduation Program requirements
4. MEI course pre & co-requisites
5. Individual academic strengths & weaknesses
6. Individual interest, ability and spiritual giftedness
7. Exploration of a variety of life / educational experiences
8. Future life & realistic career goals
9. Post-secondary options (within the context of balance, educational experiences, strengths, gifts, weaknesses, reality etc.)
10. University / College entrance requirements (reality vs. myth)

# Grade Promotion

Grade 8 Required Courses (English, Math, Science, Socials)  
that are not completed or passed must be  
repeated :

In Summer School (if available)

**OR**

Online (if available)

# Helpful Resources

## ☐ MEI Course Planning Resources

<https://www.meischools.com/resources/course-planning-for-mei-secondary-students/>

Or scan QR Code on your Course Selection Information sheet or here on this slide

- ❖ Grade 9 Course Selection Information sheet
- ❖ 2020-2021 MEI Secondary Course Calendar
- ❖ PDF Slides of this presentation
- ❖ Application Forms

☐ Parents

☐ Counsellors

☐ Trusted Adults

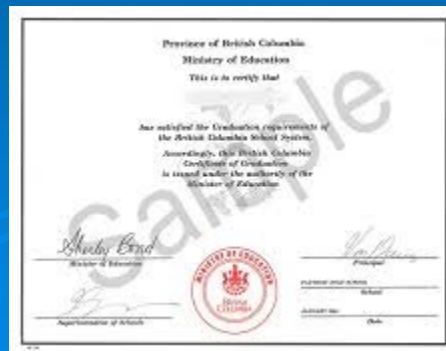


# MEI Graduation Program

Begins in Grade 10

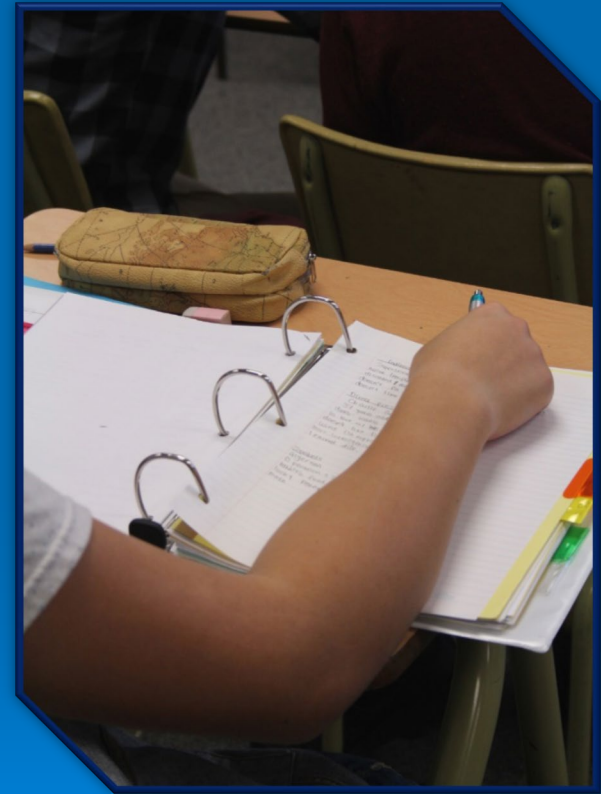


Grade 9 is your preparation year before entering into the graduation program that includes grade 10, 11 and 12 courses required to obtain your Dogwood Graduation Diploma



# Grade 9 Required (7 Courses)

- Bible 9 – Exploring the Biblical Story
- Career Education 9 (Covered in Bible 9)
- English Language Arts 9  
OR English Language Arts 9 Honours
- Physical and Health Education 9  
OR Hockey Academy 9
- Science 9 OR Science 9 Honours
- Social Studies 9
- Mathematics 9





# English 9 Honours



The final decision about who is selected to be in Honours will be made by the English department in consultation with the Middle School.

## Science 9 Honours

The science department will make the final selection upon review of the student's grade 8 MEI academic math and science record. Request for Science 9 Honours from schools other than MEI Middle must have a teacher recommendation. Recommendations can be sent by email to Mrs. Thiessen at [dthiessen@meischools.com](mailto:dthiessen@meischools.com)

# Mathematics 9

The MEI secondary math department follows the Ministry of Education's guidelines and offers Mathematics 9. During the semester in Math 9, students are evaluated and, at the end of the semester, recommended to take FMP 10 or Workplace Math 10.



# Support Block(s)

- This is a block that designated students have on their schedule for academic support
- Some may have two support blocks (one each semester)
- A support block has a course value of 4
- Students with one or two support blocks may not have room on their schedule for an ADST and/or an AE course or any other electives (in such case the ADST/AE requirement is waived)
- If a student was in Learning Support in the Middle School, it is more likely that he or she will have support also in the high school, However, the decision about who will receive support and having one or two support blocks are made by the Learning Support Department
  - Mrs. Sharon Thatcher – Room 208 (Tier 2)
  - Ms. Fran Hofenk – Room 210 (Tier 3)
- Academic Screening Assessment for current designated grade 8 students usually takes place following course planning week (shortly before spring break or early April)

# Physical & Health Education 9



Physical and Health Education classes are divided between boys and girls. Students in the MEI Hockey Academy will meet the requirement for Physical and Health Education 9 by the end of their program.



# Grade 9 Elective Course Options

- Applied Design, Skills and Technologies Courses
- Art Education Courses
- Modern Language (optional)
- Support Block(s) (for designated students only)
- Extended Day Courses (optional)

# How many elective can I take?

- Students select electives for a total value of 8
- Most courses have a value of 2 (term courses)
- Music 9 (Band) has a value of 4 (set up as linear course that alternates with a Linear Bible 9 every other day for the entire year)
- Support Blocks have a value of 4

# Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies (ADST) & Arts Education (AE)

Students must select:

One Grade 9 Applied Design, Skills and Technologies Course 

and

One Grade 9 Art Education Course 



# Applied Design, Skills and Technologies (ADST) Options




Select at least one of these:

- Entrepreneurship and Marketing 9 
- Drafting 9 
- Food Studies 9 
- Information & Communications  
Technology 9 
- Textiles 9 
- Woodwork 9 



# ART EDUCATION (AE) 9 Options

select at least one of these:

- Drama 9 
- Music 9 
- Visual Arts 9 



# MODERN LANGUAGES (OPTIONAL)

- French 9 OR
- Spanish 9



# French 9 and Spanish 9



As you are considering whether or not to carry on your education with two of the modern language we offer, it is important to take into account the following information:

- If you want to take French 9 or Spanish 9 and intend to carry on with the next levels in grade 10, 11 or 12, you must select this elective.
- If you want to transition from French to Spanish, grade 9 is the time to do it.
- A second language IS optional in Grades 9-12. You do not need any second language to graduate

# BC Second Language Information

(more detailed information on the back of the *Grade 9 Course Selection Information* sheet)

- ✓ **Not** required for general admission to most BC University or Colleges except:
  - ✓ UBC (Vancouver) - Grade 11 modern language
  - ✓ SFU - Grade 11 modern language
  
- ✓ Grade 11 language equivalent **required** for **all** students planning to complete a **Bachelor of Arts degree** at UFV.
  
- ✓ Grade 12 language equivalent **required** for **all** students planning to complete a **Bachelor of Arts degree** at the UBC (Vancouver)



# Extended Day Courses

- Optional Courses offered outside the timetable
- Early mornings or after school
- Usually once a week
- Students cannot sign up for extended day courses on the portal but must submit an application form now to Mr. Girard at [cgirard@meischools.com](mailto:cgirard@meischools.com) or audition in September with Mr. Joiner and/or Mr. Wedel

## Courses requiring an online Application Form:

- APEX: Student Leadership
- Junior Worship Leadership

## Courses requiring an audition in September:

- Choral Music: Vocal Jazz (Renaissance Singers) 9
- Drumline 9
- Instrumental Music: Jazz Band (Bluesberry Jam) 9
- Instrumental Music: Jazz Band (Razzberry Jam) 9

# Any Questions

Mr. C. Girard

[cgirard@meischools.com](mailto:cgirard@meischools.com)

Ms. C. Ratzlaff

[cratzlaff@meischools.com](mailto:cratzlaff@meischools.com)