

"THINK ABOUT IT"

Common questions asked when going into Grade 8



What are the Grade 8 Courses that I must complete?

- ◆ Humanities 8 (Language Arts and Social Studies)
- ◆ Science 8
- ◆ Mathematics 8
- ◆ Physical & Health Education 8
- ◆ French 8
- ◆ Career Education 8

Do I have to take French in grade 8?

- ◆ Yes, French is required through grade 8. In grade 9, it is no longer mandatory and becomes an elective option.

If I am in Band 8, do I have a timetable different from other students?

- ◆ The timetable for band students is essentially the same as other students with the exception that there will be two less elective sampler blocks since Band takes up two of these blocks. Band is offered on a linear program, meaning it is in the same block, on alternate days. If students opt to take band, it is important for students to understand that they are committing to the band program for the full year.

What electives do I get to take in grade 8?

- ◆ Electives are organized into samplers to give students a variety of fine art and applied skills experiences.
- ◆ Electives will be placed into your schedule based on what is offered.
- ◆ Alternatively, you may choose to register for specialty programs/classes offered by the school &/or district (hockey, semester 1) See descriptions on the back of this sheet.

If I take one of the district/school or community programs will I miss any of my other classes?

- ◆ The timetable is designed to work with your program; the program fits into an elective slot.
- ◆ Some programs require travel to and from the school, which may result in missing a short amount of time from another block each time.

Who should I see if I run into barriers with my classes?

- ◆ Students occasionally run into challenges with classes due to the course being too difficult, too easy, or sometimes because of a conflict with others in the class. If you ever find yourself in this position, it is important to let someone know what is happening. Please notify one of the following people so that your problem will be resolved in a short period of time:
 - Gr. 8 Counsellor (A-L) Mr. Mark. Donkers mdonkers@sd69.bc.ca
 - Grade 8 Counsellor (M-Z) Ms. Tannis Trevor-Smith ttrevorsmith@sd69.bc.ca
 - Youth Care Worker Ms. Lynda Burton lburton@sd69.bc.ca
 - First Nations Liaison Ms. Dallas Phillips dphillips@sd69.bc.ca
 - Course Teacher
 - Parent(s), who will notify one of the above people on your behalf

MUSIC 8: CONCERT BAND

Concert Band 8 provides an exciting opportunity to refine & develop instrumental performance skills learned at the Grade 7 level. Students will study a wide variety of traditional band music, rock music, movie music, and popular music. This is a performance-based program in which regional concerts and festivals are essential components. Students are required to make a deposit on their school band uniform. This course runs every other day for the full school year.

MUSIC 8: JAZZ BAND AND CONCERT CHOIR (outside the timetable)

HOCKEY 8: SD69 Hockey Program

Students are on-ice two times a week, in addition to a dry land training day. This is open to students in Grades 8-12 who train together in a coed format. Students are transported by bus to and from the rink and gear is stored at the school in the interim. Students who are interested in developing skills such as Skating, Passing, Puck Control, Shooting, and Checking should take this program as they get many repetitions and focused feedback from professional instructors. They also explore and develop strategies such as zone entry, breakouts, give and go's and creating triangles whenever possible. There is a strong emphasis on small area games and utilizing quick puck movement to players moving into space. Students are on the ice for approximately 35 hours. The SD69 Hockey Program is available in Semester 1 only.

Note #1: The cost of the program is \$500 and students need to supply their own equipment.

Note #2: SD69 cannot transport hockey gear on regular school busses to or from school as per Transport Canada regulations.

LEADERSHIP 8: (outside the timetable)

The Leadership Development Program at KSS is a course offered at each grade that:

- ◆ Promotes positive attitudes toward leadership, co-operative planning, school events, and community service
- ◆ Encourages and supports youth in the conceptualization, planning and delivery of activities and events
- ◆ Teaches and develops individual and corporate leadership skills in a practical setting
- ◆ Adds to the culture and mission of KSS through a broad array of activities and events

Program Structure: A year-long (linear) course credited to the student's grade level. Students are invited to enrol in this course each year.

Course Structure: The Leadership Class meets outside the timetable, twice a week at lunch. There is a time commitment outside of class to complete project work and to meet Leadership hour obligations:

Class Time 60 hrs + Leadership Time 40 hours = 100 hours Total

TIDES 8 at KSS:

KSS Jr. TIDES is a cohort of learners in grades 8 and 9 who want their learning to be blended, and connected to themes such as sustainability, outdoor field experiences and core competency development. Concepts and skills will be integrated into cross-curricular learning experiences with all core subjects and exploratory classes completed over the 10 month school session. Students in this cohort are interested in inquiry based learning opportunities. They will be part of Kwalikum Secondary School and attend 5 days a week, completing all their classes with their cohort. Individual learning plans for some students will be considered.

Students will apply to be in the TIDES cohort. Space will be limited to a max. of 27 learners in Grades 8 and 9.