



# Grade 9 Course Catalogue 2026/2027



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

<u>REQUIRED COURSES</u>	<u>ELECTIVE COURSES</u>			<u>OUTSIDE TIMETABLE</u>
All grade 9 students are required to take the subjects below	Gr. 9 Students are required to take <b>three electives in their timetable</b> (no "spares" allowed).  Please Pick 6 electives and 4 Alternates; Order these Choices 1-10 based on Preference			Outside the Timetable (OTT) courses may be taken <i>in addition</i> to electives. They generally run 1 or 2 days/week after school all year.
	<b>Semester Electives</b>	<b>10-week Electives</b>		
Career Education 9	Baseball Academy 9 (\$250.00)	Acting & Improv 9	Metal Art and Jewelry 9	Boucherie Theatre Company 9
English 9	Hockey Academy 9 (\$965.00)	American Sign Language 9	Pottery & Sculpture 9	Boucherie Theatre Production 9
Math 9	Soccer Academy 9 (\$250.00)	Art Studio 9	Robotics 9	Golf Academy 9 (\$465.00 – \$545.00)
Physical Education 9		Comic Arts 9	Sewing 9	Jazz Studies 9
Science 9		Computer Animation 9	Sheet Metal/Intro to Welding 9	Yearbook 9
Social Studies 9		Dance 9	Spanish 9 -Exploratory	
		Drawing & Painting 9	Student Leadership 9	
		Foods 9	Study Skills 9	
	<b>Linear Electives</b>	French 9 -Exploratory	Textiles Arts & Crafts 9	
	Concert Band 9	Indigenous Leadership 9	Woodwork 9 -Design & Construct	
	Jazz Band 9	Machining/Intro to Welding 9	Woodwork 9 -Power Tool Projects	
		Media Arts 9		

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – GRADE 9

**FOR ALL ACADEMIES:** *As per Board policy, no student will be excluded from an educational program due to financial need. If paying for an academy is a hardship, parents are asked to contact your student's Vice Principal for support with the academy fees.*

### BASEBALL ACADEMY 9

**RECOMMENDED:** Baseball experience

**Program Cost:** \$250.00/year

The Baseball Academy will be open to students who have played at least 2 years of organized baseball or fastball. It will run from September to the end of November and from March to the middle of June. Students will be able to pursue their passion for baseball by developing their offensive and defensive mechanics and overall skill levels. The course will include some inter-squad games to enhance teamwork and game experience. Players will also be doing physical training, weights and fitness and will learn about nutrition.

### GOLF ACADEMY 9 (OTT)

**Program Cost:** \$465 with a valid Two Eagles Golf Club membership - \$545 without a membership

Students will receive instruction from fully accredited C.P.G.A. professionals in order to elevate their golf skills. The course is designed in a holistic manner that emphasizes strong fundamentals and also includes instruction on course management strategies and the mental aspects of the game. Students must be able to arrange their own transportation to playing and practice locations. On-course playing and practice sessions occur in September, October, May, and June. Field studies and theory lessons occur through the winter months.

### HOCKEY CANADA SKILLS ACADEMY 9

*District Application required*

**Program Cost - \$965.00**

Developed by Hockey Canada, this program helps minor hockey players of all levels develop and improve their hockey skills. This academy is based on a number of principles: a.) It is strictly supplementary to minor hockey, b.) It is not game based but is dedicated to improving skills; c.) the program is open to all skill levels, house league to rep, male and female; and d.) the program is committed to helping students achieve academically. All ice times take place at the Jim Lind and Royal Lepage arenas. Approximately 50 hours of on-ice instruction is provided by fully qualified Hockey Canada instructors. Students must be able to arrange transportation of equipment to school on scheduled ice days. Limited overnight storage may be available.

### SOCCER ACADEMY 9

**RECOMMENDED:** Soccer experience

**Program Cost - \$250.00**

This program is open to players of all ability levels. Students wanting to take this program should have a strong interest in improving their individual and team soccer skills and have a desire to increase their personal fitness level, confidence, and roles as leaders. Students will develop these aspects by focusing on the curricular competencies: technical and tactical development, personal growth, and healthy lifestyle. Students must be prepared to show strong work ethic and teamwork. Students who take multiple levels of this course will be expected to advance upon their skills and curricular competencies and further develop their skills.

### ACTING AND IMPROV 9

This course focuses on developing acting skills through theatre games, improvisation, and scripted plays. Through various drama projects, students will develop personal and social awareness and responsibility as well as foster positive personal and cultural identity. Stage etiquette and theatre terminology are also included. Cooperative learning skills are necessary. Greater emphasis is placed on theatre skills and acting technique at the grade 10 level.

## **AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ASL) EXPLORATIONS 9**

Welcome to ASL Explorations, an exciting journey into the world of American Sign Language. This course is a unique opportunity for students to discover the beauty of visual communication, explore Deaf Culture, and develop a foundation in basic ASL skills. Throughout the class, students will engage in interactive activities, games, and cultural explorations to make the introduction to ASL both educational and fun.

## **ART STUDIO 9**

Art Studio 9 is an introduction to the variety of mediums that are offered throughout the art program at MBSS. Students will explore drawing, painting, sculpture, pottery and printmaking while building foundations in art. This course will encourage students to reflect on art and the creative process for self-expression and communication. We welcome every student at every level.

## **BOUCHERIE THEATRE COMPANY: Acting, Directing & Management 9 (OTT)**

Students in this course are part of the Boucherie Theatre Company. Students will work in the areas of stage acting, directing, theatre management, and applicable technical theatre work through the preparation and public performance of theatre productions. Students interested in performing in or being part of the crew of a major school production, are strongly encouraged to take this course. Please note, this course meets after school on certain days of the week, and additional days are added as we approach production dates. You must be eager, reliable, flexible and interested in all aspects of theatre to be successful. Students who take additional levels of this course will be expected to advance upon their skills and curricular competencies.

## **BOUCHERIE THEATRE PRODUCTION – Stagecraft & Costume Design 9 (OTT)**

Students in this course are part of the Boucherie Theatre Company. Students will work closely with the cast and crew in the areas of stagecraft and/or costume design. Costume design students will have the opportunity to develop hands-on skills such as designing, sewing, restyling, and crafting to create authentic costumes and accessories for the school's Major Production. Stagecraft students work in the areas of lighting, sound, and set construction and design. Please note: this course meets after school on certain days of the week, and additional days are added as we approach production dates. Students must be eager, reliable, flexible, and interested in learning about aspects of theatre to be successful. Students who take both levels of this course will be expected to advance upon their skills and curricular competencies and further develop their leadership skills.

## **CAREER EDUCATION 9 (Integrated Through Core Courses)**

All grade 9 students will receive Career Education delivered throughout the year by the career centre staff in an integrated model. During these sessions, students will engage on five big ideas: career goals, valuing diverse perspectives, achieving learning goals, flexibility in adapting to a changing job market, and career paths reflecting educational choices. One component of Careers 9 is "Take Our Kids to Work Day" in November, where all grade 9 students spend a day in the workplace with a parent, or other connected adult, learning about working life.

## **COMIC ARTS 9**

*"I really believe in the power of comic....., even ones as silly as mine, because they're a gateway to the actual thing. They're like an easy entrance."* — Kate Beaton

Explore the dynamic world of visual storytelling in this introductory Comic Arts course! Delve into the fundamentals of digital illustration while honing your skills in character design, cartooning, and stylization. From crafting expressive characters to mastering the art of visual narratives, this class offers a creative playground for aspiring comic artists, graphic novel enthusiasts, and animation aficionados. Unleash your imagination, learn essential techniques, and bring your ideas to life through the captivating art of comics and illustration.

## **COMPUTER ANIMATION 9**

This class emphasizes creation and creativity as you create and animate characters into their own story! This course is a basic introduction to the concepts and skills developed further in senior level animation courses. The course will focus on two areas: creating their own animated storyline using multiple characters and a plot of their own imagination, and introductory creation of 3D modeled animation characters using professional level software.

## **CONCERT BAND 9**

A wide variety of music will be rehearsed and performed as part of the Grade 9 Concert Band. Instrumental technique, music listening, and various enrichment activities will be included. Students are expected to engage in regular practice of both their music and technical exercises in order to achieve mastery of this level of music. Some music theory, music listening, and skill-building exercises will be included in the course curriculum. Students who have never been a part of a regular school band class are welcome to join Concert Band 9, provided they have the ability to read music. Orchestral string players are welcome! Concert Band 9 is a linear course and also includes an additional morning practice every second week. These morning rehearsals are a valuable opportunity to gain the skills necessary to be successful at the high school level and are highly recommended.

## **DANCE 9**

Welcome to Dance. No experience is necessary; all you need is a positive attitude and growth mindset. This active fun environment will push your endurance and improve your physical literacy. Warmups, across the floor skill building, and choreography will condition your mind and body. As a team we will collaborate our ideas for choreography and all dancers will showcase our works in the theater performance at the end of term.

## **DRAWING AND PAINTING 9**

This course is for students looking to develop, deepen and hone their art skills and experience. Students will engage in observational drawing and painting practices and learn about contemporary and historical artists that shape our understanding of the visual world today. Art materials that will be explored include acrylic and watercolour paint and a variety of drawing materials: ink, graphite and charcoal. Be ready to fill your sketchbook, grow your ideas of what art can be and most importantly, build drawing and painting skills!

## **ENGLISH 9**

English 9 aims to help students develop and further refine their communication and literacy skills to become more engaged and active citizens. The course focuses on reading, writing, and speaking skills. Students will be successful in this course when they can demonstrate their ability to understand and connect, as well as create and communicate in a variety of forms. Upon completion of the course, students will have a better understanding of the power and creativity of stories and texts and how they are interpreted uniquely by different perspectives. Also, they will be able to question and connect to what they read for deeper meaning. Students will have also built an understanding of the crafting process of writing and speaking to express their opinions, interpretations, and creativity.

## **FOODS 9**

This course may be taught out of one of the foods labs or the culinary kitchen. This fun and interactive course allows students to explore the applied skills area of Foods. In Foods 9 students will have hands-on experiences where they apply their Creative and Critical Thinking to foods. Through discussion and practice creating balanced meals, students will develop a mindfulness of how Personal Awareness and Responsibility impact a healthy lifestyle. Students will be asked to reflect on their Positive Personal & Cultural Identity and Social Responsibility and how their consumer choices impact themselves and world around them.

## **FRENCH 9 (10 week exploratory)**

Bienvenue à la classe de français! Welcome new and introductory language learners. Students will develop their language skills through stories, games and experiences. Students will engage with French-speaking identity through a variety of creative works. This course follows a comprehensible input (CI) method of teaching that allows students to acquire a natural approach to language learning.

## **INDIGENOUS CULTURE & LEADERSHIP 9**

Do you love making a difference in your school and community? Would you like to learn more about Indigenous culture and leadership opportunities? This course provides all youth (Indigenous and non-Indigenous) with exciting and engaging opportunities to learn and lead on the traditional territory of the syilx people. In this ten-week course, students will explore what it means to be a leader within their personal lives, as well as within their local and global community. They will learn foundational Indigenous concepts, including those from the syilx territory and all across Turtle Island. This course is part of the Academy of Indigenous Studies, but does not yet count towards the Provincial Requirement for an Indigenous focused course.

## **JAZZ BAND 9**

All Grade 8 students who are interested in playing in Jazz Band and are currently enrolled in Band 8 or have at least one years of playing experience, are encouraged to select this course (previous Jazz experience is an asset but is not required). Students are expected to engage in regular practice of both their music and technical exercises in order to achieve mastery of this level of music. Swing, Funk, Ballad, Latin, and Contemporary Jazz charts will be studied and performed in Jazz Band 9. Some music theory (mostly related to improvisation), music listening, and skill-building exercises will be included in the course curriculum. Jazz Band 9 is a linear course and also includes an additional morning practice every second week. These morning rehearsals are a valuable opportunity to gain the skills necessary to be successful at the high school level and are highly recommended.

## **JAZZ STUDIES 9: (OTT)**

### **RECOMMENDED: Jazz Experience**

Jazz Studies, also known as Jazz Combo, is a small ensemble that usually consists of a rhythm section and one or more wind instruments or vocalists. The Jazz Combo ensemble was the dominant format for groups heard on major Jazz recordings from the 1950's and onward. Emphasis is on the further development of jazz improvisation theory, leadership skills, and ensemble playing skills. Rehearsals may be held before school, at lunchtime, or after school. Each combo must rehearse twice per week at times chosen by the band which are conducive to each member's schedule for the entire year. Jazz Combos are also asked to play gigs independent of the music department. Often, these gigs are played without pay, but as the experience level of the combo increases, opportunities for paid gigs do occur. Students who take both levels of this course will be expected to advance upon their skills and curricular competencies.

## **MACHINING/INTRO TO WELDING 9**

Do you enjoy working with industrial tools? This course introduces students to a series of personalized projects with precision machine tools. Students will become confident and comfortable using hand tools, the lathe, drill press and milling machine. The Second module introduces students to the safe use of GMAW (MIG welding) through a student-centered project. *Machining/Intro to Welding 9* is different than *Sheet Metal/ Intro to Welding 9*, you can sign up for both.

## **MATH 9**

In Math 9, students will develop mathematical understandings, and critical-thinking and communication skills required to be successful in math. They will explore a variety of topics including problem solving, number sense, and financial literacy. Through investigations of relations, functions, and polynomials, students will continue to develop the required algebra skills to solve problems. After successful completion of this course, students will be ready to enroll in Workplace Math 10 or Foundations & Pre-Calculus 10.

## **MEDIA ARTS 9**

*"The moment you are making art, you are no longer an aspiring artist. You're just an artist, so do it. Make it right now."* — Rebecca Sugar

Media Arts 9 is a gateway to the exciting world of digital art! This computer-based art class is all about diving into the foundations of digital art creation. Together we will explore topics such as photo manipulation, graphic design, and print media. Get ready to explore the tools and techniques of Photoshop as we learn how to bring our ideas to life on the digital canvas. Whether you're a beginner or have some experience, this course will kickstart your journey into the realm of creative digital arts!

## **METAL ART AND JEWELRY 9**

Need some bling? Create novelty Jewelry using various methods and materials. In this class students will explore creative expression through metal art. Students will learn about design aspects and then develop their own project throughout the course.

*\*A nominal project fee will be associated with this course.*

## **PHYSICAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION 9**

In this course, students will understand that daily participation in different types of physical activity influences physical literacy, and personal health and fitness goals. Students will know that lifelong participation in physical activity has many benefits, is an essential part of a healthy lifestyle, and positively influences our emotional and mental well-being.

## **POTTERY AND SCULPTURE 9**

Sculpture 9 is a hands-on course that will introduce students to a variety of 3D art methods. Students will receive an introduction to clay hand building techniques as well as explore sculptural materials like cardboard, wire, and found materials. We welcome every student at every level.

## **ROBOTICS 9**

This course is a basic introduction to the concepts and skills developed further in senior level robotics courses. Based around a Design Thinking approach and self-directed learning, students inquire into and are exposed to the construction and programming of robotics. Students are given a series of mechanical and competitive challenges to try and deduce and implement the best possible solution.

## **SCIENCE 9**

Science 9 is a general topic course designed to expose students to a variety of science interests. Science 9 curriculum focuses around four big ideas: biology - cells are derived from cells; chemistry - the electron arrangement of atoms impacts their chemical nature; physics - electric current is the flow of electric charge; and ecology - the biosphere, geosphere, hydrosphere, and atmosphere are interconnected, as matter cycles and energy flows through them.

## **SEWING 9**

This introductory course will teach you the basics of how to make and design your own clothing. No previous sewing experience is needed. Projects in the past have included: a pencil case, a grocery bag, pj shorts and a raglan sleeve t-shirt. This hands-on course will apply your Creative and Critical Thinking. In Sewing 9 students will be asked to reflect on their Personal and Social Responsibility and how their consumer choices impact themselves and world around them. To see what is going on the Sewing room please check out our website: <https://sites.google.com/learn.sd23.bc.ca/mbss-fashion-sewing/home-economics-9>

## **SHEET METAL/INTRO TO WELDING 9**

Do you enjoy working with your hands? This course introduces students to design, layout and forming sheet metal with specialized equipment. Students will become familiar and comfortable with design, layout and construction through a series of individualized projects. The Second module introduces students to the safe use of GMAW (MIG welding) through a student-centered project. *Sheet Metal/ Intro to Welding 9* is different than *Machining/Intro to Welding 9*, you can sign up for both.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES 9**

In Social Studies 9, students will develop their knowledge and skills to become an active, informed citizen who can think critically. The course largely focuses on events between 1750-1919 in order to understand how Canada and other parts of the world have been influenced by ideas, environment, power, and identity. By studying many different cultures and ways of life that exist and have existed throughout the world, students will develop both a deeper understanding of the differences between people and an appreciation of the aspects of human experience shared across time and space. Most importantly, students will develop their historical thinking skills and apply them to our modern world. Skills and knowledge gained in this class can be applied to various fields of study and will prepare students for Social Studies 10.

## **SPANISH 9 (10 week exploratory)**

¡Bienvenidos al mundo español! Welcome new and introductory language learners. Students will begin to develop their language skills through stories, games and experiences. Discovering different regional variations of language and culture, students will engage with Spanish-speaking identity through a variety of creative works. This course follows a comprehensible input (CI) method of teaching that allows students to acquire a natural approach to language learning.

## **STUDENT LEADERSHIP 9**

Help to make MBSS a fun and exciting place! In this course, students will learn how to plan, promote, & lead school events and activities, as they work with a team of leaders to build school spirit. Students will also develop individual character & leadership skills that will help make their school, community, and world a better place. In this class, students will learn more about what it means to be a responsible, kind, respectful, inclusive leader, committed to making a positive difference. They will also learn how to be more creative, how to find solutions to school wide issues, how to use their strengths to work with other people, how to organize, communicate, and promote events and causes, & how to create fun and excitement in our school. In order to make all of this learning possible, students will be expected to volunteer at lunch-time, after school, or during breaks to help with school events, and to be ready to have fun while you learn lifelong leadership skills. This is a mixed grade level course of students from grades 9 through 12. Students who take additional levels of this course will be expected to advance upon their skills and curricular competencies & further develop their leadership skills. Students are required to complete a course application and teacher reference form.

## **STUDY SKILLS 9**

Study Skills 9 is a 10-week course designed to help you understand how you learn and give you the practical tools to manage your time, stay organized, and study effectively. This class is less about "what" to learn and more about "how" to learn, so you can feel more confident and successful in all your classes. The course is broken into 4 Topics: 1. Understanding Your Brain (Executive Functions, metacognition, personal strengths and weaknesses, what affects brain performance), 2. Organization and Planning (create a personal system to track assignments and deadlines, breaking tasks down into manageable chunks), 3. Time Management & Prioritization (what should I do first, procrastination triggers, keeping track of time), and 4. Effective Study Strategies (how to study effectively, study tools, how to use AI to study and learn). You will use the courses that you are already taking to create personal materials to work smarter, not harder. Our class is a "practice lab" to build productive habits to build success!

## **TEXTILE ARTS AND CRAFTS 9**

Textiles Arts and Crafts 9 is an opportunity to learn a variety of traditional and modern skills using different fiber mediums and crafting techniques. This project-based learning opportunity will explore how textiles arts and crafts are used for traditions and culture. Units will be tailored to the interest of the class and could include cross-stitch, basic embroidery, macramé, paper crafts and many more. Students will be given the opportunity to individualize their projects to express their personal identity and creativity. No prior skills in art, textiles or crafting are needed. Come join us to learn a new hobby or expand your crafting skills.

## **WOODWORK 9 - DESIGN AND CONSTRUCT CUSTOM PROJECTS**

The main goal of this course is to give you an understanding and application of woodworking and woodworking procedures. Students will learn product design, layout, safe and proper machine/tool use and adjustment. Use of your own original designs, customization and creativity are highly encouraged. You will build customized projects and add personal designs! Students will become comfortable using processes such as carving and shaping wood using tools such as chisels, gouges, lathes and other woodworking power tools. If you like to build stuff, this is the course for you! Projects in this class are different than the projects in *Woodwork 9 – Power Tool Projects*, so you can sign up for both.

## **WOODWORK 9 - POWER TOOL PROJECTS**

This is an applied skills course where students will learn the basics of woodworking by building customized projects and adding personal designs! Students will become comfortable using different processes - a variety of cutting, shaping and joining techniques, while using machines such as the mitresaw, jointer, planer and tablesaw. If you like to build stuff, this is the course for you! Projects in this class are different than the projects in *Woodwork 9 – Design and Construct Custom Projects*, so you can sign up for both.

## YEARBOOK 9: (OTT)

\*Note: This course is scheduled outside the regular timetable

*"Design creates culture. Culture shapes values. Values determine the future."* - Robert L. Peters

Students who are interested in photography, journalism, or design should take Yearbook! This course provides students with the opportunity to explore and expand their photography, communication, and design skills while documenting school events throughout the year. This is a fast-paced course that requires commitment, availability outside of school hours, independence, professionalism, flexibility, and creativity. Collaboratively, we will produce, design, and distribute this year's yearbook! Students who take all levels of this course will be expected to advance upon their skills and curricular competencies.

