

MAPLE RIDGE SECONDARY SCHOOL

ECOLE SECONDAIRE MAPLE RIDGE

Creating Community, Providing Opportunity

2023-2024

Maple Ridge Secondary School

MRSS is a dual track English & French Immersion school with a proud history. At MRSS we combine the best educational practices that lead to academic success. By blending traditional approaches to learning with cutting edge technology, MRSS achieves the highest scholarship totals, the highest transition post secondary rates and the highest ranking of our district in the Fraser Institute report.

Students develop their academic and personal skills through collaborative and independent learning. They also have access to on-line learning to complement the vast options at Maple Ridge Secondary School. While it is not required, students are encouraged to bring their laptops and tablet computers to school to take advantage of the many on-line learning resources and teacher web pages available to them.



Pursuing Excellence

Extensive involvement and commitment by staff beyond the classroom creates a variety of rich experiences where students continue their pursuit of excellence. MRSS have earned many team and individual provincial championships. Fine Art students are regularly recognized both at home and abroad as representatives of their school and community. During the year our music program invites the larger community to various concerts showcasing the jazz band, concert band, concert choir, a cappella choir and vocal jazz.

PROGRAM CHOICES

English Program:

This is the standard course curriculum which follows expectations defined by the Ministry of Education.

French Immersion:

The French Immersion program leads to bilingual graduation. The purpose of the program is to offer students the opportunity to learn subjects in an immersion context in order to be able to attain a high level of fluency in the language by the end of grade 12. The program intends to offer the best available courses and curriculum to complement the studies of a student who would like to graduate with a bilingual certificate.

School Activities

MRSS provides a range of activities designed to provide students with an opportunity to add to the quality of their school life, to make new friends, learn new skills, and become involved in our school. Some of the activities include: Bottle Drives, Chess Club, Coding Club, Community Dinners, Dances, Food Drives, LINK Crew, Jersey Days, Open Gym, Pink Shirt Day, Rainbow Connection, Scorekeeping, Strategic Games Club, Student Council, World Scholars and more. Our team sports include: badminton, ball hockey, basketball, cheerleading, cross country, field hockey, field lacrosse, golf, powerlifting, rugby, soccer, tennis, track & field, volleyball, and wrestling.



Special Education

At Maple Ridge Secondary we work hard to ensure the learning needs of all students are met. Special Education at MRSS covers a variety of services for students with special needs. Currently there are eight case managers who deal with students requiring adapted or modified programming.

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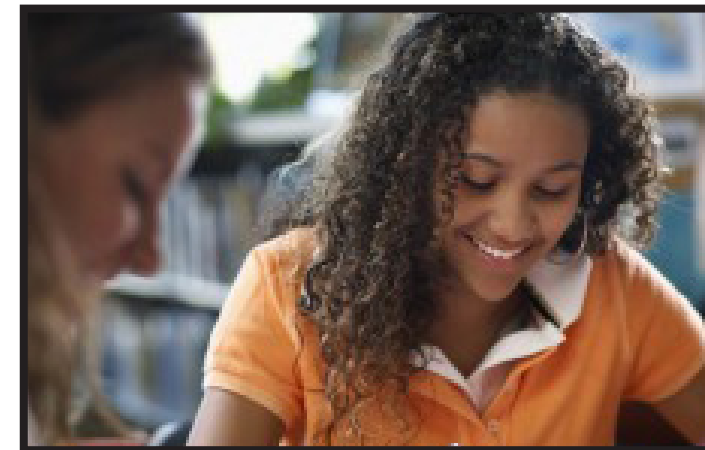
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English Language Arts 8

English 8 is a compulsory academic course which focuses on strengthening communication skills. Writing is developed with a particular emphasis on the construction of expository, narrative, and descriptive paragraphs. Students are introduced to the writing process of prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing. Grammar and mechanics are taught by looking at the basic parts of speech, punctuation, and sentence structure. Reading skills are practised and evaluated in literature studies, which provide the content behind the writing assignments. Students can expect to read novels, short stories, and poems, examining them all for both basic comprehension and critical analysis. In addition, oral communication skills are practised in activities ranging from informal discussions and debates, to formal public speaking.



Français Langue 8

Français Langue 8 is designed to help French Immersion students develop proficient oral communication skills, as well as listening, reading, and writing skills. Students are introduced to literature in French. Students can expect to read from a variety of materials, develop grammar skills, write compositions, and engage in oral presentations.

Languages 8

The Languages 8 course provides students with a glimpse of four important world languages: French, German, Spanish, and Japanese. Each language rotation lasts 10 weeks. All four language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) are developed through topics dealing with everyday situations. Emphasis is on oral communication.

Mathematics 8

Math 8 will cover topics in logic, percent, square roots, perfect squares and cubes, rates, proportions, fractions, two step equations, surface area and volume, probability and financial literacy.

Physical Education 8 Education Physique 8

Physical and Health Education 8/Education Physique 8 introduces students to a variety of team and individual sports. Emphasis lies in students understanding the importance of a healthy lifestyle and having fun playing sports. Activities include badminton, basketball, field hockey, football, road hockey, rugby, dancing, softball, tennis, track and field, weight training, and wrestling, minor games and a full day hiking trip.

Social Studies 8 Sciences Humaines 8

Social Studies 8/Sciences Humaines 8 is an introductory high school course that examines the areas of historical world events from 7th century to 1750, physical geography, and current events. Students will be introduced to Historical Thinking concepts and skills that include establishing historical significance, identifying continuity and change, analyzing cause and consequence, using primary source evidence, taking a historical perspective, and understanding ethical dimensions of historical events. Key themes for study in this course include social, political, and economic systems and structures of the past, major scientific and technological innovations, philosophical and cultural shifts in society, the impacts of exploration, expansion and colonization, the interactions and exchange of resources and ideas between different groups, and the changes in population and living standards.

Science 8

The Science 8 curriculum includes content from Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Earth Science. Students will develop the skills, processes, attitudes, and scientific habits that allow them to pursue their own inquiries using scientific methods. Biology examines the relationship of micro-organisms with living things, the immune system, vaccinations and the impact of epidemics and pandemics on human populations. Earth Science investigates layers of the earth, plate tectonics and major local geological events. Physical Science looks at the properties and behaviours of light, how we sense it, the Kinetic Molecular Theory (KMT) and atomic models. Using critical thinking, creative insight, and their current scientific knowledge, students work together to explore, problem solve, communicate, discover, learn, and increase their understanding of science through hands-on experiences.



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EXPLORATIONS / DISCOVERY 8 CLASSES

Students have two blocks in which they will be introduced to all of the following subject areas.

Art 8 / Beaux Arts 8

This course builds basic art skills, drawing, painting, art criticism, lettering and print making. Emphasis is on art techniques and improvement of drawing skills.

Business Education 8

This course introduces students to the key-board, basic word processing skills, basic computing skills, and some business skills.

Career Education 8

The role of Career Education 8 is to assist students in their personal development. Career Education 8 will introduce graduation requirements and reflective practice in relation to goal setting. Students will also examine various career options, the roles of community and school in career planning, and further their exploration of cultural and social awareness.

Drama 8

When your parents ask you what you did in school today, you will have lots to tell them after a Drama class. Improvisation skills and play creation keep this class very active and fun. Be prepared to move, laugh and be a great audience.

Home Economics

Students will develop skills in cooking and sewing. In Food Studies students learn about meal planning and simple meal preparation of things like pancakes, macaroni and cheese, and apple crumble. Personal nutrition needs are also examined. In Textile Studies, students will be introduced to basic sewing terms and techniques, and will make a simple project like a pair of shorts.

Industrial Education 8

Exposes students to woodwork, computer assisted drafting, and metalwork.

Indigenous Studies 8

Indigenous Studies 8 is a new course which explores Indigenous cultures, beliefs, and history to help educate students about the principles of Truth & Reconciliation. Students examine topics like identity, racism, allyship, and colonialism. Students learn about the government of Canada's attempts to destroy Indigenous cultures through the Indian Act and Residential Schools, and the strength and resilience of Indigenous peoples in the face of these challenges. The class features talking circle class discussions, Indigenous storytelling, the 7 Sacred Grandfather Teachings, current Indigenous heroes in Canada, movies, and fun art projects.

Leadership 8

Students discover the leadership abilities that can be found in themselves and others. Students participate in role-playing, discussions, videos, music, presentations, community volunteering, and activities. Despite the course only spanning ten weeks, students will undoubtedly want to continue leading past our last day of the course. Bit by bit, they will make the world a better place for all because of it!



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FINE ARTS ELECTIVE COURSES: BAND and CHOIR

MRSS is well known in the community and the province for its high caliber music program. Ensembles from MRSS have taken top awards at festivals from Hawaii to San Francisco to Disneyland. Students in the music department develop strong leadership and communication skills and quickly become a close-knit group.

Beginner Band

Did you miss out on joining band in elementary school, and now wish you learned that instrument you've always dreamed of? Maybe you are already in band or choir, but always wanted to try out a different instrument? Well it's never too late to join band at MRSS! We are pleased to offer a new Beginning Band open to all students grade 8 - 12 who have never played a concert band instrument before. Instruments for beginners to choose from include Flute, Clarinet, Alto Sax, Trumpet, Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba, or Percussion. Experienced band students who wish to learn a more advanced instrument may also choose from Oboe, Bassoon, Bass Clarinet, and French Horn. While every effort will be made to allow everyone's first choice instrument, students may need to choose an alternative choice in order to better facilitate balanced instrumentation for the ensemble. Opportunities for solo and ensemble playing, public performance, and service hours are a part of this course.

Concert Choir (A.M. BLOCK)

In this course you will learn how to sing with good vocal technique, learn basic music reading and take part singing in a variety of music styles. The course is designed to develop each student's individual musical skills, learn the responsibilities and value of being a member of a musical ensemble and to continue to foster a life-long love of music. You will have two amazing privileges singing in choir: to be affected by performing music with a community of singers with the same goals and to affect; and evoke emotion of those present in your audience. **Rehearsals take place on TUESDAY and Thursday mornings from 7:00-8:15am.**

Concert Band (A.M. Block)

The Concert Band is an intermediate level ensemble for students with a minimum of 1-2 years playing experience on a concert band instrument. Students will continue to develop fundamental skills, learn music theory, and begin to branch out into more advanced techniques and ensemble playing. Opportunities for solo and ensemble playing, public performance, and service hours are a part of this course. This course is also well suited for grade 10, 11, and 12 students who are either less experienced on their instrument or need to develop their playing skills a bit further, but will also serve as peer mentors to younger musicians before moving on to the Wind Ensemble. This course provides the opportunity for students to take both band and another elective course. **The course will run Wednesday and Friday mornings from 7:00am - 8:20am.**

Musical Theatre

This course is an introduction to and an exploration of Musical Theatre! It is intended to provide students with an understanding of the elements of Musical Theatre, examining both performance and technical theatre within the framework of a Musical Theatre Workshop. Students will have the opportunity to explore the many elements of Musical Theatre through researching, experiencing and performing. As well, students will be guided through a triad of musical (vocal development), movement (basic group choreography) and acting (the use of voice and body to communicate character). There will be a small performance at the end of the rotation. This Grade 8 Course is a part of the Grade 8 Fine Arts Rotation.

