

# *Didsbury High School*

*Explore, Achieve, Excel*



DIDSBURY HIGH SCHOOL

Grade 9

2017-2018 Program Course Information

## Welcome to Grade 9 at DHS

This booklet has been assembled to provide students and parents with an overview of our school and some basic information about the grade 9 program that we offer. It also includes our school philosophy statement, course descriptions and Alberta High School Diploma requirements.

As part of welcoming new students to Didsbury High School, we scheduled the following:

- Students choose options courses for the 2017-2018 year. Parents are required to sign and return forms to Westglen School as soon as possible.
- Parent/Student Orientation Night on Tuesday, May 26, 7:00 P.M. in the DHS Library.

Parents and students should discuss course choices before the signed option selection form is completed and submitted. The decisions made will influence future course eligibility and perhaps career possibilities following high school.

Course planning is an important step in reaching your educational goals. Careful consideration should be given to the following:

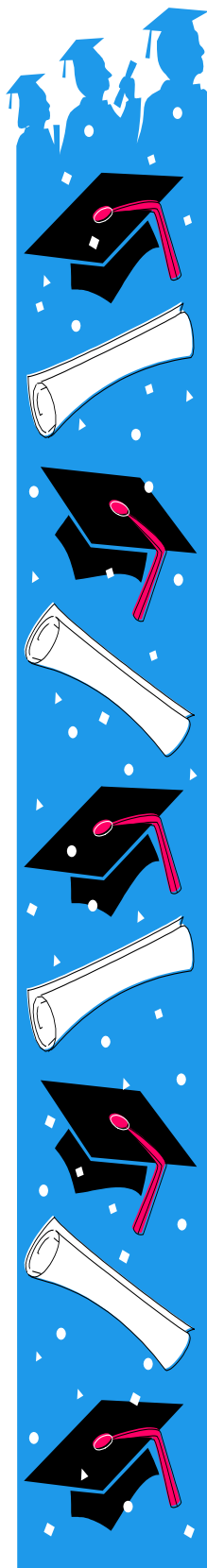
- High School Diploma Requirements.
- Interests and past performance in school.
- Plans for the future (employment and future education).
- Relationships between individual courses and goals.
- Prerequisite requirements.

The selection of courses should be based on as much information as possible. The course descriptions in this booklet are brief. Subject teachers can provide more information regarding course content and prerequisite requirements. Planning a total high school program early will prove very advantageous to students.

We look forward to meeting our new students and their parents. We want to make the transition from middle school to high school as smooth as possible. Students or parents are encouraged to call the school (335-3356) if they have any questions.



# Alberta High School Diploma Requirements



The Alberta High School Diploma is an official document issued by the Department of Education certifying that the holder has completed a prescribed program of instruction under the direction and supervision of Alberta Learning.

The diploma does not necessarily grant admission to post-secondary institutions. Students should be aware that there are a variety of entrance requirements for post-secondary institutions and that they should plan their programs accordingly. Further information on specific post-secondary entrance requirements is available from the school guidance counsellor.

Diploma requirements for each year of your program should be considered carefully. It is expected that a minimum of 40 credits be taken both in grade ten (10) and grade eleven (11). This will provide the necessary foundation of prerequisites as well as allowing for some flexibility in the selection of courses for the grade twelve (12) year. In grade twelve (12), a minimum of 35 credits should be taken. This recommended program allows for flexibility and completion should a student experience difficulty. It also allows DHS to offer a well rounded selection of courses at the high school level.

To earn an Alberta High School Diploma, a student must:

- ◇ Earn a minimum of 100 credits
- ◇ Meet the standards and complete the following courses:
  - ◇ English Language Arts 30-1 or 30-2
  - ◇ Social Studies 30-1 or 30-2
  - ◇ Math 20-1 or 20-2 or 20-3
  - ◇ Science 24 or Biology 20 or Chemistry 20 or Physics 20
  - ◇ Physical Education 10 (3 credits)
  - ◇ CALM (3 credits)
- ◇ Meet the standards and complete the following:
  - ◇ 10 credits in any combination from:
    - ◇ Career & Technology Studies (CTS)
    - ◇ Physical Education 20 and/or 30
    - ◇ Fine Arts or Second Languages
    - ◇ Locally developed/acquired and authorized courses in CTS, Fine Arts or Second Languages
  - ◇ 10 credits in any 30-level courses (including locally developed/acquired and authorized courses) in addition to English Language Arts 30-1 or 30-2 and Social Studies 30-1 or 30-2.

## Academic Counsellor

Mr. Klein is the Guidance Counsellor at Didsbury High School. His role is to provide assistance to the students of Didsbury High School in the areas of program & course selection, course changes, planning for post-secondary education, scholarships, study and work skills and occupation interest inventories. You may make an appointment to see Mr. Klein in the Guidance Centre.

## DHS Student Information

This information is designed to provide you with some basic details on the school's expectations and programs. If you require further information, please ask at the office.

### BELL SCHEDULE

Doors open	8:00 a.m.
Warning bell	8:31 a.m.
Period 1	8:35 – 9:42a.m.
Break	9:42– 9:46 a.m.
Period 2	9:46 – 10:53 a.m.
Break	10:53 – 10:57 a.m.
Period 3	10:57 – 12:04 p.m.
Lunch break	12:04 – 12:52 p.m.
Warning bell	12:52 – 12:56 p.m.
Period 4	12:56– 2:03 p.m.
Break	2:03 – 2:07 p.m.
Period 5	2:07 - 3:14 p.m.
Dismissal	3:14 p.m.

### ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance is very important, as it effects marks and sets good habits. When a student cannot attend school, parents should call and notify the school of their son/daughter's absence. The school can be contacted at any time and messages may be left on the answering machine at 335-3356.

A student who is absent from school without the prior approval of the parent or school administration will be considered truant.

Truancy may result in suspension. No student will be excused from exams for reasons other than illness, unless prior arrangements have been made with the teacher.



### LEAVING THE SCHOOL

Students are to sign out at the office when leaving the school for any reason. The office will contact home for confirmation.

### LATENESS

Unnecessary lateness interferes with the effective operation of the school. We encourage punctuality as a courtesy to both staff and fellow students and as a good training for the future.

### CONDUCT

It is important that interactions with teachers and their students always be of a polite, positive, courteous and respectful in nature. Students are reminded of the School Act which states "A STUDENT SHALL CONDUCT HIMSELF SO AS TO REASONABLY COMPLY WITH THE FOLLOWING CODE OF CONDUCT"

- Be diligent in pursuing his studies.
- Attend school regularly and punctually.
- Co-operate fully with everyone authorized by the Board to provide education and other services.
- Comply with the rules of the school.
- Account to his/her teachers for his/her conduct.
- Respect the rights of others.

Consequences for not following the code may result in:

- detention at lunch or before/after school
- suspension from extra curricular activities
- out of school suspension (max 5 days)
- expulsion from school

Parents will be contacted with each consequence.

### SMOKING

Students are not allowed to smoke at DHS. Suspension will result from violation of this rule.

### SCHOOL FEES

- Junior High School Fee \$79.00
- (includes Student Accident Insurance)
- P. E. Community Use Fee \$10.00
- Yearbook (optional) \$45.00
- Shop \$21.00
- Home Ec. \$21.00
- Locks & Locker Rental \$2.00
- Music (Instrument Rental) \$125.00
- Percussion Fee \$50.00
- Gr. 9 P.E. Gym Strip \$30.00
- includes a t-shirt and a pair of shorts

**School Fees are due and payable within 30 days. Students with outstanding fees after this time, unless alternative arrangements have been made, will not be allowed to participate in any school extra-curricular activities.**

## DHS Student Information (*Continued*)

### **COURSE INFORMATION**

At the commencement of each course teachers will supply students with a detailed outline of the course. This outline will include core objectives, course content, and evaluation procedures and mark weighting.

It is very important for students to fully understand how marks will be awarded for the courses that they are taking.

### **REPORT CARDS**

Student reports are issued twice for semester courses and four times for full year courses. Parents are advised to check on their students progress often through their Powerschool portal. Parent/teacher interviews are held after the first reporting period of each semester. Parents are encouraged to contact the school at any time to arrange for an interview with teachers.

### **APPEAL PROCEDURES**

A student or parent has the right to appeal the final mark granted in a course. The letter should outline on what basis the appeal is being made. The initial appeal should be made to the teacher involved through a personal interview.

If the student or parent is still not satisfied, an appeal must be made to the principal in writing within five days of receiving the final mark.

Should a student not be satisfied with the outcome of an appeal made to the principal, the student may request a hearing from an appeal committee appointed by the Superintendent of Schools.

### **STUDENT AWARDS**

In the fall of the next school year the qualifying honour roll students will be presented with a School Honour Roll Pin and certificate at Awards Night.

Students with an 80% average on the subjects or credits stipulated below will qualify for the honour roll.

Grade 9: the top four core subjects and one option.

Grade 10, 11,12 – the top 25 credits similar to the Rutherford requirements.

### **STUDENT DRESS**

Dress is generally a matter for parent and student discretion. However, if dress is distracting to learning, or is not conducive to setting a good moral tone, the student will be asked to change. In particular, offensive slogans, sayings or pictures on clothing will not be allowed in school. Hats are not to be worn indoors.

### **SCHOOL LOCKS**

The school supplies locks for the students at a cost of \$5.00 per lock. Lockers must be locked to prevent theft and damage to personal belongings. All students are required to have a school lock. If the lock is defective it will be replaced free of charge.

### **PHONE**

A student phone is available for student use at the office. It is the policy of the school not to call students out of class to receive a phone call except under emergency conditions. Any necessary incoming messages will be posted on a central message board. It is the students' individual responsibility to check the message board for messages. Only in an emergency situation will students be paged to the office for messages.

### **LITTERING**

It is expected that the school building and surrounding yard shall be maintained free of litter by students, as garbage disposal units are provided in the classroom, hallways, foyers and outside for their use. Students may be required to assist in keeping the building and grounds clean.



## Compulsory Course Descriptions

Grade 9 curriculum is based on the Alberta Learning *Program of Studies: Junior High Schools*. The following course information has been taken directly from this document. A complete copy of this document may be obtained from Alberta Learning's website at [www.learning.gov.ab.ca](http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca)



### ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 9

The aim of English Language Arts is to enable each student to understand and appreciate language, and to use it confidently and competently in a variety of situations for communication, personal satisfaction and learning. By the end of grade 9, students will listen, speak, read, write, view and represent to: explore thoughts, ideas, feelings and experiences; comprehend and respond personally and critically to oral, print and other media texts; manage ideas and information; enhance the clarity and artistry of communication; and respect, support and collaborate with others.

### MATHEMATICS 9

The main goals of mathematics education are to prepare students to: use mathematics confidently to solve problems; communicate and reason mathematically; appreciate and value mathematics; commit themselves to lifelong learning; become mathematically literate adults, using mathematics to contribute to society.

The mathematics content is organized in four strands: number; patterns and relations; shape and space; and statistics and probability.

### SOCIAL STUDIES 9

Social studies helps students to learn basic knowledge, skills and attitudes needed to become responsible citizens and contributing members of society. Social studies includes the study of history, geography, economics, the behavioural sciences and humanities. Grade 9 social studies focuses on different perspectives of economic growth.

Three topics are identified for Grade 9: Economic Growth: United States of America; Economic Growth: A Case Study of the Former U.S.S.R and; Canada Responding to Change.

### SCIENCE 9

In this course students will be introduced to six major concepts: Diversity of Living Things; Fluids and Pressure; Heat Energy: Transfer and Conservation; Electromagnetic Systems; Chemical Properties and Changes and Environmental Quality. Each of these concepts emphasizes the nature of science and the relationship among science, technology and society.

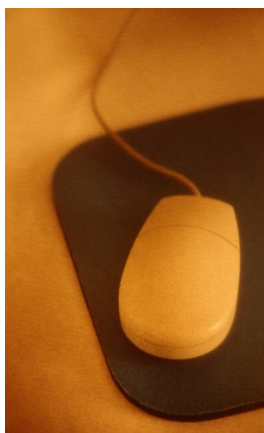


### PHYSICAL EDUCATION 9

The physical education program curriculum has a new and exciting direction in that the focus is on each individual experiencing success in the school setting and in the future. (The emphasis has been placed on four general outcomes that are organized into broad categories in order to facilitate specific outcomes). They are: Activity, Health Benefits, Cooperation and Do it Daily for Life!

### HEALTH & PERSONAL LIFE SKILLS

Health education is a responsibility shared with home, school and the community. The curriculum is arranged around five themes: Self-awareness and Acceptance; Relating to Others; Life Careers; Body Knowledge & Care and Human Sexuality.



### PRACTICAL ARTS 9

Grade 9 students study Practical Arts throughout the school year. It consists of three main components: Home Economics, Industrial Education and Computers.

## Optional Course Descriptions

### **BAND 9 (Concert Band)**

*Prerequisite: grade 8 music or the ability to play instruments.*



This course allows you to study music as part of a group. Three areas will be emphasized—the development of the individual’s performing and music reading abilities, techniques of ensemble playing (intonation, blend, balance, phrasing, etc.) and the exploration and performance of a wide spectrum of musical literature. Students in this class form the DHS Grade 9 Concert Band.

### **ART 9**



In art, students are expected to learn how to express their personal feelings and intuitions and to become art critics. To achieve this, students are expected to use traditional and contemporary tools, materials and media, to think like artists, to value the art creation, and to value the art form.

### **TV VIDEO PRODUCTION**

Students will have an opportunity to analyze commercials and film, create scripts and storyboards, as well as explore the areas of camera operations, shots and movements, lighting, and audio recording. Students will be evaluated on individual and group work.

## Grade 9 Supply List 2017-2018

- Loose leaf paper and/or notebooks
- Graph paper
- Binders
- Pens, Pencils, Erasers, White Out
- Pencil Crayons
- Geometry Sets
- Ruler
- Backpack or bag to carry books home
- Scientific Calculator



***DIDSBURY HIGH SCHOOL***

***Grade 9***

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