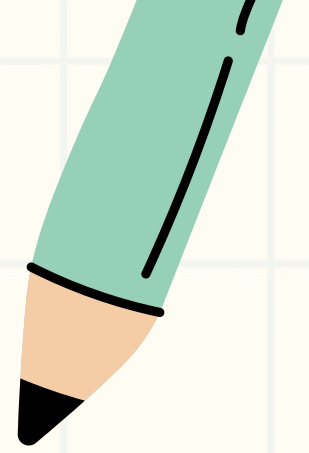




# PLANNING 4 SUCCESS!

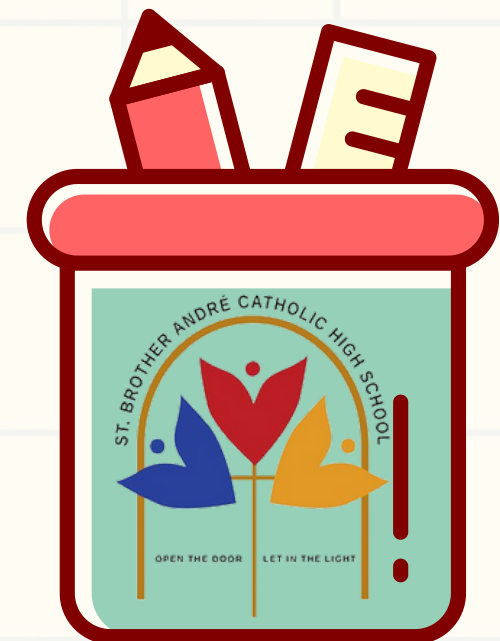


**Course Selection Considerations for Students  
Entering High School 2026/2027**

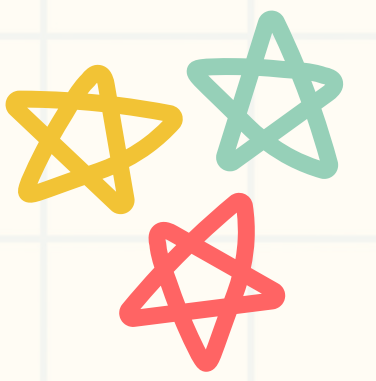


**Ms. Cosentino**

**January 13, 2026**



# WELCOME TO SBA!



The Course Selection process may be new if this is the first time registering a child for high school. This evening's presentation will outline the following in the hopes of helping:

- ✓ What are the pathways options available? What are the course types?
- ✓ Important Considerations for short- and long-term planning
- ✓ The course selection process and Student Activity Fee





# WHAT PATHWAYS OPTIONS EXIST FOR STUDENTS?

the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) is not the only possible outcome for a Secondary education in Ontario. There are three possible pathways that reflect specific post-secondary destinations.

- ✓ Ontario Secondary Diploma
- ✓ Ontario Secondary Certificate
- ✓ Certificate of Accomplishment





# ONTARIO SECONDARY DIPLOMA (OSSD)

## Pathway to...

- College
- University
- Certified Apprenticeship
- Private training programs
- Workplace

## Requirements

- 30 credits, ANY course type that are credit-bearing
- 40 hours of Christian community service
- EQAO Literacy requirement
- specific mandatory courses and electives





# ONTARIO SECONDARY CERTIFICATE (OSSC)

## Pathway to...

- Workplace - employment not requiring a high school diploma
- Vocational Program

## Requirements

- 14 credits minimum; specific mandatory courses
- Most likely Open or Locally-Developed; combination of credit and non-credit bearing courses
- 0 hours of community service
- no EQAO Literacy requirement



# CERTIFICATE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT

## Pathway to...

- Specialized Community Adult Programming
- Community Living or Residential Programs

\*\*\*This is predetermined, before the student begins high school; typical length of program is 7 years.

## Requirements

- Fully alternative, non-credit bearing program
- Integration in up to 3 classes and one specialized Functional Life Skills class
- For students who are eligible, Work Experience Program





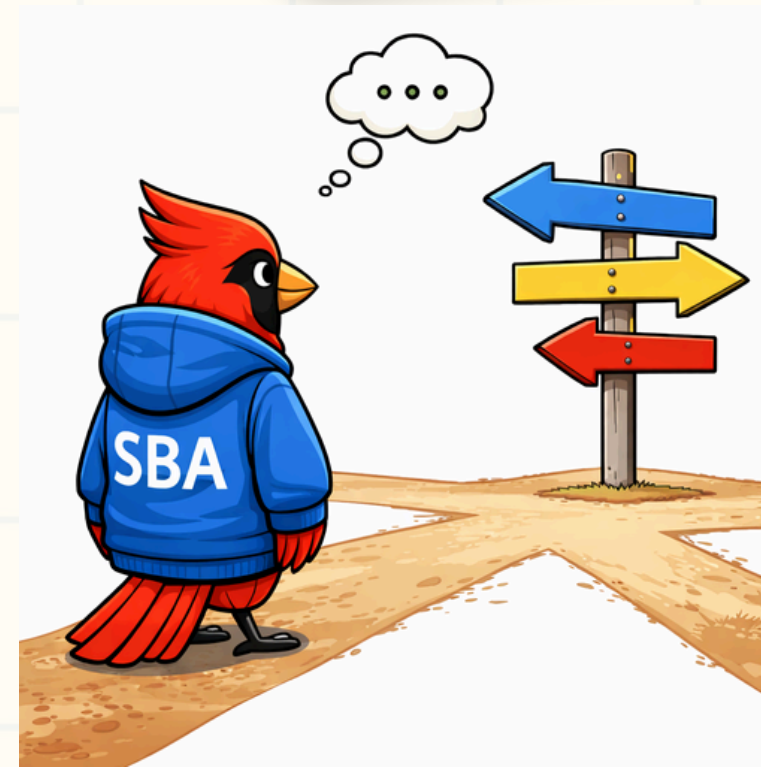
# COURSE TYPES

## DESTREAMED - Gr. 9 Only

All students learn together in one course that includes a range of learning activities and supports so every student can succeed and explore future pathways.

## OPEN - Gr. 9-12

Open courses are for all students and not tied to a specific post-secondary pathway. They allow students to explore interests, develop skills, and broaden their learning without a direct university/college/workplace focus.



# COURSE TYPES

## ACADEMIC - Gr. 10 only

These courses focus on theoretical and abstract thinking, preparing students for further study in the same subject area. They emphasize analysis, critical thinking and conceptual understanding — useful for students aiming for university or mixed post-secondary options.

## APPLIED - Gr. 10 only

Applied courses focus more on practical applications, real-world examples, and hands-on learning. They help students build strong foundational skills and are often chosen by students interested in college, workplace, or apprenticeship pathways after high school.





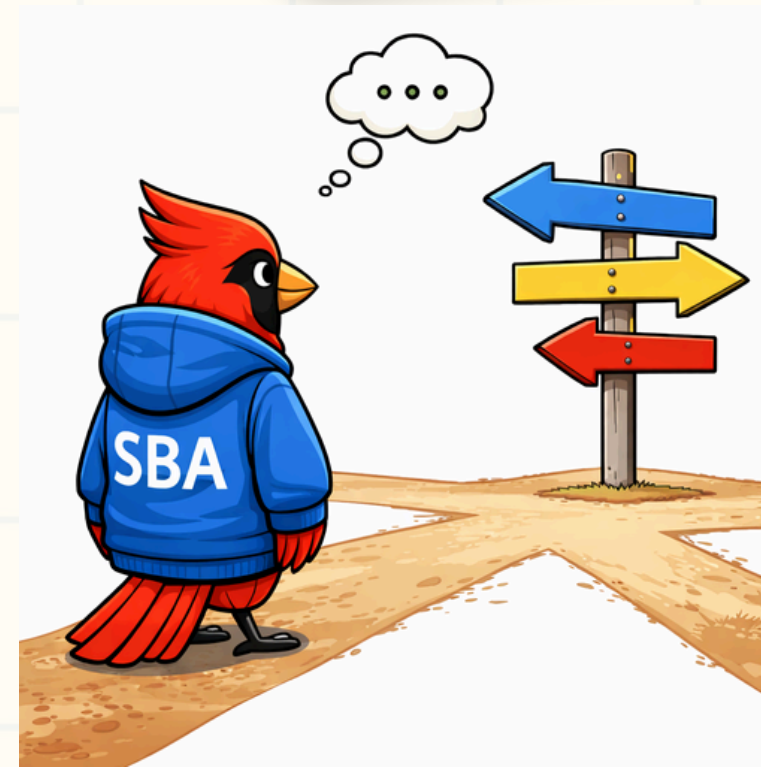
# COURSE TYPES

## LOCALLY-DEVELOPED - Gr. 9 and 10

Designed for students who benefit from additional support in core subjects. These courses cover the essential concepts at a pace and depth that builds confidence and skills. They help students succeed and transition into other pathways over time.

## ESSENTIAL - Gr. 11 and 12

Designed for students planning to enter the workforce directly after high school. These courses focus on essential skills for workplace success.



# COURSE TYPES

## COLLEGE - Gr. 11 and 12

Focuses on practical, hands-on learning and prepares students for college programs. Emphasis is on applying skills and knowledge to real-life situations.

## UNIVERSITY - Gr. 11 and 12

Prepares students for university programs by focusing on conceptual understanding, research, and analytical skills. These are the courses typically required for competitive university programs.





# COURSE TYPES

## MIXED - Gr. 11 and 12

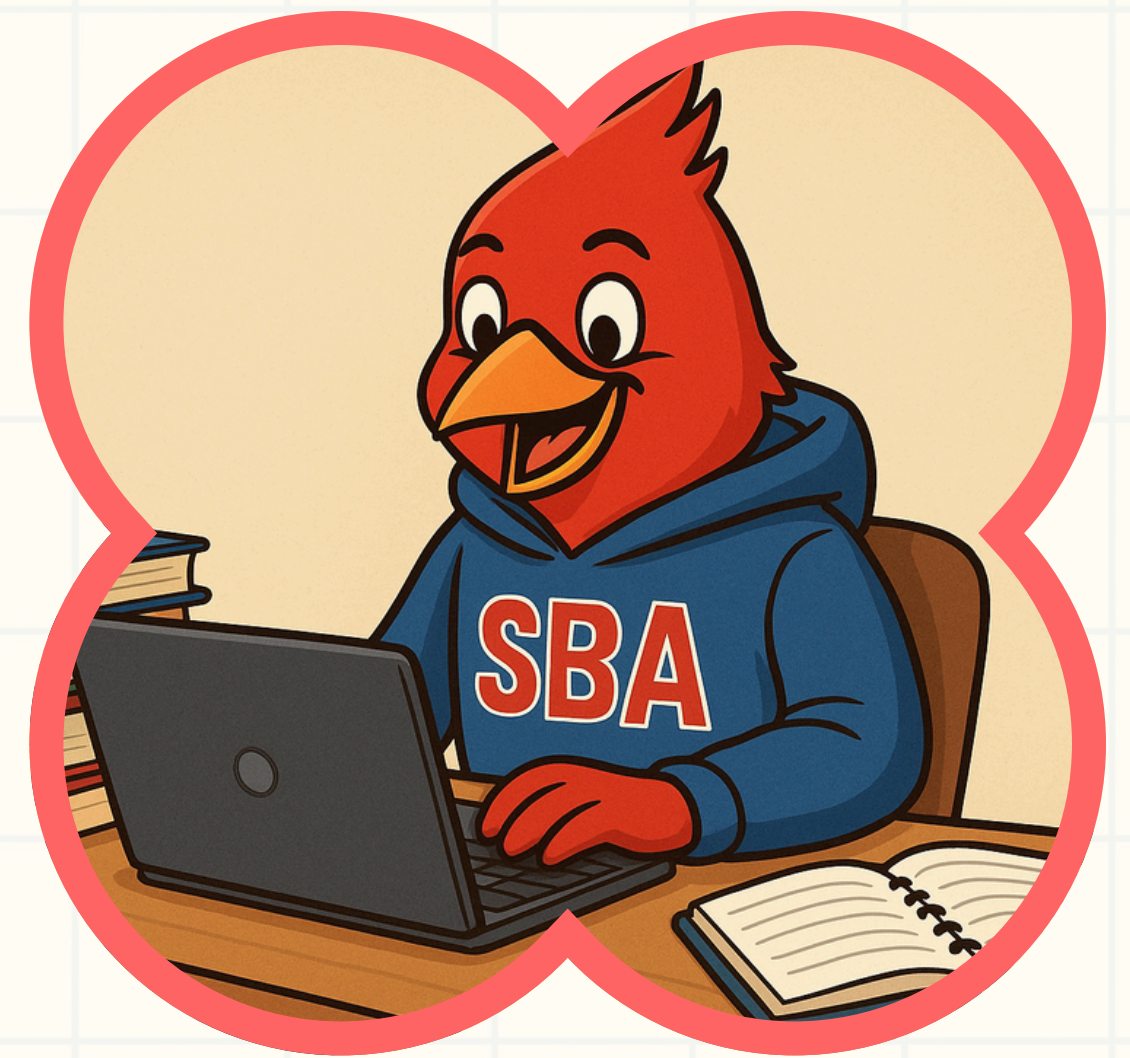
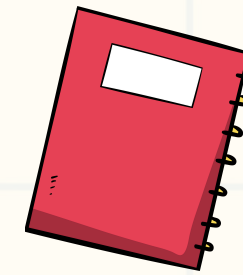
Balanced courses that prepare students for either university or college. They include both conceptual and practical content and are flexible for different post-secondary goals.

## Other Course Types

- K Courses - alternative programming, non-credit
- Co-Operative Education
- eLearning - variety of course types available
- Advanced Placement (AP)
- French Immersion (FI)



# PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS



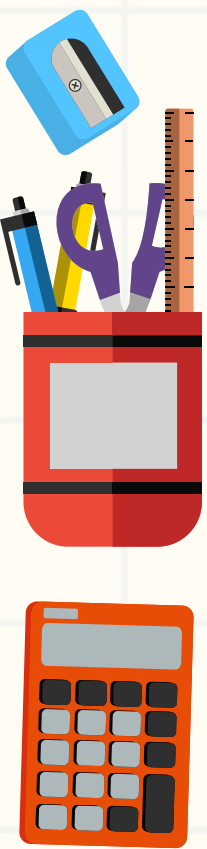
## SHORT-TERM

- Interests and strengths
- Learning style
- Current achievement data and feedback
- Workload and balance
- Prerequisites for subsequent courses



## LONG-TERM

- Graduation requirements
- Post-secondary program requirement and prerequisites
- Career goals
- Building of foundational skills that are currently lacking





# GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

## COMPULSORY

**Students need the following 17 compulsory credits to earn an OSSD:**

- 4 credits in English (1 credit per grade)
- 3 credits in Mathematics (Grade 9-11)
- 2 credits in Science (Gr. 9 and 10)
- 1 credit in Technological Studies (Grade 9 or 10)
- 1 credit in Canadian History (Grade 10)
- 1 credit in Canadian Geography (Grade 9)
- 1 credit in the Arts (Grade 9 or 10)
- 1 credit in Physical education (Grade 9 or 10)
- 1 credit in French (Grade 9)
- 0.5 credit in Career Studies (Grade 10)
- 0.5 credit in Civics and Citizenship (Grade 10)
- 1 credit from the STEM-related course group

**Catholic Secondary School Requirement:**

- 4 Religion (1 credit per grade)

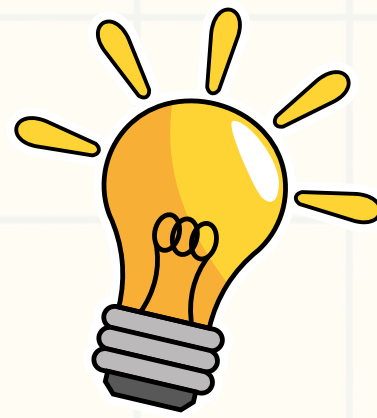
## ELECTIVES

Students must earn 9 elective credits from Grades 9-12 from the offerings made in the Course Calendar.

## OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 40 hours of approved Christian community service
- EQAO Literacy requirement (Grade 10)
- 2 eLearn courses; students can opt out by completing opt-out form

# ACCEPTIBLE SERVICE ACTS:



- Work that does not replace paid employees (e.g. filing in an office)
- Activities that help our neighbours
- Activities and events that support the wider community
- Certain activities and events that support the school or other schools (not during school hours)

**\*\*\*Students can start the summer before Grade 9 but not earlier.\*\*\***

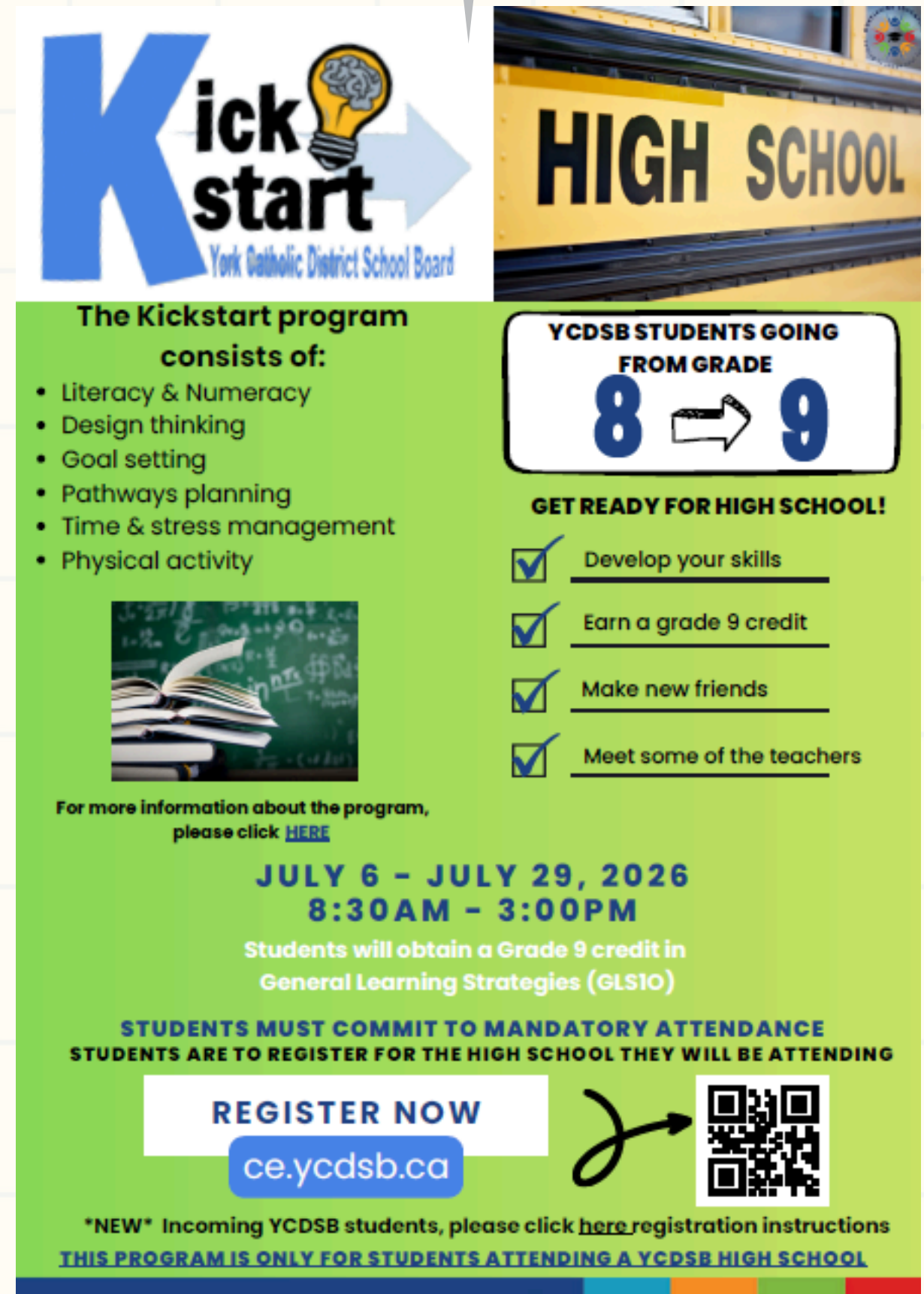




# KICKSTART PROGRAM

Students are encouraged to register for the Kickstart Program and earn a high school credit! The program is delivered at SBA by school staff. Students make connections and sharpen skills.

- ✓ Literacy
- ✓ Numeracy
- ✓ Physical Activity
- ✓ Goal Setting
- ✓ Design Thinking
- ✓ Time Management



The poster is for the Kickstart Program, featuring a large blue 'K' and the text 'Kickstart' with a lightbulb icon. It lists the program's components: Literacy & Numeracy, Design thinking, Goal setting, Pathways planning, Time & stress management, and Physical activity. A section titled 'YCDSB STUDENTS GOING FROM GRADE 8 → 9' encourages students to 'GET READY FOR HIGH SCHOOL!' by developing skills, earning a grade 9 credit, making new friends, and meeting teachers. It provides the dates 'JULY 6 - JULY 29, 2026' and times '8:30AM - 3:00PM'. A QR code and the website 'ce.ycdsb.ca' are included for registration. The poster also states that students must commit to mandatory attendance and register for the high school they will be attending.

**Kickstart**  
York Catholic District School Board

**HIGH SCHOOL**

The Kickstart program consists of:

- Literacy & Numeracy
- Design thinking
- Goal setting
- Pathways planning
- Time & stress management
- Physical activity

**YCDSB STUDENTS GOING FROM GRADE 8 → 9**

**GET READY FOR HIGH SCHOOL!**

- ✓ Develop your skills
- ✓ Earn a grade 9 credit
- ✓ Make new friends
- ✓ Meet some of the teachers

For more information about the program, please click [HERE](#)

**JULY 6 - JULY 29, 2026**  
**8:30AM - 3:00PM**

Students will obtain a Grade 9 credit in General Learning Strategies (GLS10)

**STUDENTS MUST COMMIT TO MANDATORY ATTENDANCE**  
**STUDENTS ARE TO REGISTER FOR THE HIGH SCHOOL THEY WILL BE ATTENDING**

**REGISTER NOW**  
[ce.ycdsb.ca](http://ce.ycdsb.ca)

**\*NEW\*** Incoming YCDSB students, please click [here](#) registration instructions  
**THIS PROGRAM IS ONLY FOR STUDENTS ATTENDING A YCDSB HIGH SCHOOL**





# COURSE SELECTION PROCESS

✓ January 19-February 6

✓ Pre-plan - Course Selection Planner

✓ Choose **3** alternatives

✓ Complete in myBlueprint

✓ Pay \$50 Student Activity Fee

✓ Course Verification

✓ No changes made for electives

✓ Only pathways changes made





# THANK YOU!

## QUESTIONS?



Your next steps:

1. Follow the SBA and Guidance Instagram accounts.
2. Bookmark the school and Guidance department websites.
3. Pay the Student Activity Fee via School Day if you haven't already done so.
4. Look out for communication from your child's teacher about course selection via myBlueprint.