

MAPLE RIDGE SECONDARY SCHOOL

ÉCOLE SECONDAIRE MAPLE RIDGE

Creating Community, Providing Opportunity

2018/2019

About 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.

Enriched:

We offer two enriched programs at the grade 8 level in the areas of Math 8 Honours and English 8 Honours. Students can be programmed into one or all of the enriched courses, depending on their ability and placement. There are entrance exams for both programs.

School Activities

MRSS provides a range of activities designed to provide students with an opportunity to add to the quality of their school life. They provide a wonderful opportunity to make new friends, learn new skills, and become involved in our school. Some of the activities include: ASL Club, Battle of the Bands, Cabaret Night, Chess Club, Fly Fishing Club, HOPE Committee, Operation Rainbow, Outdoor Club, Scorekeeping, Spoken Word Society, Strategic Games Club, Student Council, World Scholars and more. Our team sports include: badminton, basketball, cheerleading, cross country, curling, field hockey, field lacrosse, golf, powerlifting, rugby, soccer, swimming, tennis, track & field, volleyball, and wrestling.



Special Education

At Maple Ridge Secondary we are working 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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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.

English Language Arts 8 Honours

English 8H is a course that is based on the regular grade 8 curriculum, but it enriches its content and activities so that the student is challenged in his/her English work. This is a rigorous course which demands a strong work ethic, excellent reading and writing skills, and a sincere desire to learn. Following this English Honours program gives students an opportunity to take advanced placement courses in grade 12.

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.

Mathematics 8 Honours

Math 8H is for top performing Math students who would enjoy a challenging. Students will cover the same curriculum material as the Math 8 Principles course as well as additional enrichment topics. Students must maintain an 80% average on their work habits, assignments and test scores to remain in the Honours program. Candidates for this course must write an entry test.

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.

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.

Social Studies 8 Sciences Humaines 8

Social Studies 8/Sciences Humaines 8 is an introductory high school course that examines the areas of history and geography. Students become aware of both the physical and social world and will critically examine these areas from the 7th Century to 1750. Possible areas of historical study may include the heritage of Japan, India, China, European feudalism, Islamic civilization, the Renaissance and Reformation. Additionally students study European contact with the Americas. Students will develop an understanding of modern societies by studying the past. The geographical component of this course explores changes in population and living standards.

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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.

Music 8: 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.



MUSIC 8: Concert Choir (A.M. BLOCK)

This course provides an opportunity to 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.**

MUSIC 8: 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.

Music 8: Jazz Band

This course is for students who want to learn to play a variety of jazz styles, including swing, rock, latin and funk. Students must be enrolled in concert band if they wish to participate in this ensemble. It is open to players of saxophone, trombone, trumpet, piano, bass, guitar, and drums. Classes are taught from 7:00 – 8:15 am on Mondays and 2:45 – 4:00 pm on Wednesdays. Attendance is recorded and a letter grade issued, just like a regular class. This course will not appear on your grade 8 registration form. You will register for this course in September at MRSS.

Music 8: 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.**

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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 keyboard, 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

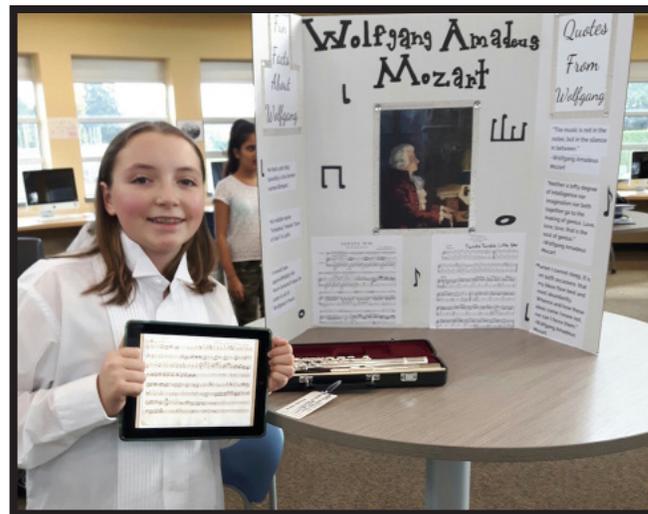
Students will develop skills in cooking and sewing. In Food Studies students learn about meal planning and simple meal preparation of things like pancakes, macaroni and cheese, and apple crumble. Personal nutrition needs are also examined. In Textile Studies, students will be introduced to basic sewing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

Inquiry 8

This foundational skills course is structured to tap into student interest and leverage this engagement to prepare students for a variety of academic explorations. Specifically, the course is centred on a project titled The Night of the Notables. Students will choose an eminent person from history, develop questions and engage



in targeted research aimed at establishing a sense of understanding of setting, background, goals, as well as character traits of their chosen historical figure. After gathering and evaluating information, students will then write a biographical essay and present a visual/oral presentation.

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!