

# École Stonewall Centennial School

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# Grade 7 & 8 Subject Area/Option Course information – 2025-2026 (v.2)

Students in grade 7 & 8 will be required to take the following compulsory subjects:

- 1. English Language Arts 4. Science
- 6. Physical Health Education

- 2. Mathematics
- 5. Basic French/Français 7. Home Economics
- 3. Social Studies
- We are asking families to re-submit their child's option course preference. Please read all of the information below prior to making your selections. It is imperative that our students have input when it comes to this process.
- We are asking for this information again because the options have changed. We have added an Outdoor Education option and have removed the STEM option.

The Outdoor Education option was added because we feel this would be of interest to a number of our students that enjoy being physically active, and learning about the natural world and how to live in it effectively. Our STEM option was removed partially due to the fact that we do not have the required staff available to effectively deliver the program to the number of students that expressed interest. We acknowledge the interest in this type of learning, and as a result we are going to increase the amount of time our grade 7 & 8 students will have Science, and some of the STEM learning opportunities will be incorporated into the regular Science learning in class.

Five possible options are currently being considered. Students will take 1 option course for the full school year.

#### **OPTIONAL PROGRAMS**:

#### Ι. BAND:

Students who wish to take Band must provide their own instruments. There are several retail outlets that rent or sell instruments to school students involved in band programs. Flutes, clarinets, trumpets, and trombones may be rented for approximately \$25.00 - \$35.00 per month (depending on the outlet). The school does not rent flutes, clarinets, saxophones, trumpets, or trombones. All other materials (books, music, folders) are provided to the students. We have several of the larger instruments available for rent (tuba, baritone, and French horn) for a minimal fee. These instruments are shared with other students and are available on a first come, first served basis. Students signing up for the band program in grade 7 are highly encourage to stick with the program into grade 8 and beyond.

#### II. CHORAL MUSIC:

Singing is the primary focus of this course. Class time will be spent rehearsing and learning from the repertoire we study. We will sing music from many genres (with an emphasis on more modern music). As we study, we will look to improve vocal technique, breath control, vocal blend, balance, tone and expression. We will look to incorporate all the skills and talents within our class into our music making by finding ways to still use instruments, opportunities for solos, and student ideas on song choices and performance choices. Students will be assessed on rehearsal technique, singing technique/growth, daily work such as choice assignments, listening logs, or projects, and concert performances. Students will be expected to perform at two concerts, as well as festival competitions, and other performances that come up throughout the year.

#### III. ART:

The Art program that is offered at our school gives the students opportunities with various mediums such as drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, and photography. The junior high program allows the student to feel competent when furthering their careers in Art in the high school program. In grade seven, students will discover the principles of art and design through a variety of assignments that will make them feel comfortable in applying different techniques in their artwork. Students will become acquainted with using different media, including pencil, paint, and clay, to practice their skills. Students will explore the history of the development of art through time and appreciate differences in art across cultures. In Grade eight, students will continue to explore the principles of art and design through a variety of media. Students will explore master artists from various time periods and relate their works to today as they evaluate art thorough a critical lens.

## IV. Outdoor Education

In the outdoor education course option, students can expect to develop skills and knowledge related to outdoor activities, environmental awareness, and personal growth. Key areas of learning typically include: Outdoor skills like hiking, orienteering, camping, fire building, and basic survival techniques. Teamwork and leadership through group challenges, cooperative games, and problem-solving tasks. Environmental stewardship, including Leave No Trace principles and understanding local ecosystems. Physical activity and wellness by engaging in outdoor pursuits that promote fitness and mental health. Risk management and safety through learning how to assess and respond to challenges in outdoor settings. Overall, the course helps build confidence, resilience, and a stronger connection to nature.

#### V. Drama

In Drama, students get to express themselves, work with others, and have fun exploring different ways to tell stories and share ideas. They will have the opportunity to, act, improvise, and work with scripts, which helps build confidence and creativity. It's also a great way for students to understand different points of view and learn how to work together respectfully. Along the way, they will develop important life skills like communication, problem-solving, and thinking critically. Overall, the class is all about learning through doing and supporting each other in a fun, creative space.

### We would ask that you especially note the following:

- a) The <u>completion</u> of the survey form is considered a <u>commitment</u> to your choices. Because of the increasing difficulties with timetabling/scheduling each succeeding year, alterations or changes will not be possible once final decisions are made.
- b) Every effort will be made to accommodate your preferences. However, it should be noted that due to our size and class numbers this may not always be possible. We cannot guarantee everyone's 1<sup>st</sup> option. Classes that exceed size capacity with 1<sup>st</sup> choice preference may be decided by a draw.
- c) If you have any questions about course options, or this process please contact the school.
  - <u>Click here</u> to select their 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> preference for the upcoming school year.