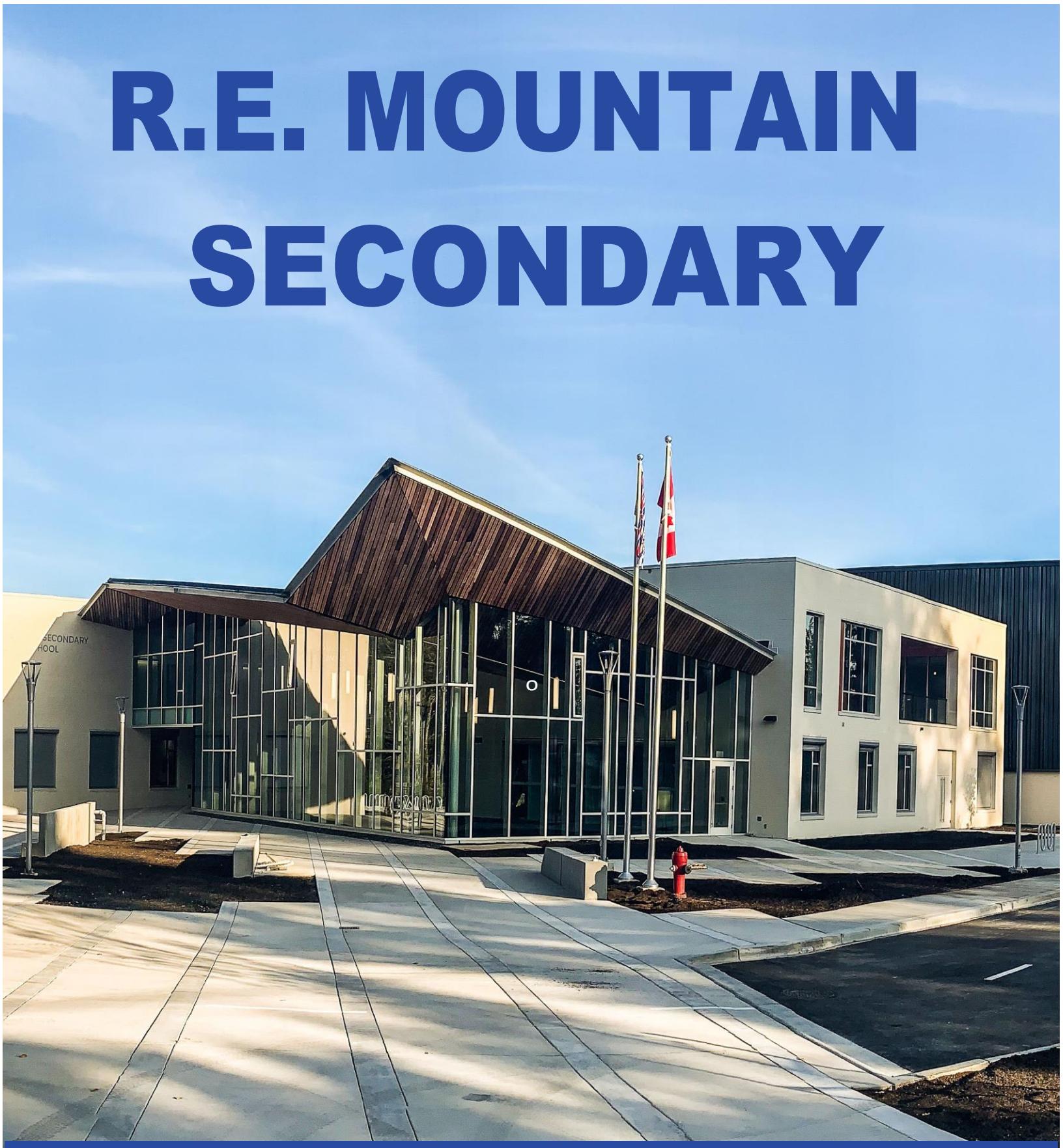
R.E. MOUNTAIN SECONDARY



2027/2028

GRADE 9 COURSE CATALOG



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PRINCIPAL' S MESSAGE

Course selection is an exciting time as it brings with it the promise of learning something new and the opportunity to connect with other students. I encourage you to look through our course booklet very carefully. This booklet will list what courses we offer and how they can prepare you for your future. Programs at the school include the traditional academic selections as well as "core" classes for those who need more support. The IB Program is available for those who are looking to apply to universities and would like the extra challenge. R.E. Mountain also has a lot to offer in our elective departments, with classes geared toward those interested in the arts, technology, leadership, applied skills, and athletics.

In addition to your school classes, we encourage you to get involved in athletics and clubs. What you get out of your experience at R.E. Mountain Secondary is what you put into it. Many of our students are involved in service within the school and around the community.

R.E. Mountain is a school that provides an extraordinary amount of opportunity for connection and community. We are a school that prides itself on its diversity and inclusion and we want you to become a part of our long tradition of excellence. When students are actively involved beyond their classes, they will develop meaningful friendships and create lasting memories.

Our counselling and administrative staff are available so that you can make informed choices about your Grade 9 year. We are looking forward to having you become a valued member of R.E. Mountain in the upcoming school year.

Regards,

Ms. C Clapton
cclapton@sd35.bc.ca

CAREER EDUCATION

CAREER EDUCATION

In Grade 9, students explore concepts such as identity, leadership, personal planning, and transferable skills. As students build on the foundation developed from their experiences in K–5, they begin to explore in greater depth their skills and passions and begin to determine possible routes to their goals.

Big ideas include:

Reflecting on our preferences and skills helps us identify the steps we need to take to achieve our career goals.
The value of work in our lives, communities, and society can be viewed from diverse perspectives.
Achieving our learning goals requires effort and perseverance. Adapting to economic and labour market changes requires flexibility. Our career paths reflect the personal, community, and educational choices we make.

At R.E. Mountain Secondary School, the Career Education 9 curriculum is embedded within the regular required courses throughout the year and not delivered as a separate course. Students will receive a mark for this course on their June report card.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

ENGLISH 9

This course is designed for students to explore stories and other texts, which are socially, culturally, and historically constructed, and make connections to others and to the world. Students will critically think and inquire about what they hear, read, and view.

ENGLISH 9 CORE

(To be eligible for English 9 Core, students must be recommended by their Grade 8 school, in consultation with Learning Support Services at REMSS)

CORE classes at REMSS are unique classroom environments that are generally made available to students with Individual Education Plans. CORE classes have fewer students in them and aim to organize the information so that it is easier to understand. In English 9 Core, the areas of focus will be: vocabulary development, reading comprehension, written process, personal organization, and executive functioning while reading high interest novels that seek to create lively and thoughtful classroom discussions.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

ENGLISH 9 PRE-IB

(Prerequisite: English 8 and admission into the Pre-IB Program)

This course is designed as part of the Pre-IB Track that prepares students for the International Baccalaureate Program. Combined with Social Studies 9 Pre-IB to create a course called "Humanities 9 Pre-IB", the class integrates various genres of literature such as poetry, drama, novels and short stories into Social Studies content and inquiry in ways that encourage creative and critical thinking.

SOCIAL STUDIES

SOCIAL STUDIES 9

This course will focus on several topics relating to the development of the world and Canada between 1700 and 1900. The contributions of groups such as Aboriginal people, the French, the British and immigrants will be studied. Topics such as European settlement of North America, the development of nations and social order, political revolutions (US, French, Haitian revolution), the industrialization of the western world, the 1837-38 rebellions, Confederation, the Red River Rebellion, and the North-West Rebellion will help students understand the development of Canada. Students must be prepared to meet increased expectations in basic skills such as reading and writing along with a more academic approach to the subject. A good work ethic along with a serious attitude towards learning increases chances of success.

SOCIAL STUDIES 9 CORE

(To be eligible for Social Studies 9 Core, students must be recommended by their Grade 8 school, in consultation with Learning Support Services at REMSS)

CORE classes at REMSS are unique classroom environments that are generally made available to students with Individual Education Plans. CORE classes have fewer students in them and aim to organize the information so that it is easier to understand. In Social Studies 9 Core, the area of focus will be: vocabulary development, reading comprehension, critical thinking, personal organization, and executive functioning while analyzing historical events through perspective, ethical dimensions, and primary sources.

SOCIAL STUDIES

SOCIALS 9 PRE-IB

(Prerequisites: Social Studies 8 and admission into the Pre-IB Program – this is an accelerated course)

This course covers the Social Studies 9 curriculum. The intent of Social Studies 9 Pre-IB is to prepare students for the academic rigors of the IB program and will focus on research, essay writing, and critical historical thinking skills. The subject matter includes the roots of democracy, fights for rights, and the development of Canada. Students will further develop a strong work ethic and their ability to work independently and in groups. Students enrolled in this course will finish and get credit for Social Studies 9 and about 1/3rd of the Social Studies 10 course. In Grade 10, Pre-IB students will complete Social Studies 10 and Social Studies 11.

MATHEMATICS

MATH 9 CORE

(To be eligible for English 9 Core, students must be recommended by their Grade 8 school, in consultation with Learning Support Services at REMSS)

CORE classes at REMSS are unique classroom environments that are made available to students with Individual Education Plans. A CORE class has fewer students in them and aims to organize the information so that it is easier to understand. Mathematics 9 Core is designed for students who struggle with mathematical concepts and/or reasoning. In this course students will develop an understanding of the essential learning outcomes in four broad curricular areas: Operations with Numbers in Algebraic Situations, Linear Algebra, Proportional Reasoning and Data Analysis. In addition to developing basic numeracy skills, Mathematics 9 Core continues to focus on problem solving and communicating mathematical reasoning. A scientific calculator is required for this course.

MATHEMATICS 9

In Mathematics 9 students will develop their reasoning and analyzing, understanding and solving, communicating and representing, and connecting and reflecting skills in these curricular areas: Operations with Rational Numbers, Exponents, Linear Relationships, Algebra, Proportional reasoning, Finance, and Data Analysis. In addition to developing basic numeracy skills, Mathematics 9 continues to focus on problem solving and communicating mathematical reasoning. Mathematics 9 encourages students to develop a clear understanding of mathematical concepts, recognize the inter-disciplinary nature of mathematics and appreciate its contributions to the world around us. This course will help prepare students for Mathematics courses at the Grade 10 level. A scientific calculator is required for this course.

MATHEMATICS

MATH 9 PRE-IB

(Prerequisite: Science 8 and admission into the Pre-IB Program)

This course is designed for students with a thorough understanding of and enthusiasm for Math. Students enrolled in this course will finish and get credit for Math 9 and about 2/3rds of the Foundations and Pre-Calculus 10 course. In grade 10, Pre-IB students will complete Foundations and Pre- Calculus 10 and all of Pre-Calculus 11. See the course description for Math 9 and Foundations and Pre-Calculus 10 for a full description of the course content.

SCIENCE

SCIENCE 9

Science 9 provides a preview of some of the major fields of science. In biology it examines microscopy and cells, asexual and sexual reproduction. Physics examines static and current electricity and applications in the home. Chemistry looks at the periodic table, atoms and ions, ionic and covalent compounds, and properties of matter. Scientific investigation skills are integrated throughout the year.

SCIENCE 9 CORE

(To be eligible for English 9 Core, students must be recommended by their Grade 8 school, in consultation with Learning Support Services at REMSS)

CORE classes at REMSS are unique classroom environments that are made available to students with Individual Education Plans. A CORE class has fewer students in them and aims to organize the information so that it is easier to understand. In biology, it examines microscopy and cells, asexual and sexual reproduction. Physics examines static and current electricity and applications in the home. Chemistry looks at the periodic table, atoms and ions, ionic and covalent compounds, and properties of matter. Scientific investigation skills are integrated throughout the year.

SCIENCE 9 PRE-IB

(Prerequisite: Science 8 and admission into the Pre-IB Program)

Science 9 Pre-IB will cover all the topics in the Science 9 program, however, the topics will be enriched with a focus on more independent student-oriented work, higher level thinking skills; for example: explaining and analyzing data or information and in some topics, taking them to a greater depth.

PHE

PHYSICAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION 9: CO-ED

Physical and Health Education 9 (Co-Ed) is the introductory course in our progression of the physical and health education curriculum. PHE is designed to develop the knowledge, skills, and understandings that students need for life long physical health and mental well- being. You will pick up where you left off in Grade 8 with the sequential development of fitness, skills, rules, and strategies, with an emphasis on fun, and lifelong fitness levels.

PHYSICAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION 9: HIGH PERFORMANCE

Do you enjoy being active, competition, and the elements of being on a team? Then this is a class for you! PHE 9 High Performance is a class designed for students who want to focus on sport-specific skills, with an emphasis on creating competitive environments where students can be challenged and pushed to improve. Students will be immersed in an environment designed to encourage teamwork, communication skills and leadership qualities. An emphasis will be directed towards a high level of training, conditioning, and skill development at a competitive level. Athletes will be challenged to compete at higher levels of play.

ELECTIVE COURSES

Students choose three elective courses.
Some post-secondary programs recommend a second language to grade 11.
A language is included as one of your electives.

MODERN LANGUAGES

MANDARIN ENTRY 9

(No prerequisite)

你(nǐ) 好(hǎo)！ Did you know that one in six people in the world speaks Mandarin?

Mandarin 9 is an introductory course to the Mandarin Language and Chinese culture. This course is designed for students to develop basic conversational skills through building a vocabulary bank. Emphasis is placed on practical skills (typing Mandarin characters), communicative language, Chinese traditions, and culture in everyday life. This course will provide a good foundation for future studies of the Mandarin language. Come join us and see it for yourself!

MANDARIN PRE-IB 9

(Prerequisite: admission into the Pre-IB Program)

Pre-IB Mandarin 9 is a first-year beginner Mandarin course. This course is designed for students who have the intention of continuing to Pre-IB Mandarin 10. Students will be introduced to the basic skills of oral and written communication using simplified Chinese characters and the Hanyu Pinyin system. Students will acquire a vocabulary base of 150-200 characters that they are able to read and write. Students will learn about Chinese culture through language and holidays. During the year, the following themes will include greetings, family, countries, and languages, counting 0-100, calendars, time, occupations, transportation, and colours.

FRENCH 9

Bonjour! The goal of this course is to help you to communicate in French and to become more aware of francophone people and culture. We will develop all language learning skills: listening, viewing, speaking (pronunciation and oral fluency), writing, and reading comprehension. This introductory course will build a strong foundation so that you can continue to learn French at higher levels. Using communicative language activities (partner conversations, dialogues, projects) we will learn language topics such as life at school, daily routines, fashion and clothing, travel, sports and activities, the café, and the market.

MODERN LANGUAGES

FRENCH PRE-IB 9 (Prerequisite: French 8 and admission into the Pre-IB Program)

In French 9 Pre-IB, students continue to develop basic oral and written language skills, completing the course requirements of French 9 and further enriching their vocabulary, writing, reading comprehension, and oral language using a variety of resources. Students should be prepared for a challenge, as the language structures introduced in class will become increasingly complex. Students will also be expected to express themselves in French. This course is designed for students who have the intention of continuing to French 10 Pre-IB and French 11 IB.

SPANISH ENTRY 9

Since Spanish is one of the most important languages of the world, wouldn't it be great to be able to communicate with the over 400 million people in over 20 countries whose first language is Spanish? It is our goal for students to learn and attain a strong base in the language. Through speaking, listening, reading, writing, and fluency development, students will go from knowing no Spanish to having basic conversations and general comprehension. This course will focus on equipping students with the skills they need to start using the language with each other and with other Spanish speakers. In this class, students will immerse themselves in Spanish, experience some Hispanic culture, and gain the basics of the language. Come join us to experience this journey!

HOME EC

FOODS 9

Foods 9 incorporates both the practical and the pleasurable side of all things cooking. On the practical side, students will gain a foundation of basic cooking skills including measurement, safety, equipment, and meal formulation. Students will participate in mini units that include food poisoning and spice identification. The pleasurable side of cooking takes students into the culinary arts. With opportunities to develop food presentation skills, share their own cultural traditions, develop recipes based on preference and finally compete in culinary challenges. Be prepared to work on your teamwork skills, as this course heavily encourages collaboration and interpersonal relationships.

TEXTILES 9: FASHION & DESIGN

Learn to make fun and creative items out of fabric. Create clothing, accessories, crafts, stuffed animals, and more. This is an introductory class for students who have an interest in fashion trends, creating clothing, textile crafts, and sewing in general. Students will learn about the elements and principles of design to create new and up-cycled projects. Students can explore fashion drawing, sewing, knitting, croqueting, embroidery, and other techniques to create unique handmade projects. Students will learn about the creating process starting with planning out their ideas, choosing their materials, and sewing their projects. Students will have access to and learn how to use certain sewing equipment, such as sewing machines.

TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

DISCOVERY WORKSHOP 9

If you enjoy building and designing but are still deciding whether to specialize in one area, consider taking Technology Explorations! This class covers the fundamentals of Woodwork, Electronics, Metalwork, and Automotive, providing you with the groundwork for future elective decisions. By taking this course, you'll have the opportunity to expand your knowledge and skills in different areas and discover what sparks your interests. This course will teach you the most effective method of working safely and accurately with various tools and machinery from multiple areas of expertise and allow you to combine diverse materials. Whether you're interested in pursuing a career in engineering or trades or want to learn more about how things work, Technology Explorations is the perfect class for you.

DRAFTING 9

Students interested in designing and building real products will have the opportunity to bring their ideas to life using CAD and 3D printing technology. Students will develop the basic drafting skills necessary to design, present, and produce simple 3D printed objects for the fields of Engineering, Design, Construction, Computer Animation, Architecture and Design (Fashion, Interior, Product, and Automobiles). Students will learn how different 3D printers work, and how to choose the ideal materials and settings to make their products functional and appealing.

ELECTRONICS/ROBOTICS 9

Electronics & Robotics is a fantastic course as it allows students to control circuits and robots by developing their coding skills. In Grade 9, we establish the basics of electronics, where students can build various electronic circuits that reflect everyday applications. We combine circuit-building skills with programmable circuit boards to create more complex and valuable experiments. Students develop their logical understanding by building robots competing against each other in different challenges. Robotics and Electronics allow students to nurture their analytical, problem solving and creative abilities in an environment that encourages collaboration.

METALWORK 9

This is an introductory course in metalwork. It will familiarize the student with metal working techniques and design. You will learn the safe operation of a selection of hand and power tools and become familiar with the forge, foundry, and welding equipment. Interesting projects will be completed in each of the metal working areas including sheet metal, casting, forging, lathe work, and jewelry making.

TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

POWER TECHNOLOGY 9

An introduction to all things machine based. In power tech 9 students will get to rebuild small engines, learn to repair their bikes, and design and craft all sorts of wild projects. It is a class for kids that like to work with their hands and engage in dynamic problem solving.

WOODWORK 9

Do you love building things? Have you ever taken woodwork before? Want to give it a try? Join us! This is an introductory woodwork course. It develops knowledge of wood as a project material, as well as the design processes. You will learn the safe operation of power tools and continue to develop the hand skills needed for delicate and refined operations. Safety will always be stressed. Come and build some neat projects!

ARCHAEOLOGY 9

Discover the fascinating world of archaeology and uncover humanity's stories through the artifacts we leave behind. This course invites students to explore how archaeologists investigate, analyze, and interpret material evidence to understand past cultures. Learners will participate in hands-on activities, including simulated digs, artifact analysis, and digital mapping, while developing critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Aligned with British Columbia's ADST Grade 9 standards, the course emphasizes design thinking, technological applications, and ethical considerations in archaeological practice. Students will explore how tools and technologies - ranging from traditional excavation methods to modern digital modelling - shape our understanding of history. Key topics include archaeological methods, cultural heritage, Indigenous perspectives, and the role of technology in preserving the past.

DISCOVERY CREATIONS 9 *NEW*

Discovery Creations 9 introduces students to four exciting areas: Drama, Foods, Art, and Textiles. Through hands-on projects and collaborative activities, students will build confidence in performance, learn practical cooking skills, explore artistic techniques, and create unique fabric designs. This course encourages creativity, problem-solving, and self-expression while providing a foundation in both the arts and applied skills. By rotating through these disciplines, students gain a well-rounded experience that sparks curiosity and develops lifelong skills.

BUSINESS

ENTREPRENEURSHIP & MARKETING 9

This course will provide an introduction into the five main areas of Business: Communication, Finance, Economics, Marketing, and Entrepreneurship. Students will learn to use various business applications and solve a variety of business-related problems. The main goal of this program is to give students an introduction to creating and managing a successful business. They will learn how to start a business, create a business plan, and how to market both themselves and their products.

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES 9

IT 9 is an introductory course and all skill levels can be successful. In this course you will design and program games, combining and arranging elements and processes to create an engaging and esthetically pleasing experience. Learn how a computer works, and how the internet brings information into your home. Students will make and publish a website, using colour and design elements to create an effective online presence. You will work with classmates learning technical skills to develop, refine, and appraise ideas, and create and publish your own digital content. Examine the future of technology, and how it might affect your life. Depending on time, or if you choose robotics as your independent project, you can have a chance to explore robotics, and an opportunity to design and implement a race-bot, challenging classmates for robotic supremacy.

DRAMA

DRAMA 9

The goal of this course is to introduce you to the basic principles and methods of acting with an emphasis on the themes of community building and creative expression. You will be encouraged to overcome adversity while working with others to achieve a common goal. Through the study of movement, mime, improvisation, technical theatre, character development, and play building, you will develop relationships built upon trust, communication, and teamwork. In turn, these relationships will allow you to develop self-confidence and valuable problem solving and interpersonal skills as you learn to lead and listen to group members. The units of study in this course will also provide you with the opportunity to exercise your creative mind through verbal, physical, and written expression. Students will also learn the technical skills of how to operate a lighting board and design skills needed for a skit.

MUSIC

CONCERT BAND 9

This performance-based course is open to students of all skill levels. Students who demonstrate intermediate musical skills and/or have successfully completed Band 8 will be part of the full ensemble. Students who are new to band or have basic skills will receive guided instruction on their instruments to help them build skills that they will need to join with the full ensemble. As with all the bands, a variety of musical styles will be taught throughout the year.

Students will continue learning increasingly difficult music, starting at the Grade 2-2 ½ level of music repertoire. They also work on developing their listening skills, not only for tuning their own instruments but for listening across the band and understanding the importance of their part within the ensemble. The students study enharmonic tones, learning about half steps and whole steps, the make-up of a major scale which all leads to the understanding and ability to play major and chromatic scales.

Students will:

- Demonstrate improvement of tone and range on instrument Maintain a part within complex textures and harmonies
- Use appropriate music terminology to describe rhythm, metre and melody
- Demonstrate ability to perform increasingly difficult repertoire Perform at all concerts, tours, and festivals

JAZZ BAND 9 (outside the timetable)

(Students must also be concurrently enrolled in any concert band course, except piano & guitar players)

The performance-based course is for students with some previous jazz experience (Jazz Lab), and/or permission from the instructor. Standard jazz ensemble instruments are used, and a variety of styles are taught. Jazz concepts, theory, & history will be discussed, and all students will be shown how to solo appropriately.

Classes are twice per week. This band is combined with Jazz Band 10 to form the "Intermediate Jazz Band". Students will participate in all performances, festivals, and trips.

Students will:

- Demonstrate improvement of tone and range on instrument Maintain a part within complex jazz textures and harmonies
- Use appropriate music terminology to describe rhythm, metre and melody
- Demonstrate ability to perform increasingly difficult repertoire.

MUSIC

CONCERT CHOIR 9 (outside the timetable)

This performance-based course is a non-auditioned Choral Ensemble class which meets out of the timetable twice per week. While it is not expected that each student will have previous vocal training or musical experience, it is expected that each ensemble member will develop in the following areas:

- Musicianship - artistry, interpretation, expression, musicality, literacy Technique: breathing, tone production, resonance, phrasing, support, tuning
- Style – understanding of musical styles, genres, & periods through a variety of Concert Choir literature

Students will perform at all concerts, tours, workshops, and festivals.

CHAMBER CHOIR 9 (outside the timetable)

This performance-based course, offered twice/week, is for students with little or no previous Jazz or Chamber Choir experience. This choir performs half of its repertoire on mics and half off, in a chamber style. They will strengthen their skills in reading harmonies, and they will experience solo opportunities as well. This group of singers is combined with Intermediate Chamber Jazz 10 and sometimes 11 or 12 to form the "Intermediate Chamber-Jazz Choir."

Students will:

- Demonstrate individual improvement of tone, range, and understanding of styles
- Maintain a vocal line within complex jazz chords, rhythms, and harmonies
- Use effective microphone technique and off mic vocal technique Demonstrate ability to perform increasingly difficult repertoire Participate in all school performances, tours, and trips

FINE ARTS

MEDIA ARTS 9: GRAPHIC DESIGN

Students will explore the design process, learning about the Elements and Principles of Design while using industry standard software (Adobe CC's Photoshop and Illustrator.) They will create their own original content in a collaborative, studio-like environment.

Projects may include logo design, poster design, advertisement creation, digital illustrations, composite photos, and much more. Students will gain a strong understanding of the design process, from initial brainstorming with sketches, to final print production output. Students will also be responsible for creating an online portfolio to showcase their work.

PHOTOGRAPHY 9

An introduction to basic digital photography skills and procedures using Canon Rebel Cameras. Students will be working with composition and learning what makes a strong image. Students will learn the main functions of the camera along with the exposure triangle which includes the aperture, shutter, and ISO. In addition, students will be introduced to basic photography editing.

STUDIO ARTS 3D 9: CERAMICS

You will learn the properties of clay, the use of tools and various hand building techniques to achieve success in making ceramic objects while working on projects that communicate ideas and express emotions. You will create personally meaningful artistic works that demonstrate an understanding of and appreciation for personal, social, cultural, environmental, and historical contexts. Working at your own pace, you will design and construct sculptures and functional items in a relaxing environment. You will also learn how to apply underglazes and glazes to give your completed objects a professional finish. Projects include pinch pot creatures, coil pot vase and functional mugs. Students may also experiment with the basic centering techniques on the potter's wheel.

FINE ARTS

VISUAL ARTS 9

Visual Arts 9 is open to artists of all levels. This course is designed to inspire you to appreciate the process of art making, as much as you will appreciate your finished work! Drawing ability is not essential, as you will learn the fundamentals of design, drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, and some art history. Experimentation and exploration in different media are an important part of this course.

On completion of Visual Arts 9, you should be able to: demonstrate a basic knowledge of the fundamentals of art - the elements of design; a basic knowledge of drawing and painting techniques; possible printmaking and sculptural experiences, and lastly an appreciation and enjoyment of art and the art-making process.

MEDIA DESIGN: YEARBOOK OPEN TO GRADES 9 - 12

(Outside the timetable)

Yearbook class is a team of students working on designing and producing the entire book cover to cover. This includes layout, interviewing, digital photography, and computer work using the eDesign Program to produce the yearbook.

This is a class for individuals that are not afraid of going the extra mile to get the right photo or interview to make their spread look amazing. No experience required – we will teach you everything you will need to succeed.

VDIEO

FILM & TELEVISION 9: VIDEO PRODUCTION

Video Production 9 provides students with an exciting and motivating introduction to the world of Digital Video Production. The goal is to introduce students to the art, craft, and technology of desktop video production. The video production course offers intensive hands-on production with High-Definition camera equipment, lighting, and sound to help students tell their stories – their way. Topics include script planning and writing, camera operation, lighting, and sound, and editing with Final Cut Pro Studio on the computers. The course strives to nurture individual talent and skills while also working with others on group projects to encourage students to become creative and thoughtful practitioners in the world of video production. Students will have class time to work on video projects, while outside of class filming may be necessary depending on video subjects and locations. Students will be expected to be intrinsically motivated in this course, be able to receive and give criticism and dream big.

LEADERSHIP

LEADERSHIP 9

This course offers students an exciting opportunity to develop leadership skills through service learning and hands-on involvement in school and community projects. Students will explore their own interests and strengths while investigating local needs, planning events, and reflecting on how their leadership can create positive change. Along the way, they will build essential skills in public speaking, goal setting, organization, time management, communication, and collaboration preparing them to lead with confidence and purpose. A key component of the course is the Eagle Points Project, which challenges students to actively engage in school life by earning points through participation in events, clubs, volunteering, and creative contributions, recognizing and rewarding their efforts to build a vibrant REMSS community.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS (ELL)

All schools in Langley follow the service model which divides into four stages of language proficiency:

BEGINNER	Little experience with English but have had formal schooling and have an age-appropriate level of literacy in a language other than English.
DEVELOPING	Have developed some competency in English and need to focus specifically on language development for academic learning.
INTERMEDIATE	Able to succeed in most regular high school courses but need support in English language development for academic learning.
ADVANCED	Can study high school subjects in the regular classroom, with support in specific subjects such as English or Graduation Transition.

ELL students will be placed in one of the four levels after initial assessment of English ability. Students may advance to the next level once coursework for the present level is complete. Students do not necessarily take all ISP/ELL coursework offered at a given level; recommendation is given dependent on the scores achieved during the initial assessment. The length of time needed to advance to the next level depends on factors such as academic ability and work habits of the student, but typically a low intermediate student who completed grade 10 in their home country can graduate and go on to a Canadian post-secondary college or university in 2.5 - 3 years (summer school being .5 of a school year).

All Langley high schools offer the BAA courses within the four-stage service model to ensure ISP students receive credit for ELL instruction at Grade 10, 11, and 12 levels. As well, schools can offer ELL "primer" courses until more BAA courses are developed. For students who are more proficient in a language being offered and who would like to take on a higher-level course, please contact your school counsellor directly.

BEGINNER	ELL Drama Strategies for Academic Success 10
DEVELOPING	English Language Development 10 Introduction to Academic Language 10
INTERMEDIATE	English Language Development 11
ADVANCED	ISP / ELL Writing 11

BEGINNER

STRATEGIES FOR ACADEMIC SUCCESS 10

This course is designed to familiarize and extend students' abilities to use various strategies independently to meet the learning outcomes and be successful in content-based courses such as English Language Arts, Social Studies, Science and/or Mathematics. The emphasis will be on comprehending important concepts, linking new information to prior knowledge, and applying strategies and skills learned. As well, through discussion and debate, students will learn aspects of the history and culture of Canada and become familiar with a variety of learning skills and Canadian assessment techniques. Students will acquire foundational English skills that will help them read, write, and communicate at an introductory level.

LOW INTERMEDIATE

ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT 10

This course has been designed to help students extend the four main English language skills of reading, writing, listening, and speaking. It will encourage the use of viewing and representing to build all four language skills. The focus is on expanding the strategies you need to read, research, and write successfully in standard English for academic success. Students will also identify and compare their own customs to Canadian culture and customs. They will learn how to express themselves using more compound sentences, short paragraphs, and literary devices.

INTRODUCTION TO ACADEMIC LANGUAGE 10

The emphasis of this course is to develop students' academic language and extend the English language skills needed to be more successful in the content areas of English and Socials through reading, researching, and writing. Students will listen, read, and study texts in specific genres by studying the forms, styles, and models required to create these text structures to build competencies so students can create original pieces. This course includes elements that make up Canadian culture. Students will learn to use more specific vocabulary and draw from examples to further develop their written and verbal expression.

HIGH INTERMEDIATE

ACADEMIC WRITING 11

This course is designed to extend students' exploration of the four main English language skills of reading, writing, listening, and speaking. It will help students improve their knowledge, skills, and attitudes as they become bilingual. There will be an emphasis on the use of strategies needed to be successful in other academic courses. Students will practice these strategies while reading, writing, and extracting information in English that address their specific needs regarding language and culture. Students will learn how to identify abstract ideas from a variety of texts and make connections to themselves.

ADVANCED

ISP / ELL WRITING 11

This course is intended to develop, strengthen, and enhance students' academic writing skills to write effectively at the level expected of them in upper-level secondary courses. Since writing is the strand which will be most heavily evaluated in high school English, this course emphasizes writing strategies and theory that will increase student understanding of the writing process, thereby facilitating success in the graduation program. Students will acquire the skills necessary to produce organized, detailed prose for a variety of purposes.

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAM

R.E. Mountain Secondary School's Pre-International Baccalaureate (IB) Program is designed to prepare students for the challenges of the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program that is offered to students in Grade 11 and 12. IB is an academically rigorous university preparation program that is recognized globally. Pre-IB and IB teachers in each subject area work collaboratively to identify the skills and knowledge that are necessary to help students succeed in IB. The Pre-IB teachers then introduce, develop and reinforce these skills and knowledge at grade appropriate levels. By the time Pre-IB students are completing Grade 10, they should be well prepared for the academic rigour of the IB Program. Students enrolled in both Pre-IB and IB are also required to take a second language. R.E. Mountain Secondary's Pre-IB and IB Programs are District programs which means that students must be residents of Langley to be considered. All Langley students are welcome to apply and will be considered equally for the programs regardless of their catchment area. However, it should be noted that there is a distinct academic advantage to enter into the IB program at the Pre-IB 9 level.

COMPLEX RESOURCE

Students in Complex Resource are on a Modified program closely linked to their Individual Education Program goals. Students focus on developmentally appropriate academic, social and employment skills. They are supported by a variety of professionals including Educational Assistants in all class settings.

LEARNING SUPPORT SERVICES

The Learning Support Services Department is designed to provide services in-class and tutorial support to all students in academic classes requiring help to meet course requirements and/or meeting the goals of their IEP if they have one. The Department believes that educators work together to coordinate their efforts and expertise to enhance student learning. The Learning Support Team works with teachers to identify, plan, teach, and assess students with varying learning needs.

