

Information Guide for completing the Grade 8 Course Selection Package

We are very excited that you have chosen **St. Kateri Tekakwitha** for the next step in your educational journey!

Course Selection & paid Activity Fee are both due by Wednesday December 15th.

Steps for completing grade 9 course selection by our Family of Schools for the 2022-2023 school year (Our Lady of Fatima, Guardian Angels and St. Scholastica only):

1. **My Blueprint:** Students in our Family of Schools will enter their course selection into **My Blueprint**. Parents are asked to review the course selection before the student presses submit. Once submitted, students cannot make changes on **My Blueprint**. If students are having issues, they should speak with their grade 8 teacher or the available elementary school itinerant.

Most common issues students have with **My Blueprint** are students have not entered the correct user email and password, they didn't use their OEN to set up their account or are not a student in the St. Kateri boundary. If the submit button is not highlighted, they will not be able to enter their course selection. This could mean they are not connected to St. Kateri's system or it is not open for course selection. **My Blueprint** will not be open until **November 23rd and will close on December 15th**. Students can check which high school they are connected to by checking their account settings.

2. Once course selection is submitted, a \$65 activity fee needs to be paid by Cash On-line. Please record the reference number you receive after payment for future reference. To pay by Cash On-line please visit the St. Kateri website at <https://secondary.hcdsb.org/stkateri>. The activity fee covers various items, events, and a students' yearbook. If you have issues using Cash On-line or are unable to pay, please contact our financial secretary Mrs. Taylor at taylor@hcdsb.org or (289)337- 5316 at extension 202.
3. The completed **My Blueprint** submission of courses and the paid activity fee is due December 15th.

Steps for completing grade 9 course selection for students outside of the HCDSB:

1. Please complete the on-line Registration form on our school board website www.hcdsb.org. **New registrations for the 2022-2023 school year is not open until after December 6th.** Please make sure you are completing the correct school year. Once your registration form has been approved, St. Kateri will email you a Course Selection Guide in order to select courses for next year.
2. Once a Course Selection Guide is emailed to you, a \$65 activity fee needs to be paid by Cash On-line. Please record the reference number you receive after payment for future reference. To pay by Cash On-line please visit the St. Kateri website at <https://secondary.hcdsb.org/stkateri>. The activity fee covers various items, events, and a students' yearbook. If you have issues using Cash On-line or are unable to pay, please contact our financial secretary Mrs. Taylor at taylor@hcdsb.org or (289)337- 5316 at extension 202
3. Course selection and activity fee payment are both due by December 15th.

Helpful Tips & Information to help complete the Course Selection for grade 9:

1. Teacher recommendations are very important. Teachers can help students choose an appropriate level to **start with**. Discuss with the grade 8 teachers your child's strengths and abilities to help you make a decision that is right for your child. A guidance counsellor can help change levels and pathways when you come to St. Kateri next year.
2. **My Blueprint** instructions can be found on St. Kateri's website <https://secondary.hcdsb.org/stkateri> . Please review the courses chosen carefully. Once you press "**Submit**", you will **not** be able to make changes on **My Blueprint**. You will need to email the guidance counsellor, Mrs. Carambia at carambiaa@hcdsb.org to make a change. Changes to courses *maybe* accommodated up until May 1st (based on availability). **My Blueprint submissions will be open until Dec. 15th**. After this date students *will not be able* to submit their courses through My Blueprint. Contact Student Services at St. Kateri for direction.
3. Students can make course level changes and possible changes to elective courses up until May 1st. Elective course changes will **not** be accommodated once the new school year begins in September. Please select courses carefully!
4. For **Academic** courses select courses with "**D**" i.e. CGC1D
For **Applied** courses select courses with "**P**" i.e., ENG1P
For **Locally Developed** courses select courses with "**L**" i.e., MAT1L ("L" courses are taken by recommendation of the teacher)
5. **Math courses:** Most students will select the Ministry directed destreamed math course **MTH1W**. This is neither an academic nor an applied level class. In grade 10 students will select academic or applied levels for math.
6. The **GLE** course is ONLY for students who have an IEP. All students can take **GLS1O1** instead. **It is strongly recommended for IEP students to take GLE**. Please discuss with the grade 8 teacher or SERT.
7. All grade 9 students need to **select 8 courses**. There are **6 compulsory courses** students need to take from **Part A**. There are **2 elective courses** students must choose from **Part B**. All course descriptions can also be found on www.myblueprint.ca or the St. Kateri website <https://secondary.hcdsb.org/stkateri> .
8. **English as a Second Language:** Please see your teacher for recommendations on ESL course levels.
9. **Potential IB and AP candidates:** You still need to complete St. Kateri's Course Selection and pay the activity fee to St. Kateri first by December 15th. Once the student has been accepted into the IB or AP programs at other schools, the student's information will be transferred over to the new school. Further instructions will follow from those schools later regarding course selections.
10. Students can start with **Applied English** (ENG1P) or **Applied Science** (SNC1P). If a student is very successful in these levels, the student can take **Academic grade 10 English** or **Academic grade 10 Science** the following year without having to take the grade 9 academic courses.

We look forward to working with our future St. Kateri grade 9 students!