



Ecole Secondaire Philemon Wright High School
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Very Important Memo Regarding Grade 10 and Grade 11 Math Options 2009-2010

Dear Student and Parent,

The implementation of the new Quebec Education Program goes into its final year in 2009-2010 as it extends into Cycle 2 Secondary 5; a student's grade 11 year. We would like to take this opportunity to further inform you of the available Math options for students going into grade 10 and grade 11, as well as help clarify some of the misconceptions concerning the secondary Math options.

The three Math options are the Science option, the Technical option, and the Cultural option. When deciding on which option is best for them, a student should consider the following:

- Science option Math caters to students who have an innate ability in Math, who have consistently succeeded at a high level in Math, who have a strong work ethic, who plan on continuing in Math/Sciences at the college and/or university level, and who are prepared to think abstractly. The course is designed for students who enjoy math and want to learn concepts in depth.
- Technical option Math caters to students who have an innate ability in Math, who have succeeded at a high level in Math, who have a strong work ethic and who plan on continuing in Math/Sciences at the college and/or university level. The course is designed for students who enjoy math and want to learn a little bit of many different concepts.
- Cultural option Math caters to students who may or may not have previously succeeded at Math nor have any desire to continue with Math and Science at the post-secondary level. The course is designed for students who don't necessarily enjoy Math but require it for graduation.

As a student successfully completes grade 9 or 10 Math, they are asked to follow the Western Quebec School Board recommendation when choosing their grade 10 or 11 Math option. Briefly summarized, the recommendation is as follows:

1. Entry to the Cultural, Social, and Technical Mathematics option in Cycle II, Year 2 Secondary (Secondary IV) is granted to a student who has clearly demonstrated an overall average competency level 3 (60%) (appendix B) on the end of year competency report in the Mathematics 306 program.
2. Entry to the Cultural, Social, and Technical Mathematics option in Cycle II, Year 3 secondary (Secondary V) is available to a student who has clearly demonstrated an overall average competency level 3 (60%) on the end of year competency report in any of the Cycle 2, Year 2 Secondary (Secondary IV) Mathematics options.
3. Entry to the Technical and Scientific Mathematics or Science Mathematics options in Cycle II, Year 2 Secondary (Secondary IV) is recommended to a student who has clearly demonstrated a competency level 4 (76%) in solving situational problems, mathematical reasoning, and communication in the Mathematics 306 program as indicated on the end of year competency report (June).
4. Entry to the Technical and Scientific Mathematics or Science Mathematics options in Cycle II, Year 3 secondary (Secondary V) is recommended to a student who has clearly demonstrated an overall average competency level 3 (60%) in the Cycle II, Year 2 Secondary (Secondary IV) Technical and Scientific Mathematics or Science Mathematics options, as indicated on the end of year competency report.

It must be noted that both the Science option and the Technical option courses are advanced courses; they are both demanding and require students to work independently at a high level. Although both options satisfy the same entrance requirements for entry into programs at CEGEP, it is our opinion that the Science option will better prepare students for the rigors of most Math/Science programs. For example, a student who chooses the grade 10 Science option course and upon successful completion chooses the grade 11 Science option course, will cover 17 chapters of material in an in depth and thorough manner. A student who chooses the grade 10 Technical option course and upon successful completion chooses the grade 11 Technical option course, will cover 23 chapters of material in a more limited and disjointed way.

Therefore, we are strongly recommending that students take the Science Option and NOT the Technical and Scientific OPTION. As you consider this information, please take the time to reflect upon the choices that you have already made on your option sheet. **If at this point you feel as though you would like to change your Math option choice for next year, please contact before July 20th, 2009, by email ONLY:** Ola Hodgins at ohodgins@wqsb.qc.ca and T.Kharyati tkharyati@wqsb.qc.ca. Please indicate the choice you have made and the new choice you prefer. Any requests after the 20th of July will be considered BUT cannot be guaranteed.

If you require more information or have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our Guidance Department or, over the summer, check out our website for relevant documents.

Respectfully,

T.Kharyati
Principal