



Pathways

Dreams & Realities

The mission of Catholic Education in union with our Bishop is to enable all learners to realize the fullness of their humanity which our Lord Jesus Christ is the model.

The stakes could not be higher. Our students will be faced with the challenge of adapting to the demands of a global economy, while at the same time they will be called to be role models for Catholic values of social justice, environmental stewardship, and responsible

members of our global community. High quality Catholic education opens the doors to opportunity and future prosperity.

Jobs have become more specialized and driven by technology, requiring higher levels of education. Research shows that 70% of new jobs will require some form of post-secondary training and education.

For many students the distance between their dreams and their reality is vast. Too many students fail to plan adequately for their post-secondary pathway. In recognition of this, Pathways is now a K-12 Board priority.

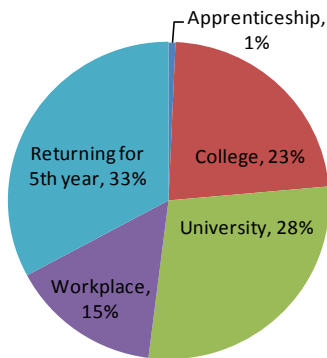
Age appropriate career assessment, exploration and planning activities encourage our students to consider and focus on personally relevant career options as early as grade 7. Emphasis on strong learning skills and positive work habits help to

prepare younger students K-6 for their future pathway choices.

Education research shows that early pathway information can improve post-secondary success in the workplace, apprenticeship, college and university, since students who are better prepared are pursuing careers that best match their interests.

The HWCDSB is committed to ensuring that all our students reach the fullness of their humanity and are prepared for post-secondary education and work in the 21st century through an emphasis on

- Catholic, Community Culture & Service
- Literacy
- Mathematical literacy and the study of science to grade 12
- Early monitoring and intervention of transition from home to school, grade 8 to 9 and grade 12 to post-secondary destinations.



HWCDSB Student Pathways June 2010

A parent's dream...

The critical role parents play in the educational achievement of their children is profound. Students with involved parents, regardless of their family income or background, are more likely to earn higher grades and test scores, enrol in higher level classes, attend school and pass their

classes, develop better social skills, graduate from high school, attend post-secondary education and find productive work. These findings are the work of a new study funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation. This study reveals that parents are ready to help their children, but need better information and tools

from the schools to do so. All parents have high expectations and big dreams for their children.

"Wisdom has built her house; she has hewn her seven pillars. ... The first step to wisdom is the fear of the Lord, and knowledge of the Most Holy One is understanding." Proverbs 9: 1,10

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Special points of interest:

- 97% of HWCDSB grade 10 students have a computer at home
- 93% of HWCDSB grade 10 students report they use website, email and chat messages outside of school
- Stats Canada reports that the number of Canadian cell phone subscribers rose 8.4 per cent to 18 million people in the final quarter of 2006

Specialist High Skills Major

Specialist High Skills Majors let students focus on a career path that matches their skills and interests.

- Students have the opportunity to Gain important skills on the job with actual employers, at skills training centres and at school
- Each major is a bundle of 8-10 courses in the student's selected field.
- Earn valuable industry certifications, including first aid and CPR qualifications.
- Experiential learning through job shadowing and work experience
- Use of the Ontario Skills Passport (OSP) to document demonstration of essential skills and work habits.
- "Reach Ahead" opportunities, which allow students to experience learning in their intended

postsecondary destination and which can range from a day of attendance at a college, a university, or a workplace to the completion of a dual credit.

A Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) is a type of ministry-approved specialized program. A SHSM allows students to focus on knowledge and skills that are of particular importance in certain economic sectors, and to obtain certifications recognized in those sectors, as they work towards meeting the requirements for an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). Students who graduate with a SHSM designation on their diploma are prepared for success in a particular sector and in the postsecondary destination of their choice, whether it, be apprenticeship training, a college or university program, or the workplace. Students must be in grade 11 or 12 to participate.

Sectors Available 2010-11

Arts & Culture

[BR, CN, CHS, SJB, STM]

Business

[BT, CHS, SM, STM]

Construction

[SM, STM]

Non-Profit

[BT, CN, CHS, SJB, STM]

Energy

[SM]

Health & Wellness

[BT, BR, CN, CHS, SJB, SM]

Hospitality

[CHS]

Transportation

[BT, CHS, SJB]



Technology Supports E-learning



Technology has great potential to support the education and training of the workforce prior to labour market entry and as a part of lifelong learning. Technology-mediated learning—the use of computers and other information technologies as an integral part of the learning process—is gaining ground through such applications as computer based instruction, Internet-based instruction, and other methods for customized learning. Information technologies potentially allow access to instructional materials any time, any place.

E-learning, supported by the Ministry of Education, is one mode of curriculum delivery, which helps students succeed in school.

E-learning comes in many forms, but

it is really about using the computer to access information, courses and tools to develop skills and knowledge on all types of subjects.

E-learning is not unlike any other form of education - and it is widely accepted that e-Learning can be as rich and as valuable as the classroom experience. With its unique features e-Learning is an experience that leads to comprehension and mastery of new skills and knowledge, just like its traditional counterpart.

Courses meet all Catholic curriculum expectations and standards. All courses are taught by fully qualified teachers in the [HWCDSB](#) in collaboration with [eLearning Ontario](#).

2010-11 e-Learning Courses

PPZ30—Health for Life

CGF3M—Physical Geography

IDC4U—Catholic Leadership Initiative

ICS4U—Computer Programming

ENG4U—English

2011-12 e-Learning Courses

MCT4C—Mathematics for technology

SBI 4U—Biology

EWC4C/4U—English Writers Craft

HZT4U—Philosophy

BTX 4C—Business Information &

Communication Technology

CGR4M—Environment & Resource Management

CIE 3M—Individual & Economy

BDI 3C—Entrepreneurship

Technology is assumed to be a natural part of the environment. The younger the age group, the higher is the percentage who use the Internet for school.

Pathways to Success—Yours to Choose

www.pathtosuccess.ca

Pathways to Success—Yours to Choose, is an integrated, webpage that brings together many career planning links for students, teachers, parents and community partners. This website provides easy access to the information needed for students to make informed course selection and career related decisions.

It's your one-stop source for pathway planning. ...

Students can assess their skills and interests to match potential career opportunities. Explore opportunities in all 4 destinations, build and develop an annual education plan with Career Matters and find out how they can get experience in fields of work they may be interested in. Profiles of students in each of the 4 destinations have also been included.

All students are encouraged to access the **NEW** on-line HWCDSD Course Calendar under **Secondary Courses**. Information about the secondary school program, graduation requirements, types of courses and descriptors and specific courses offered at each of the seven secondary schools is just a point and click away.

For parents, information around helping their children understand, who they are, and how to build a pathway is also provided. Parents are encouraged to be involved in the high school course selection and post-secondary preparation process because of the role they play is destination planning for their children.

For teachers links to resources for career assessment, exploration, pathway building and experiential learn-

ing have also been provided.

For community partners information is available on this webpage as well. It includes links for employers on how to get involved in cooperative education and experiential learning as well as community ser-



Dual Credit Programs— Mohawk Bridge & Tech Bridge



What it is

Students participate in postsecondary courses, earning dual credits that count towards both their high school diploma and their postsecondary diploma, or apprenticeship certification. Students are supported by a Dual Credit Secondary Teacher and the Mohawk College course instructor.

Who it's for

Students in grade 12 who need learning opportunities outside of high school and who would benefit from a college or apprenticeship experience. Students must have successfully completed the OSSD Literacy graduation requirements and have completed or enrolled in English 4C1.

How it helps

Students have the opportunity to:

- Earn high school credits while studying at a local college
- Gain experience that will help them with their postsecondary education or apprenticeship
- Get a head start on learning and training for their future careers.

Mohawk Bridge

This dual credit program begins September and February each year and offers students the opportunity, upon successful completion, to earn up to 2 secondary school credits at their home school and 2 additional optional credits towards their OSSD. Students will also earn up to 2 general education elective courses towards the completion of a college program. Students enrolled in this program will attend Mohawk College for half a day studying two general education courses. The other half of the day will be spent at their home school attending secondary courses of their choosing. The Mohawk College portion of this program runs from Monday to Thursday and includes a morning or afternoon option.

Courses:

- **Active Citizenship**
- **Society, Technology and Social Issues**

This course is designed to examine a wide variety of technologies that have influ-

enced society significantly. These technologies will be examined both from a historical perspective and for their immediate impact on our lives socially, politically and economically.

Mohawk Tech Bridge

This program begins February 2011 and will give students with an interest in technology programs, the opportunity, upon successful completion, to earn up to 2 optional credits towards their OSSD. Upon successful completion, students will earn up to two (2) secondary school credits and two (2) college courses, first-semester college CAD and a technology stream Math which may include preparatory Math.

Courses:

- **Computer Aided Design—CAD**
- **Math for Technology**

Students may enroll in both programs for a total of 4 Mohawk Dual Credits. For more information contact your Student Services Department.

Oh Guiding light, my steps may falter today. Lift me up Lord so I may steadily follow Your way, for I am but a weak vessel. Steer me from danger and away from strife. Your light is eternal, but I sometimes cannot see, that only You Lord is gently steering me.



Achieving, Believing, Serving

*This newsletter has been developed
by
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www.hwcdsb.edu.on.ca

A message from the Director

The average person will change careers three times over the course of their lifetime and will have seven to nine different jobs. That is just one of the startling facts that will greet you as you peruse this website.

Pathways to Success was developed to assist students, teachers and parents in planning for postsecondary destinations by providing all the information that students need to make informed decisions about their future. By providing opportunities for students to explore their interests and build on their skills, we hope to assist students in identifying an appropriate destination and setting them on a program pathway that will ensure their future success.

Student Success was implemented in 2003 to improve learning outcomes for students "at risk" of not completing their education. With the development of various intervention strategies, Student Success meant that success was within the realm of all students. The Pathways to Success website is a comprehensive resource that outlines all of the choices now available to students. Whether college or university bound, or destined for apprenticeship or the workplace, students can access step-by-step instructions that will allow them to plan for their pathway.

Identifying the needs of each student and providing them with appropriate information and support is a sure fire way of increasing student success and improving the likelihood of high school graduation for those who face the greatest barriers.

I would like to thank our Student Success Teams and all those who work with such dedication to ensure the success of our students. This Pathways website is just one example of the many resources that have been developed to support student achievement. I invite you to make good use of it.

Patricia Amos
Director of Education



www.pathtosuccess.ca

After-school Homework Help

FREE Online Mathematics Assistance For Grades 7, 8, 9 & 10 Mathematics Students!

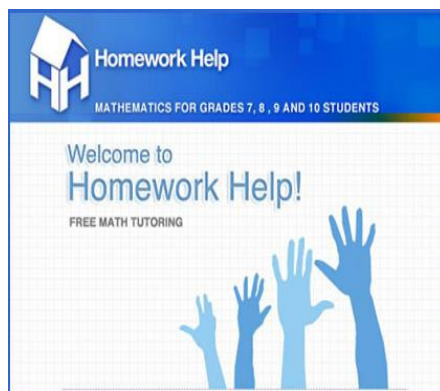
The Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board, in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Independent Learning Centre (ILC) are pleased to offer all HWCDSB Grades 7, 8, 9 & 10 Mathematics students free online mathematics homework assistance through the Homework Help Project.

Homework Help offers students free one-on-one tutoring with a certified Ontario mathematics teacher, from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Sunday to Thursday, via an interactive chat room. In addition, Homework Help offers students unlimited access to a wide collection of tutorials and presentations on various mathematical concepts.

To access these supports, students simply need to login to Homework Help at

<http://homeworkhelp.ilc.org> using the *Username* and *Password* they generated during the on-line registration process facilitated by the school.

The Homework Help website is fully monitored with several protective measures in place to ensure student safety. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to visit the site as guests to explore the resources it has to offer.



For I am the Lord, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you.