

LAUREL HEIGHTS

2026-2027

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HURRICANE FAST FORWARD PROGRAM

SCHOOL INFORMATION AND GOALS

We are a full-service school offering programs for students who are university, college or workplace-bound. It is an urban high school with a population of approximately 1700 students. We offer a wide range of curricular and extra-curricular programs to meet the diverse needs of our students.

SCHOOL SUPPORT SERVICES AND RESOURCES

We offer students support and resources outside of the classroom through the Guidance Department, the Learning Services Department, the Library, Student Activities Office, Student Success Room, Social Worker, and Child and Youth Workers

PROFILE OF A STUDENT IN THE FAST FORWARD PROGRAM

Fast Forward is a unique diploma granting program (OSSD) focusing on preparing students for direct entry into the workplace. The program is designed to develop students' literacy and numeracy skills in addition to their learning and employability skills necessary to be successful in a work environment. Students' preparation for employment includes a variety of opportunities for work-related learning experiences while in high school.

The Fast Forward Program meets the needs of a student who:

- Has struggled with literacy and numeracy for a significant period of time;
- Is academically 2-4 years out of phase;
- Has had significant accommodations or modifications to their elementary school program;
- Has an Individual Education Plan (IEP).

Students in the Fast Forward program benefit from the opportunity to:

- Earn an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD)
- Improve their reading, writing and mathematical skills and gain greater confidence as a learner
- Develop their learning skills and employability skills as they prepare for entry into the workplace after high school
- Participate in work-related learning experiences (e.g. Co-op, Career Days, Employment Fair, team-building activities, etc.)
- Earn certificates recognized by local employers (e.g. Safe Food Handling, WHMIS etc.) through co-op

Fast Forward offers students an opportunity to prepare to go directly from high school into the workplace. Students take courses that help them achieve the necessary 30 credits to complete their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD).

FAST FORWARD PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Students enrolled in the Laurel Heights Fast Forward program will take the following program of courses:

YEAR 1 (8 CREDITS)

COMPULSORY COURSES (8)

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English—ENG 1LB • Geography—CGC 1WB • Math—MAT 1LB • Science—SNC 1LB • Arts: Visual Art & Guitar—ALC 1OB | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical Education (regular stream classes): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Girls—PPL 1OX or</i> • <i>Boys—PPL 1OY</i> • Technology & the Skilled Trades—TAS 1OB • Building the Entrepreneurial Mindset—BEM 1OB |
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YEAR 2 (8 CREDITS)

COMPULSORY COURSES (5)

- English—ENG 2LB
- History—CHC 2LB
- Math—MAT 2LB
- Science—SNC 2LB
- Civics (1/2 credit)—CHV 2OB
- Career Studies (1/2 credit)—GLC 2OB

ELECTIVE COURSES (CHOOSE 3)

- Drama—ADA 2OI*
- Dance—ATC 2OI*
- Visual Art—AVI 2OI*
- Guitar—AMG 2OB
- Physical Education (Boys)—PPL 2OY*
- Physical Education (Girls)—PPL 2OX*
- Power-Fit (Boys)—PAF 2OY*
- Live-Fit (Girls)—PAF 2OX*
- Food and Nutrition—HFN 2OB
- Clothing NEW FOR 2026—HNL 2OI*
- Construction—TCJ 2OB
- Transportation—TTJ 2OB

SENIOR LEVEL PROGRAM

COMPULSORY COURSES

YEAR 3 (8 CREDITS TOTAL)

- English—ENG 3EB
- Math—MEL 3EB
- Co-op (2 Credits)—GLD 2OC

YEAR 4 (6-8 CREDITS TOTAL)

- English—ENG 4EB
- Co-op (2-4 credits): COP 402, COP 403 or COP 404

ELECTIVE COURSES

NOTE—Students in year 4 or 5 may choose courses from either column (depending on prerequisites).

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guitar—AMG 3OI/3OB • Raising Healthy Children—HPC 3OB (alternating years with HLS3OI) • Housing & Home Design—HLS 3OI (alternating years with HPC 3OB) • Student Leadership—IDC 3OB/4OB • Physical Education (Boys)—PPL 3OY* • Physical Education (Girls)—PPL 3OX* • Power-Fit (Boys)—PAF 3OY* • Live-Fit (Girls)—PAF 3OX* • Construction Technology—TCJ 3EB • Hospitality & Tourism—TFJ 3EB | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manufacturing Technology—TMJ 3EB • Welding—TMW 3EB • Transportation/Auto Service—TTA 3CB • Literacy Course—OLC 4OB • Physical Education (co-ed)—PPL 4OI* • Live-Fit (Girls)—PAF 4OX* • Power-Fit (Boys)—PAF 4OY* • Construction Technology—TCJ 4EB • Hospitality & Tourism—TFJ 4EB • Manufacturing Technology—TMJ 4EB • Welding—TMW 4EB • Transportation/Auto Service—TTA 4CB |
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* These course are open to everyone, including regular and Fast Forward stream students. It is advised that Fast Forward students speak with their guidance counsellor if considering these options.

Co-operative Education is an integral part of the Fast Forward program. By accessing the above co-operative education opportunities, students will develop the skills and have the work experience needed to successfully enter the workplace.

By completing the above progression of courses, students will fulfill the requirements for a high school diploma (OSSD). For complete information about graduation requirements refer to <http://www.wrdsb.ca/learning/programs/secondary-school-information/graduation-requirements/>.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What will my schedule look like?

- We are a semestered school.
- Each student in Grade 9 will take 4 courses in sem. 1 (Sept.—Jan.) and sem. 2 (Feb.—June).
- The school day starts at 8:20am and ends at 2:30pm.
- Each class is 75 minutes in length.
- We have a common 1 hour lunch break for all students.
- We currently run on a week 1/week 2 schedule (afternoon classes flip depending on the week).

Are there extra-curricular activities for Highlanders?

- Yes, and lots of them.
- Students should find a sports team, arts activity or club that satisfies their interests. In the arts area, students can choose to participate in a wide variety of activities including choirs, instrumental groups, dance, and drama productions.
- Competitive and Intramural sports teams are offered over three seasons (fall, winter and spring). Some teams limit the number of participants, but many will take all who commit to regular practice.
- Please visit our website <http://lhs.wrdsb.ca> for more information.

Must I take all of the courses in the prescribed Fast Forward Program?

- The program has been designed to assist students in finding greater success in their academic program and to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes to move successfully from the classroom to the workplace. **Students are expected to take the program as prescribed in grade 9.** The prescribed courses assist in meeting diploma requirements.

When I graduate from the Fast Forward Program, will I receive the same high school diploma as students who are not in the Fast Forward Program?

- Yes. All students who meet the requirements for the OSSD (Ontario Secondary School Diploma) receive the same Diploma.

How big is the school?

- Approximately 1700 students.
- Roughly 400 grade 9 students who come from our main feeder schools (Vista Hills, Laurelwood, Edna Staebler and Centennial) and Fast Forward feeder schools.

Will I receive bussing if I am accepted into the Fast Forward Program?

- Transportation is provided to students living more than 3.2 kilometres from their Fast Forward Program school. To find out your transportation eligibility visit: www.stswr.ca (you will be required to input some information).
- For “Grade”, be sure to scroll to the bottom to find “FF” – Fast Forward).

Who can I talk to if I’m having problems?

- Homeroom teacher, who students see regularly.
- Special Education Resource Teachers (SERT)
- Guidance Counsellor, who can help with academic, career and personal issues.
- Child and Youth worker (CYW) and Social Worker assigned to the school.
- Classroom teachers and/or Learning Resource Centre
- Administrators and secretaries in the Main Office.

