

Brooks Secondary School

Junior Outdoor and Sustainability Program

Fall, 2015

Thank you for your interest in our new “Junior Outdoor and Sustainability Program.” We’ve yet to finalize a name for this program, but we’re hoping the students in the program will, from their participation, offer insights into a new name for this exciting learning opportunity.

The information below is offered in response to several requests for more detailed information. Please feel free to contact either the program teacher, Ryan Barfoot (ryan.barfoot@sd47.bc.ca), or the administrator, Rod Perrault (rod.perrault@sd47.bc.ca) if you have any further questions.

There are a few key areas of focus for this program:

- Providing students with a learning opportunity outside of the traditional classroom and timetable structure,
- A focus on both outdoor experiences and sustainability education (education that focuses on students’ roles as stewards of nature/the natural world),
- Community participation in work experience and cooperative learning activities
- Development of a “cohort” of learners who, as a group, will develop a strong commitment to their learning team. This will involve collaborative work with other students including both accountability to the group and receiving the benefits of being a part of a group of learners.

The timeline for the program

- The program will run as a full-time program for the first semester of 2015-16 school year. All of the students’ courses in the time will take place within the program. However, there will be an opportunity for students enrolled in Band 9 or 10 to continue to participate in Band.

Courses involved

- Grade 10 students in this program will earn the following credits:
 - Planning 10
 - English 10
 - Phys. Ed. 10
 - Sustainability Studies 11
 - Work Experience 11
 - Grade 10 students will need to take the following courses in the second semester:
 - Math 10 (AW Math 10 or Fnd & Pre Calc 10)
 - Social Studies 10
 - Science 10
 - One additional course as an elective
- Grade 9 students in the program will complete the following courses:
 - English 9

- Phys. Ed. 9
- Health and Career Ed 9
- Sustainability Studies 9 (elective)
- Grade 9 students will need to take the following courses in the second semester:
 - Math 9
 - Social Studies 9
 - Science 9
 - One additional course as an elective or a second language course

Structure of the Program

- Monday to Thursday:
 - Students will be participating in learning experiences with the program's teacher focused on the courses above. During one block, every second day, students will either be in their band class or in the "on-line" room working on course work or assignments. Learning activities will be school/classroom-based, in outdoor-based, and involve physical/outdoor activities in the broader community and natural spaces.
- Fridays:
 - Students will be in the community participating in Work Experience/Work Study experiences that will connect to their learning in the program. This time can include a number of possible activities including landscaping work at the Outdoor Learning Centre or volunteering with the City or Regional district or volunteering with any number of community organizations.

Getting Started

- To organize students in the program, we ask the following:
 - Please attend a parent and participation information event in late August (date to be announced)
 - At any time, please confirm interest by e-mailing to Rod Perrault the student's name and grade and indicating a confirmation of interest in the program.
 - If the program is oversubscribed (that is, more than 20 requests), a draw for spots in the program will be held

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