Welcome to the Ajax High School Grade 8 Information Night!

The presentation will begin shortly.

AUAX HIGH SCHOO



AJAX HIGH SCHOOL GRADE 8 INFORMATION NIGHT

www.ddsb.ca/school/ajaxhs







The Durham District School Board acknowledges that many Indigenous Nations have longstanding relationships, both historic and modern, with the territories upon which our school board and schools are located. Today, this area is home to many Indigenous peoples from across Turtle Island (North America). We acknowledge that the Durham Region forms a part of the traditional and treaty territory of the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation, the Mississauga Peoples and the treaty territory of the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation. It is on these ancestral and treaty lands that we teach, learn and live.

Le conseil scolaire du district de Durham tient à souligner que de nombreuses nations autochtones ont des relations à long terme, qui sont historiques et modernes, avec les territoires sur lesquels se situent notre conseil scolaire et nos écoles. Aujourd'hui, cette région abrite de nombreux peuples autochtones de l'île de la Tortue (Amérique du Nord). Nous tenons à souligner que la région de Durham se situe sur des territoires traditionnels qui comprennent ceux des Premières Nations des Mississaugas de Scugog Island, du peuple Mississauga et le territoire visé par les traités avec la Première Nation des Chippewas de l'île Georgina. C'est sur ces terres ancestrales et visées par les traités que nous enseignons, apprenons et vivons.

WELL-BEING We value how you feel: We value how you drow EQUITY We value who you are. ENGAGEMENT We value your involvement. INNOVATION
We value
forward thinking.

The Durham District School recognizes that Indigenous rights are distinct. In the exercise of those rights, indigeneous staff and students shall not be subjected to actions with the aim or effect of depriving these distinct rights.

The Durham District School Board is committed to learning and working environments that centre human rights and equity and are safe, welcoming, respectful, equitable, accessible, inclusive and free from discrimination.



AJAX HIGH SCHOOL GRADE 8 INFORMATION NIGHT

www.ddsb.ca/school/ajaxhs





- > Role of the Guidance Department
- **➢** Ajax HS at a Glance
- **➢ Ontario Secondary School Diploma Requirements;**
 - Compulsory Credits, Literacy Test, Community Hours
- >DDSB; "Choosing My Success"
- **→ Grade 9 Pathway and Beyond**
- Course Selection Process and Individual Pathways
 Plan
- > Keys to Success
- How Can Families and Ajax HS help?
- **P**Virtual Breakout Links
- **▶** Department Videos



THE ROLE OF THE GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT AT AJAX HIGH SCHOOL

- >Transition from grade 8 to grade 9
- > Course selection information and assistance
- >Short-term counselling and referrals
- > Post-secondary research and applications
- > Career Planning
- >Timetabling and alternative education
- >Student records and awards
- > Commencement



AJAX HIGH SCHOOL AT A GLANCE

- >School Year is Divided Into <u>Two</u> Semesters
 - > Semester 1 (September to January)
 - > Semester 2 (February to June)
- >Students will Take Four Courses Per Semester
 - >75 minute classes
 - >Start time 9:05am
 - **> End time − 3:05pm**
 - >Lunch time 11:45am to 12:30pm
 - ➤ Note: Times are tentative and were different during the 2021-22 school year



TRANSITIONING TO AJAX HIGH SCHOOL

DATE	ACTIVITY
November 2021	STEAM Day (Cancelled due to COVID restictions)
November 2021	"Meet & Greet" with elementary schools
December 2021	Grade 8 Information Night (virtual)
Jan/Feb/Mar 2022 (tentative)	Course selection presentations and due dates
Spring 2022	Various events at Ajax HS (TBD)

Grade 9 Orientation day (TBD)

Individual meetings with guidance department "3 week watch"

September 2022

September/October 2022



ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS (OSSD)

30 Credits in Total

- 18 Compulsory Credits
- 12 Optional/Elective Credits
- Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test
- Community Service Hours
- **OSSD**



OSSD – COMPULSORY CREDITS

4 Credits English (1 credit per grade)

3 Credits Mathematics (at least on credits in grade 11 or 12)

2 Credits Science

1 Credit French as a Second Language

1 Credit Geography

1 Credit History

1 Credit Arts

1 Credit Physical and Health Education

1 Credit Civics and Career Education



Plus the following 3 Additional Courses...

OSSD – COMPULSORY CREDITS cont...

1 additional credit selected from...

English, or French as a second language*, or Native Language, or Spanish, or Social Sciences and Humanities, or Canadian and World Studies, or Guidance and Career Education, or Cooperative education**

1 additional credit selected from...

Health & Physical Education, or The Arts (visual art, drama, music), or Business, or French as a second language*, or Co-operative education**

1 additional credit selected from...

Science (Grade 11 or 12), or Technological Education, or Computer Studies, or French as a second language*, or Co-operative education**

* a maximum of 2 French credits can count towards these additional credits (one from group 1 and one from either group 2 or 3)
** a maximum of 2 Co-op credits can count towards these credits.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT HOURS

ALL Ontario students must complete a minimum of 40 HOURS unpaid community involvement activities before graduating from high school

Students may begin to complete these hours during the summer prior to grade 9

This is a requirement in ADDITION to the 30 credits needed to graduate

ONTARIO SECONDARY SCHOOL LITERACY TEST (OSSLT)

Students are required to successfully complete the Provincial Secondary School Literacy Test in order to obtain their OSSD

This test measures basic levels of literacy and is based on the literacy expectations to the end of Grade 9

Students must successfully complete their Grade 9 English credit prior to taking the test

CHOOSING MySUGESS



CORE STUDENT SUCCESS BELIEFS

All students can be successful Success comes in many forms There are many pathways to success

MANY PATHS TO SUCCESS:



Students' needs can be met through a variety of programs, placements, and class types within the DDSB. We strive to help every student meet their full potential, while fostering the highest level of independence possible for each student. We work with students, families and board staff to support the placement that best meets the students' needs, whether that is in a regular classroom, or for some students, in a special education class.



DDSB Commitment CHOOSING MySUGESS CHOOSING MYSUGESS CHOOSING MYSUGESS CHOOSING MYSUGESS CHOOSING MYSUGESS CHOOSING MYSUGESS CHOOSING MYSUGES CHOOSIN

- Ensuring all Grade 8 students transitioning to Grade 9 will make thoughtful, evidence-informed course selection choices reflective of their commitment to their own potential and success in high school and beyond.
- Ensuring all Grade 8 students have the opportunity to learn about their strengths and interests while investigating various viable pathways options for their initial post-secondary destination such as: Apprenticeship, College, Community Living, University, and the World of Work.



"Ending early streaming in secondary school means that Grade 9 students will continue to learn together in the same class. This will keep options open for all students to pursue postsecondary education and training in any pathway they choose, including skilled trades."

(Ontario Ministry of Education, 2021)

INCLUSIVE MINISTRY DE-STREAMED

MTH1W SNC1W

"With the introduction of this curriculum, all high school students will take the same Math [and Science] course in Grade 9 which will allow for the same eventual opportunities for all and an improved ability to pursue the pathway of their choice after their K-12 education."

(Ontario Ministry of Education, 2021)

INCLUSIVE GRADE 9 ACADEMIC COURSES

*INCLUSIVE GRADE 9 FRENCH IMMERSION COURSES

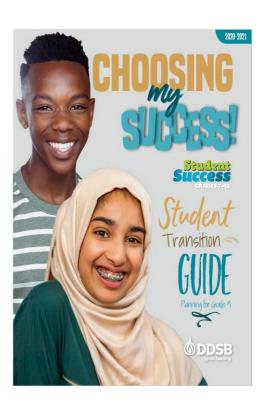
Grade 9 French Immersion courses, similar to subjects taught in English, will be available as Inclusive Academic courses for some subjects and Inclusive Open courses for other subjects.

- Inclusive Academic English: ENG1D1
- Inclusive Academic Geography: CGC1D1
- Inclusive Academic French: FSF1D1

See * for French Immersion information.

Delaying the requirement for students and families to choose post-secondary destination pathways, even by just a year to Grade 10, will provide more time to make informed choices and support all students with achieving their goals.







FAMILIES WANT TO ABOUT DE-STREAMING

	DE-STREAMING
What is streaming!	Streaming means separating students into different course types. In Oncario, students are currently streamed for Meth, English, Science, Geography, History and French. The course types for these Grade 9 and 10 courses are Academic, Applied and Locally Developed.
What is de-streaming?	Do-streaming means that students will no longer be separated into Academic and Applied Streams. Schools will still be able to offer Locally Developed Classes. Matchamatics is being do-streamed in the 2021-2023 school year. A do-streamed matchamatics class will prepare students for university, college, apprenticeship and workplace pathways.
Why are courses being de-streamed?	 Research shows that de-streaming results in better outcomes for students and particularly for those who are from marginalized communities.
What will be the class size for the new Grade 9 math course?	Decisions about class size have not been made.
Where can I find out information about the content in the new Grade 9 math course?	 The Ministry of Education's Curriculum website will have further information about the new math course: https://www.dca.edu.gov.on.ca/an/curriculumitisecondary.
What supports will be provided to students who have Special Education needs in the new de-streamed math course!	 Teachers will implement the Individual Education Plan for students who have Special Education needs. Mathematics seachers will continue to work collaboratively with Special Education Resource Teachers to support students in Secondary School.
Are all grade 9 courses being de-streamed next year?	Grade 9 Math is the first course to be de-streamed. Grade 9 English, French, Geography and Science will be de-streamed in future years.
Will Grade 10 also be de-streamed?	 The Ministry of Education is currently only focused on de-streaming Grade 9 within the next three years.
	LOCALLY DEVELOPED COURSES
What are Locally Developed (or Essentials) courses?	 Locally Developed courses support the needs of students who have been receiving significantly modified programming in Grade 8. Locally Developed courses are offered at the Grade 9 and Grade 10 level in some schools in the areas of English, Plash, Science and/or Hattory. Students in Locally Developed courses laws notents that it connected to everysky life. Programs at college and university with a high school mathematics course requirement will not accept courses in this puttwey for admission.

CHOOSING THE APPROPRIATE COURSE PATHWAY FOR SUCCESS

Equity

What is a De-Streaming/Inclusive Academic?

- De-streaming and/or Inclusive Academic means that students will no longer be separated into the Academic and Applied stream
- > As of now, students will have a choice of pathways moving into their grade 10 year
- "Research shows students from racialized communities, low-income households and other marginalized groups are more likely to be steered away from academic courses, which in turn affects everything from graduation rates to employment prospects later in life."

(https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/destreaming-plansept-2021-1.5643740)

- ▶ Ministry of Education changed Grade 9 Math to a de-streamed model for the 2021-22 school year and is changing Grade 9 Science to a de-streamed model for the 2022-23 school year
 - > Ajax HS offered Grade 9 Science in an Inclusive Academic model as well as the de-streamed Math this year with success
- Ministry of Education has discontinued Grade 9 Applied Math and Science

- DDSB has created an Inclusive Grade 9 Academic model for English, Geography, and French for the 2022-23 school year
 - ➤ Ajax HS has been offering both Grade 9 French and Geography in an Inclusive Academic model for the past three years with success
 - > Ajax HS has been offering Grade 9 English in an Inclusive Academic model for the past two years with success

- Ajax HS has also been offering the Grade 10 History as Inclusive Academic model with success
- Ajax HS will continue to offer Grade 9 courses at the Locally Developed pathway in addition to the Inclusive/De-streamed model

Ajax HS is prepared and ready to deliver the Inclusive/De-streamed Grade 9 model!

Common observations from AHS Inclusive Academic / Destreamed experience;

- Teachers' mindsets have changed regarding differentiated learning
- > Teachers' move to differentiated instruction has improved the classroom culture
- > Students have been "rising to the occasion"
- Students have been moving towards a higher level of internal accountability

CHOOSING THE APPROPRIATE COURSE PATHWAY FOR SUCCESS...BEYOND GRADE 9

Academic (D)

- > Focus on essential concepts, plus additional related concepts
- Emphasis on theoretical, abstract applications with some practical application
- Academic courses allow students to pursue post-secondary at UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE, APPRENTICESHIP, WORLD OF WORK
- Depending on the University program, other academic courses may be required (such as science and mathematics)
- > Refer to Course Planning tool, marks, EQAO results
- > Consult teachers, caregivers, ISS, administration, or guidance

CHOOSING THE APPROPRIATE COURSE PATHWAY FOR SUCCESS...BEYOND GRADE 9

Applied (P)

- > Focus on essential concepts
- Emphasis on practical, concrete applications, with some theoretical application
- >Applied courses allow students to pursue post-secondary at COLLEGE, APPRENTICESHIP, WORLD OF WORK
- > Refer to Course Planning tool, marks, EQAO results
- > Consult teachers, caregivers, ISS, administration, or guidance

CHOOSING THE APPROPRIATE COURSE PATHWAY FOR SUCCESS

Locally Developed (L)

- >Intended for students who require support and flexibility to meet credit requirements
- Reinforce elementary curriculum while providing the skills necessary for further study in at the secondary level
- Students are traditionally identified and reviewed into these courses

The Locally Developed pathway is offered in both grades 9 and 10

CHOOSING THE APPROPRIATE COURSE PATHWAY FOR SUCCESS

Open (O)

- >One set of expectations that is appropriate for all students
- > Designed to broaden students' knowledge and skills in subjects that reflect their interests
- Not designed for, nor are they a requirement for meeting postsecondary destination pre-requisites

Creating a community school that inspires develop a passion for learning

Créer une communauté où l'apprentiss

CHOOSING THE APPROPRIATE COURSE PATHWAY FOR SUCCESS...BEYOND GRADE 9

All subjects DO NOT have to be taken at the same pathway

It IS possible for a student to change course pathways during their high school career.

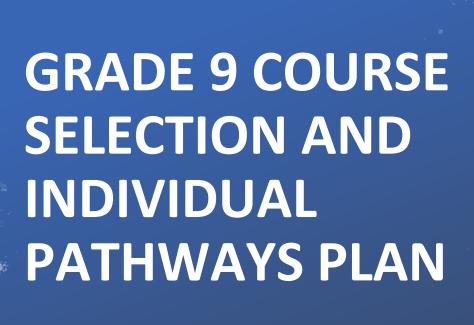
Each subject area has its own requirements for changing pathways (ie. Summer school, repeat course at same/lower grade/different type)

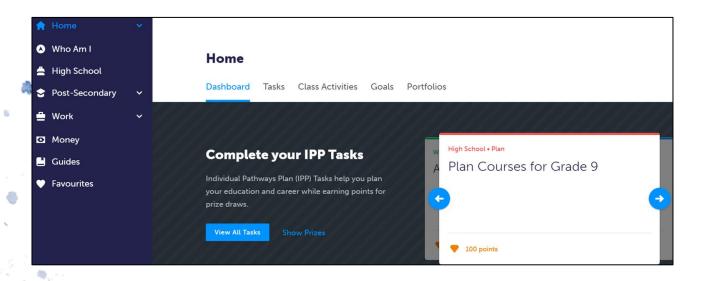
College to University Articulation/Bridge programs are available at most College institutions

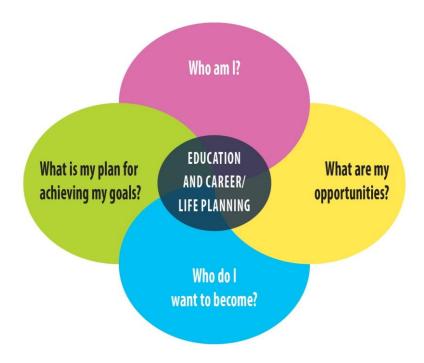
CHOOSING THE APPROPRIATE COURSE PATHWAY FOR SUCCESS

Does your child have an Individual Education Plan (IEP)?

- >You and your child will meet with the Ajax H.S. Inclusive Student Services and elementary SERT and/or teacher during the annual IPRC review
- > Reviews occur in January-February (tentative)
- >A review of your child's course selections will occur during this time in case adjustments need to be made







GRADE 9 COURSE SELECTION AND INDIVIDUAL PATHWAYS PLAN

Students are to complete the following tasks as part of their Individual Pathways Plan;

▶ Learning Styles Survey - Do you remember what you read? Are you good at remembering names? Everyone has different styles of learning they like best. What are yours?
 ▶ Personality Survey - You are a unique individual; but we all have personality traits that are

Personality Survey - You are a unique individual; but we all have personality traits that are similar to others. Understand your personality to find opportunities that fit your type well.

➤ Interests Survey - What captures your interest? When you're doing the stuff you enjoy and are interested in, you'll be happier and more successful in life.

➤ Knowledge Survey - What subjects do you love? We all have at least one class that we look forward to. Whatever subject it is, if you like it, you can probably find a career in it.

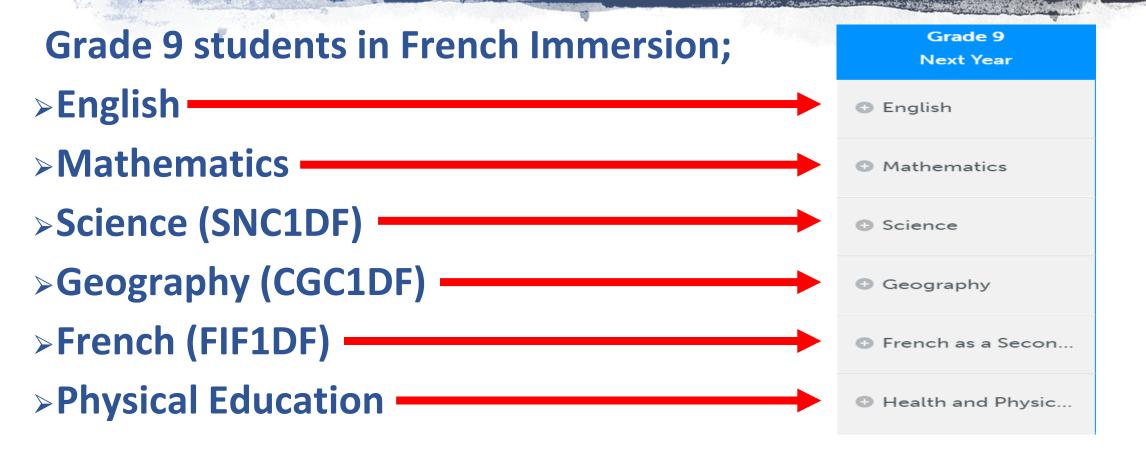
➤ Motivations Survey - Do you want to make a lasting impact? Is independence important to you? When you know what drives you, you can look for opportunities that fulfill your career objectives.

This plan is to be reviewed annually

GRADE 9 COURSE SELECTION AND INDIVIDUAL PATHWAYS PLAN

In grade 9 there are six compulsory courses; Grade 9 Next Year > English English > Mathematics **Mathematics** >Science Science > Geography Geography > French / Learning Strategies French as a Secon... > Physical Education Health and Physic...

GRADE 9 COURSE SELECTION AND INDIVIDUAL PATHWAYS PLAN



CHOOSING THE APPROPRIATE COURSE PATHWAY FOR SUCCESS FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAM

Students must take 10 courses taught in the French language;

Grade 9:

FIF1DF - French Language

SNC1DF - Science

CGC1DF - Geography

Grade 10:

FIF2DF - French Language

CHC2DF - History

SNC2DF - Science

GLC/CHV2OF - Careers/Civics

Grade 11:

FIF3UF - French Language

Plus one of the following;

SBI3UF - Biology HFC3MF - Food and Culture

GLC2O8 - Peer Helping

CWE209 - Cooperative Education

Grade 12:

FIF4UF - French Language

In grade 9, students must choose two electives;

>Students should choose at least one Arts credit

ADA101 - Dramatic Arts

Grade 9 • ADA1O1 • 1 Credit

AMG101 - Guitar Music

Grade 9 • AMG1O1 • 1 Credit

AMI101 - Instrumental Music - Band

Grade 9 • AMI1O1 • 1 Credit

AVI101 - Visual Arts

Grade 9 • AVI1O1 • 1 Credit

In grade 9, students must choose two electives;

>Students may decide to take an additional arts credit or one of the following courses;

BTT101 - Intro. to Info Tech in Business

Grade 9 • BTT101 • 1 Credit

HIF101 - Exploring Family Studies

Grade 9 • HIF1O1 • 1 Credit

TIJ101 - Exploring Technologies

Grade 9 • TIJ1O1 • 1 Credit

TGJ101 - Communications Technology

Grade 9 • TGJ101 • 1 Credit

TIJ1OJ - Exploring Technologies (Women in Trades)

Grade 9 • TIJ1OJ • 1 Credit

Students are asked to submit an alternate elective course;

- >AHS will attempt to have all grade 9 students placed in their top two elective courses
- >There are instances when students may need to be placed into their alternate choice (please choose your alternate carefully)

Please review all alert notices (blue or red dots) on the selected course(s) as there may be important information to review

Course Selections and the Individual Pathways Plan must be submitted electronically by;

TBD (was mid-February in past years)

Please note that due to the uncertainty of the next school year, the DDSB may alter the timelines for the course selection process

KEYS TO SUCCESS IN GRADE 9... AND THROUGHOUT HIGH SCHOOL

- >Attend all classes
 - > Be an active participant in class
 - >Seek out extra help and clarification if needed
- > Complete and submit ALL homework and assignments...on time
 - >Find a method of organization and time management that works for you

≻Get Involved!



Ajax Drives (Food and Toy Drive)	Multicultural Club
Arts Council	Murder Mystery
Athletic Council	Muslim Student Association
Battle of the Books	Music Council
BEST	Poetry Slam Team
Breakfast Club	PRIDE Club
Breaking Barriers	Prom Committee
Concert Band	Read-a-thon
Concert Choir	SAC
DECA	Spanish Club
Drone/Robotics Club	Tech Crew
Eco Club	Therapy Dogs
French Club	Trivia Club
Improv Club	U of Waterloo Math Club
Impact Club	Victory in Europe 2020
Literacy Test Prep	White Pine Reading Club
Library Volunteers	Yearbook Club
Me to We	



Basketball – Junior Girls (Fall)	Hockey – Junior Boys (Winter)
Basketball – Senior Girls (Fall)	Hockey – Senior Boys (Winter)
Cross Country (Fall)	Ski Club (Winter)
Field Hockey – Girls (Fall)	Squash Club (Winter)
Golf – Boys (Fall)	Swimming (Winter)
Golf – Girls (Fall)	Volleyball – Junior Girls (Winter)
Rugby – Boys 7's (Fall)	Volleyball – Senior Girls (Winter)
Rugby – Girls 7's (Fall)	Badminton – (Spring)
Soccer – Junior Boys (Fall)	Baseball – Boys (Spring)
Soccer – Senior Boys (Fall)	Golf Matchplay – Boys (Spring)
Volleyball – Junior Boys (Fall)	Golf Matchplay – Girls (Spring)
Volleyball – Senior Boys (Fall)	Rugby – Girls 15's (Spring)
Basketball – Junior Boys (Winter)	Soccer – Junior Girls (Spring)
Basketball – Senior Boys (Winter)	Soccer – Senior Girls (Spring)
Curling – Girls (Winter)	Track & Field (Spring)
Curling – Boys (Winter)	Ultimate Frisbee (Spring)

HOW CAN FAMILIES / GUARDIANS HELP?

- > Help your teen understand who they are (skills, aspirations)
- >Assist your teen in setting goals for the future in both employment and educational opportunities
- Encourage your teen to explore Experiential Educational Opportunities
- > Help your teen develop good work/study/organizational habits

HOW CAN AJAX HIGH SCHOOL HELP?

Course/Curricular Support

- > Timetable changes
- > Liaison with parents/guardians, teachers, students
- > Arrangement of additional classroom supports

> Personal Support

- > Support for personal life management
- > Liaison with social workers/attendance counsellors/access to community agencies
- > Counselling

> Career/Post-Secondary Support

- > Exit/Transition planning
- > College, University, Apprenticeship, Workplace info
- > Employment resources



CONTACT INFORMATION

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Lindsay Oster (Special Education Resource Teacher)

Jackie Callis (Guidance Counsellor)

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- >Ajax HS has created a set of department-specific videos to help you better understand the grade 9 courses and expectations, as well as future courses in each subject area.
- > Please visit the AHS website under the Guidance section > Grade 8 Resources for the videos
- >They will also be posted in the various Grade 8 Google Classrooms



Ajax HS has created three breakout rooms (15-20 minutes in length), to help families gain further information on the following topics;

Please review your email and click on any of the following links that were sent (or use the ID and Passcode);

Topic	Meeting Link
Inclusive Student Services	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84783172314?pwd=NIV1bmFrSUdHUUhtZjlnSW10R0RHdz09 Meeting ID: 847 8317 2314 Passcode: dm6vyH
Parent Engagement in High School	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81406689394?pwd=eEN2Sk9mUGdaUmpwdVVBTlh0bUhYdz09 Meeting ID: 814 0668 9394 Passcode: 1BM4ED
21st Century Learning and Learning Skills for Success	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87146907562?pwd=UGNYWWc0VVZvR29CZEFzWTJ4dTRCUT09 Meeting ID: 871 4690 7562 Passcode: N0V07u