

Frequently Asked Questions Transitioning to Grade 10

- 1. What important dates do I need to remember?** *Parent Night and Open House: Tuesday, March 25 7-9 pm , Registration Appointment: Booked individually by each family. Appointments will be from April 1 to 16th, 2014.*
- 2. What resources do I need to plan and choose well?** *Please check our school website under the parent's tab: <http://fchs.fsd38.ab.ca/> for copies of our presentations, documents, and helpful tips to make the appropriate course selections. See also My Child's Learning <http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/mychildslearning/index.html>*
- 3. How do I get answers to other questions?** *Contact your School Counsellors: Grade 10s Last names beginning A-L, Ms. Laubman laubmana@fsd38.ab.ca (403) 938-6116 ext. 14144
Grade 10's Last names beginning M-Z, Mr. MacIntyre macintyrej@fsd38.ab.ca (403) 938-6116 ext. 14146*
- 4. How do I choose the correct levels for core subjects?** *A good rule of thumb is to study at the highest level you can comfortably succeed in. Your current and past teachers of the subject will give you good advice and recommendations.*
- 5. How do I know whether I should be an Advanced Placement student or not?** *An AP student is someone who is highly motivated, independent, loves to learn and is passionate about either Math or English. It is not just about the marks in grade 9, but much more about work ethic and responsibility. AP classes move more quickly so you need to be able to learn quickly and work tirelessly on your own to keep up with the work. Check out our website under academics for all necessary information about how to register for AP.*
- 6. I really don't like Math and I'm not good at it, which Math should I take?** *That depends on a few things: You need to think about your Math skills right now, not just your marks in grade 9. If you really struggle in Math, need lots of extra explaining or need rewrites on your tests to do well, you may want to consider doing Math 10-3. If you do really well in 10-3 then you can try 10C, but that way you'll have more practice, experience, confidence, and knowledge to do well in 10C rather than struggling!*
- 7. What can I do to be certain I get the courses I choose?** *Choose well to start and make sure to make your registration appointment in April!*
- 8. What if I change my mind and want to change my classes?** *Choose well to start! Changes may not be possible once the timetable is filled. The week before school starts we will be at FCHS if you want to drop in or make an*

appointment to change your classes. This is dependent on whether or not there is room in the class you want! Once school starts you have about 2 weeks to make an appointment and change your classes for educational reasons.

9. **Can I be sure not to have all my core classes in one semester?** *We try to balance every student's timetable for equal workload and, where possible, we try to accommodate special requests. You will receive your child's timetable in the mail so if there are issues, please contact to your counselor before school starts.*
10. **Which English class do I need for universities?** *All universities require 30-1 English, but most colleges and all trades programs accept 30-2.*
11. **What's the difference between social 10-1 and 10-2?** *Most universities accept both 30-2 and 30-1 social studies, so how do you choose? Check out some programs and websites of universities to find out if they require 30-1 social. For those of you who will have a 2nd language and/or several math and science classes to grade 12 you most likely will NOT need 30-1 social. For the most part, you need English 30-1 and 3 other academics, whether that is social 30-1 or other math, science, or 2nd languages.*
12. **I really struggle in school but I want to be an engineer, what classes should I take?** *This is a common problem – students have hopes of a career but have not yet developed either the ability, work ethic or drive to achieve that dream. Many professions require 6-8 years of intense university studies! It is more important that you take grade 10 classes that suit your current ability and work ethic rather than having unrealistic plans! Talk to a counsellor about your plans so that you can create a realistic high school schedule.*
13. **Why should I take CALM in summer school before grade 10?** *A lot of grade 9 students, over ½ in fact, are taking CALM in the summer. Completing this course BEFORE grade 10 will allow you to have 3 options classes instead of 2! You will also be able to start earning Work Experience credits as soon as you have a job!*
14. **How many options classes will I get in grade 10?** *Most grade 10's will have 2 options classes, unless you take CALM over the summer then you get 3! By the way, PE 10 is mandatory and is not considered an option until Gr 11 & 12.*
15. **What can I do to be sure to fit in at High School?** *We are proud of our school as a friendly and welcoming place. If you smile and say hello a lot you'll have friends in no time. To ease this process, we have a group that welcomes newcomers and offers 'settling in' opportunities.*
16. **I want to study music but I'm not sure which music classes are right for me!** *Ms. Hounjet is happy to answer any questions you may have and you can contact her at hounjetn@fsd38.ab.ca*