



W.R. Myers High School Academic Pursuits Block Frequently Asked Questions



Q: Will my child be impacted by the reduced instructional time in their classes?

A: No. Academic Pursuits Block will actually provide your child with more time to complete assignments, and access help from their teachers. Students will be able to focus their time on classes that they need the most help with.

Q: How can I ensure that my child has balance in the way s/he chooses to spend Academic Pursuits Block, and that s/he is making the right choice to ensure both academic success, and overall well-being?

A: Academic Pursuits Block will be responsible for meeting with students on a regular basis to ensure that students are making appropriate choices. Parents are encouraged to be in contact with their teachers if they have concerns about how their child is using Academic Pursuits Block.

Q: If my child simply wants a quiet place to work, is that an option?

A: Yes. There will be designated "quiet study" areas during Academic Pursuits Block.

Q: If my child is fully caught up in all of their classes, what can s/he do during Teacher Advisory Block?

A: There are other areas that students can access to support things such as wellness, post-secondary exploration, career information, scholarship information, quiet study or reading time, or general interest activities. Students can also register in single-credit courses in areas of their interest.

Q: How will I know if my child is attending Academic Pursuits Block?

A: Attendance will be taken just as with all other classes, and a phone call will go home if a student has skipped Academic Pursuits Block. The same guidelines for absences as they apply to classes apply to Academic Pursuits Block. In the case of chronic absenteeism, administration will be involved.

Q: Will expectations be different for Grade 12 students?

A: Grade 12s are likely to benefit the most from the generous access to one on one support and tutoring. As they are focused on diploma exams and the exit from school, using Academic Pursuits Block will be to their benefit. Grade twelve students may drop Academic Pursuits Block if they have achieved 75 credits or more at the end of their grade 11 year.

Q: Can a teacher mandate a student to go to his/her Academic Pursuits Block?

A: Yes. Both the classroom teacher and the Academic Pursuits Block teacher have the ability to recommend or assign a student to a particular Academic Pursuits Block.

Q: Will teachers be assigning extra homework to be completed during Academic Pursuits Block?

A: The intent of the Academic Pursuits Block is not to provide more work for students. It is to provide students with access to supported work time.

Q: What is the purpose of Academic Pursuits Block? How will it help my child?

A: The main purpose is to meet student needs regarding significant learning outside the classroom curriculum. Topics include scholarships, goal setting, post-secondary information, digital citizenship, conflict resolution and healthy relationships.

Q: What do I do if I have more questions?

A: If you have more questions about Academic Pursuits Block, you can contact our office at anytime during regular school hours at 403-223-2292.



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Q: Will Academic Pursuits Block understand my child's particular situation?

A: Yes. Academic Pursuits Block will help to build stronger relationships and connections between students and staff. Teachers will learn about students' interests and plans, and will therefore have a greater overall understanding of them, and how to support them. Teacher will be available to students who have questions about the topics covered in Academic Pursuits Block.

Q: Is Academic Pursuits Block optional?

A: No. Advisory is an important component of a student's overall learning. However, if your child is in grade eleven they may drop Academic Pursuits Block if they have earned 40 credits or more at the end of grade ten. For grade twelve students they must have earned 75 credits or more at the end of grade eleven to drop.

Q: Will my child receive credits for attending and completing Academic Pursuits Block?

A: No. The Advisory course does not have any credits attached to it. However, attending Advisory will help students prepare to achieve their goals in credit-based courses. An exception to this are the single-credit courses that student can enrol in if they choose.

Q: Can my child request a particular Teacher for Academic Pursuits Block?

A: No. Your child's teacher will be assigned at the beginning of their first year at W.R. Myers and will remain the same throughout their time at W.R. Myers.