

F.H. Collins Secondary School
École secondaire F.H. Collins
F.H. Collins Chyah Ge'tr'oonahntan Zheh

1001 Lewes Blvd., Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 3J1 Telephone (867) 667-8665
Fhc@yukon.ca

Grade 8
HANDBOOK
2023/2024 School Year
Année scolaire 2023/2024
2023/2024 Ga'oonahntan Yeendoo Khaii

F.H. Collins Secondary School has an enrollment of approximately 700 students. The school offers a broad range of academic, fine arts and applied skills opportunities in an English or French Immersion Stream. Success is measured by more than academic achievement alone. Be sure to find out about the diverse extra-curricular possibilities in athletics, fine arts, social responsibility and other student activities. Please get involved in every aspect of your education.

Welcome to F.H. Collins!

“Home of the Warriors”

STUDENT SERVICES

COUNSELLING

Students are connected to FHC counsellors by last name:

A-G Michel.morris@yukon.ca H-M Jodi.tuton@yukon.ca N-Z Aisha.alwarid@yukon.ca

Counselling Services at F.H. Collins Secondary are designed as a support service for students and also as an advisory service and resource for teachers and parents. School counsellors provide the following services:

- assistance with program planning and course selection;
- information on post-secondary training and scholarships;
- assistance with study skills, time management, and tutoring;
- assistance with career planning;
- personal and small group counselling to deal with social and emotional problems;
- liaison with special programs in the school;

Students, parents, and teachers may contact a counsellor directly or by appointment through the school office.

MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELLING

A mental wellness counselor from Health and Social Services will spend time at F.H. Collins Secondary School. The counsellor is available to meet with students or parents on an appointment basis: contact administration or a counselor to make an appointment.

FIRST NATION SUPPORT WORKERS

FHC is blessed to have several support workers from sever Yukon First Nations. Support workers help by:

- providing liaison between students, parents, teachers/staff and the community.
- providing support, guidance and counseling services to First Nation students;
- assisting staff and students with cultural and traditional events;

LEARNING ASSISTANCE

Learning Assistance is available for students who are in need of help to succeed in their core subjects. One-on-one instruction and small groups are used to ensure success. A typical LA package could include any or all of the following:

- assistance with test preparation, completing assignments, studying for exams, organization and time management skills.
- remedial assistance in the areas of reading, spelling, math, and study skills.
- advocacy for students' rights to school and community resources and programs including exam adjudication when necessary.

Students may obtain this service through referral by a teacher or parent. Parents/guardians are encouraged to contact a school counsellor if LA support may be needed. In some cases, the LA program would be beneficial throughout a student's path to graduation. Students receiving LA have a regularly scheduled block of learning assistance in place of another subject (typically an option).

LEARNING COMMONS (LIBRARY)

Our Learning Commons strives to support all patrons by providing a technology-rich environment that fosters inquiry, collaboration, and creativity.

Along with the vast collection of print materials in French and in English, students also have access to a variety of resources such as: high speed internet, desktop workstations, iPads, graphing calculators, earphones, EBSCO digital databases, ebooks, etc. Our Library is always open to offer guidance and support in areas such as: advanced research, references and citations, resource selection, technology troubleshooting etc. Students are always welcome to use the FH Library as a place to read, reflect and study.

F.H. COLLINS CAFETERIA AND FOOD FOR LEARNING

The Cafeteria at F.H. Collins is available to students at for healthy food items ranging from freshly baked muffins & pastries to sandwiches & hot lunches. Vegetarian options are generally available

Prices range but a healthy and hearty lunch special is usually \$5.00

The cafeteria does not accept cash, only cafeteria cards. Students may purchase a \$20.00 or \$50.00 meal card either with cash or cheque payable to F.H. Collins.

F.H. Collins is very proud of its partnerships with both Yukon Food For Learning and YFNED. Breakfast and snacks, including fruit, are available to all students prior to school for free. If any student is facing food insecurity cafeteria food cards will be supplied by the school. Parents/Guardians need only contact, or direct the student to contact, a counsellor or administration to ensure no child goes hungry while learning at F.H. Collins.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

ATTENDANCE

Student attendance is directly linked to student success! Accurate records help us so much as we work to improve the attendance of all of our students.

Please contact the office fhc@yukon.ca if your student will be absent, late or leaving early from school (for the subject please put the student's first and last name). Please cc the student's teacher(s) so homework can be arranged.

FH Collins will send automated calls home twice a day if a student is absent: once at 10:00 a.m. regarding Period One and again at 4:00 p.m. regarding Periods Two, Three & Four.

Regarding the automated calls:

Teachers submit Period One attendance by 9:00 a.m. If a student is not physically in the class at that time a call goes home to inform the caregiver. What happens if a student arrives after 9:00 a.m.? For example, the car didn't start and the student only made it to school at 9:30? By that time attendance has already been submitted and the process to call caregivers initiated. FHC asks caregivers to email the teacher to explain the late and to cc fhc@yukon.ca. Doing so excuses the student's late arrival with the teacher AND allows the front office to update the ASPEN system from 'absent' to 'late'.

If a caregiver receives an afternoon call the same process is followed. For example, a call goes home stating a student was absent and the caregiver realizes the student had a dentist appointment. Again, please email the teacher directly to excuse the absence with the teacher and cc fhc@yukon.ca so the absence is updated to excused.

If a student needs to leave early there is a sign-out sheet in the main office. When signing out the office will call home to validate the student leaving and ensure the ASPEN system is updated.

Although emailing fhc@yukon.ca streamlines the process, a caregiver may also phone 667 8665 regarding all attendance issues.

SCHOOL FEES

School fees are \$30.00 per student or \$50.00 per family. All funds are spent on students for student activities. Cheques payable to F.H. Collins. There may be additional fees; in such cases teachers will advise. If school fees are a financial hardship please contact administration to make that problem go away. Further, no student will be denied access to any course due to financial hardship. In such cases again please contact administration.

LOCKERS

Students will be assigned a locker and a lock that they are required to use at all times for the security of their personal items and texts. Students do not share a locker. At the end of the year the lock will be returned to be used by students the following year. Students are responsible for the care and cleanliness of their locker. Only school assigned locks shall be used. With due cause, lockers may be searched by administration.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

NEWSLETTER

The F.H. Collins Newsletter is published semi-monthly to inform students and parents of the wide range of activities within the school. The newsletter will be e-mailed home to parents/guardians.

OFFICE HOURS

The school office hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Student pictures will usually be taken during September and an information package with prices will be sent home at that time. All students are expected to have their pictures taken for school identification photos and the yearbook.

VENDING MACHINES

Beverage dispensers with juice are available in the school. Students may purchase beverages at breaks, lunch and after school but please not during class time. Any profits from these dispensing machines are returned to the school to support student services. FHC abounds with water fountains with spouts to fill water bottles.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES / CELL PHONES

E-devices / cell phones can be a useful tool; they can also be extremely distracting, which prevents effective learning. We are teaching responsible cell phone use. Cell phones may be used in class when the teacher indicates it's an appropriate time.

Cell phones and other devices (including earbuds) must be stored away, in lockers, pockets, or backpacks, or in the classroom storage area, at all other times.

Cell phones and other devices (including earbuds) may be used during breaks and other non-class time.

FYI:

If you use your device inappropriately or at an inappropriate time, some or all of the following will occur (progressively):

a reminder or warning, requirement to put the device in the classroom "device storage unit," referral to a vice-principal or principal, requirement to leave the phone in the office, conversations with your guardian(s), requirements to leave the device in the office or at home for a period of time, or long-term.

WHY?

Research shows that digital multi-tasking negatively impacts learning, comprehension, recall, and test scores.

While we think we can listen or focus and be on our phones at the same time, research shows that splitting our attention reduces our attention by more than half.

Social media, apps, games and web content are purposefully designed to repeatedly grab your attention. Your brain releases hormones similar to those released in addiction; you are literally developing a real addiction. Time to work on breaking free.

Eye contact, reading non-verbal cues, and initiating conversation are all important social skills for success at school and in life; heavy users of technology show a reduced ability in these areas.

Use of devices while teaching is occurring is distracting for other people, and generally a sign of disengagement and disrespect. Being able to stay engaged for a sustained amount of time is also an important skill.

We want you to be successful!!! We are trying to teach you tools for success!

Under no circumstances may electronic devices be used when safety of students and staff is compromised. This specifically applies to the school cafeteria, shop classes, physical education classes or during any school lockdowns.

Parents are asked not to text or call students during class time; instead, please contact the office and we will relay a message. This prevents distractions to students. Students use of personal technology may be limited if it negatively impacts on learning.

PATH TO HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

Students start to acquire credits at the Grade 10 level and a total of 80 credits are required for graduation. Core (non-option courses) at the Grade 8 and 9 level courses are pre-requisites to ensure a student is prepared. For example, to succeed at Grade 10 math a student needs to successfully complete Grade 9 math. The table below is a quick look at what a student's five-years at FHC might look like. Yes, it is a little confusing and that is why a counsellor is always available to help students chart a path to graduation.

Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
English 8	English 9	(4)English 10	(4)English 11	(4)English 12
Socials 8	Socials 9	(4)Socials 10	(4)a humanities 11	(4) Career Life Connections 12
Phys. Ed. 8	Phys. Ed. 9	(4)Phys. Ed. 10	(4)a math 11	(4) 12
Math 8	Math 9	(4)Math 10	(4)a science11	(4) 12
Science 8	Science 9	(4)Science 10	(4) 10/11/12	(4) 10/11/12
Second Language 8	Second language 9	(4)Career Education10	(4) ____ 10/11/12	(4) ____ 10/11/12
Options, e.g. Woodshop, Art	Fine Arts or Applied Skills 9/10	(4) Fine Arts or Applied Skills 10/11/12	(4) ____ 10/11/12	(4) ____ 10/11/12
		(4)Option	(4) ____ 10/11/12	(4) ____ 10/11/12
		Literacy Assessment Numeracy Assessment		Literacy 12 Assessment

***Some Universities and Colleges in Canada have a second language requirement at the Grade 11 level for admission requirements.**

FRENCH IMMERSION GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Yukon French Immersion students have to take all the French Immersion courses in grade 8 and 9 (unless they have special permission from the school administration). To graduate with a diplôme de fin d'études secondaire en Colombie-Britannique, a student enrolled in a French Immersion Program must:

A- successfully complete the following:

- (i) Français langue seconde – immersion 10,
- (ii) Français langue seconde – immersion 11,
- (iii) Français langue seconde – immersion 12, including the Required Graduation Program Examination for this course, and
- (iv) French Language 12 Assessment

B- Earn at least 12 credits in Grade 10, 11, or 12 courses that are in French with at least 4 of those credits earned in courses at the Grade 11 or 12 levels.

Upon completion of the credit based graduation requirements in grade 12, a student who has met the above Immersion requirements will receive a Yukon French Immersion Certificate. As well, the student's transcript will state that the student has successfully completed the French Immersion requirements of the B.C. Ministry of Education.

SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST

- 2 binders – 1 inch, 3 ring (recycling/reusing binders will reduce costs)
- 10 binder dividers – colored or with colored tabs
- 6 page protectors
- loose leaf paper
- graph paper
- 1 pack colored pencils
- H.B. pencils
- Ball point pens – black and/or blue
- erasers
- ruler
- 3 colored highlighters
- geometry set including protractor and compass
- calculator
- USB memory stick

Additional Supplies by Course:

Physical Education

- 1 pair gym runners – no sandals
- (non-marking)
- 1 t-shirt
- 1 pair of shorts or sweat pants

Options

- To be advised by the individual teachers as required.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING, APPLIED SKILLS & TECHNOLOGY AND FINE ARTS OPTIONS

Grade 8 options allow students to explore various electives in Experiential Learning, Applied Design Skills & Technology and Fine Arts. A typical options course is taken every second day for one term, meaning a grade 8 student takes eight option courses in a school year. Plein Air (French Immersion) is two options, Outdoor Pursuits (English Stream) 2 options and Band 4 options.

Grade 8 Band (4 options): Learn to play an instrument, it makes you smarter! Build your confidence while playing in a large group - making music only possible to make together! Learn the basics of your instrument from an experienced player during our "Squeak and Squawk" night in the fall and eventually join forces with the grade 8 band at Porter Creek Secondary School for a retreat and public performance!

Outdoor Pursuits 8 (2 options) Students will be involved in outdoor educational activities and games This course will be scheduled in conjunction with Phys Ed allowing for all-afternoon field trips. Acceptance to this program is application-based.

Plein Air 8 (2 options) Students will be involved in outdoor educational activities and games This course will be scheduled in conjunction with Phys Ed allowing for all-afternoon field trips. Acceptance to this program is application based

Arts 8 – Students will be introduced to visual arts through drawing and painting. Students will learn about the principles of design, form, colour theory, balance and value of art within society. Projects will include artistic traditions from diverse cultures, communities, times and places.

Digital Literacy 8: provides students with creative opportunities using personal devices and computers. Using the design framework, students use apps, online programs, and computer software to explore topics such as: office and presentation skills, the impact of internet and mobile device use, information & communication platforms and graphic design possibilities.

Grade 8 Music: This condensed course will offer basic learning on many popular instruments including guitar, drums, keyboards, and vocals. Grade 8 Music will also expose students to common hardware used in music performance, production, and recording. Students enrolling in band will not take this elective.

Media Arts (Animation) 8 – Students will explore digital and non-digital media technologies in exploring story principles and genre conversations. Students will have the opportunity to explore their skills in Photoshop and Animation in a variety of projects.

Metalwork 8 – Students will be introduced to safety and basic shop practices that are used in the metal shop. Safety will be the main focus for all of the lessons and shop assignments/projects. Students will learn to use a variety of hand tools by completing different projects. We will discuss techniques and procedures for the metal shop. Students will be introduced to and use power equipment to complete their final project.

Power & Automotive Technology 8 – Students will be introduced to safety and basic shop practices that are used in the automotive shop. Students will get an introduction to hands on experiential learning in an automotive shop with an emphasis on safety.

Woodwork 8 – Students will get an introduction to the wood working program at FH Collins. Students will work through two projects (practice block and half lap box) using mostly hand tools. Measurement, reading and building from plans, cutting, gluing and finishing are samples of the sort of experiential learning that will happen during this time. Power tools will be introduced with training on and use of drill press, band saw, and various sanding equipment.

Foods 8 – Students will learn introductory food preparation practices, including elements of a recipe, techniques, and equipment. Additionally, they will learn about a variety of eating practices and local food systems.

GRADE 8 COURSES

English 8 (MEN 8)

The content of English 8 is reading comprehension, vocabulary development, the structure of languages, variety in writing styles, and a variety of reading and speaking experiences. This course stresses an independent and active approach to learning through cooperative learning, critical thinking, and creative problem solving. This course uses literature including Short Stories, Novel and Poetry to focus on certain skills: reading and comprehension, vocabulary development, research, grammar and usage, spelling and editing skills, letters, paragraphs, and essay writing.

English 8 Fundamentals (EN8 Fun)

Teacher Recommendation

This course will focus on reading comprehension, reading fluency, vocabulary, decoding, spelling, handwriting, grammar and writing reports and narratives. Upon successful completion of English Fundamentals 8, students will register for English 8 or English 9 Fundamental.

Mathematics 8 (MMA 8)

Mathematics 8 students will be required to add, subtract, multiply, and divide fractions, integers, and whole numbers. The concepts of ratio, rate, and percentage will be utilized to solve problems involving practical concepts like tax calculation. The students will create and use linear equations to solve problems. The Pythagorean relationship ($a^2 + b^2 = c^2$) will be used to calculate the lengths of the sides in a right-angled triangle. Area, perimeter, and volume formulas will be developed and used to solve problems. The Mathematics 8 students will classify various four-sided shapes to create and analyze design problems. Each student will conduct a statistical investigation. Finally, the probability of the occurrence of a given event will be studied.

Mathematics Fundamentals 8 (MA 8FUND)

Teacher Recommendation

In Fundamentals of Mathematics 8 students will work on number sense including integers, math operations, percentages and fractions. The teacher of this course has the flexibility to work on student specific outcomes. The intentions of this course is to prepare students to take either Mathematics 8 or Fundamentals Mathematics 9.

Social Studies 8 (MSS 8)

Students develop historical thinking skills while examining world history from 600 – 1750 CE. Throughout the course the concept of “civilization” is developed with examples from several different continents and time periods.

Course Content may include: Social Studies Component, Geography - Maps, graphs, charts, End of the Roman Empire, Middle Ages in Western Europe, Middle Ages in Eastern Europe and the Middle East, The Renaissance and Reformation in Europe, Exploration and conquest, Middle Ages in India, China and Japan, Local, national & International current events.

Social Studies 8 Fundamental (SS 8FUND)

Teacher Recommendation

This course covers much of the same content as Social Studies 8, but with a greater emphasis on reading comprehension, writing skills, general knowledge and practical skill. Upon successful completion of Social Studies 8 Fundamentals students will enroll in Social Studies 9 General or Social Studies 9 with Learning Assistance support.

Science 8 (MSC 8)

The Science 8 course is introductory and exploratory in nature. Topics include: Life Science (cells, characteristics of life); Physical Science (behavior of waves, light, human vision, molecular theory, atomic theory); Earth Science (plate tectonics, geologic formations).

Science Fundamentals 8 (SC 8 FUN)

Teacher Recommendation

This course will cover much of the same content as Science 8. The aim of the course is to introduce students to basic science skills, science vocabulary and lab procedures.

Physical & Health Education 8 (MPHE 8)

Required for graduation

The emphasis for these classes will be on creating active healthy lifestyles. We will offer a variety of activities from minor games to the traditional sports. We will also include aquatics and skiing. As well we will expose students to a number of fitness components. New to our program will be a focus on Social & Community Health and Mental well-being.

There will be a **\$10.00 activity fee** to enable us to access community facilities outside the school system.

First Nation Studies 8 (NS 8)

Like all studies of peoples, First Nations Studies 8 will provide opportunities for students to explore human values, to measure them against their own experiences and to develop their own set of values. Furthermore, students will examine and assess the impact of the arrival Europeans on Native societies. Students will also explore the rapid social, economic and technological changes that were to occur in Native societies. Students will also have the opportunity to examine the role assigned to First Nations under Canadian legislation with emphasis on the reserve system, making of treaties and key legislation.

French 8 (MFR 08)

Students will continue to build a wide range of language skills through listening, reading, writing and communicating, such as short conversations about familiar topics. Themes in this course may include sports, hobbies, travelling, shopping, health and cultural activities. Students will explore the connections between indigenous communities and the French language. Throughout the course, students will extend their understanding of French vocabulary, grammatical structures and verb tenses.

IMMERSION FRANÇAISE

English 8 (MEN 08)

In English 8, the skills of reading, writing, speaking, listening and research are applied to literature and language. The course content includes: reading and comprehension, vocabulary development, research, grammar and spelling, writing of journals, letters and paragraphs and literature; terminology short stories, novel, poetry and mythology.

Sciences 8 (FSCF 8)

Le cours de Sciences 8 est une introduction et une exploration en nature. Les sujets incluent : Science de la vie (la cellule, les caractéristiques de la vie), Science physique (le comportement des ondes, la lumière, la vision humaine, la théorie moléculaire et la théorie atomique), la Science de la Terre (les plaques tectoniques et les formations géologiques).

Science 8 (FSCF 8)

The Science 8 course is introductory and exploratory in nature. Topics include: Life Science (cells, characteristics of life); Physical Science (behavior of waves, light, human vision, molecular theory, atomic theory); Earth Science (plate tectonics, geologic formations).

Mathématiques 8 (FMTHF 08)

Les élèves en Mathématiques 8, seront requis d'utiliser l'addition, la soustraction, la multiplication et la division des fractions, des entiers et des nombres entiers. Les concepts de ratio, taux et pourcentages seront utilisés pour résoudre des problèmes impliquant des concepts pratiques comme le calcul de la taxe. Les élèves créeront et utiliseront les équations linéaires pour résoudre des problèmes. Les relations de Pythagore ($a^2+b^2=c^2$) seront utilisées pour calculer les longueurs et les côtés dans un triangle à angle droit. Les formules d'aire, de périmètre et de volume

seront utilisées et développées pour résoudre des problèmes. Les élèves en Mathématiques 8 classifient des formes variées à 4 côtés pour créer et analyser des problèmes de design. Chaque élève conduira une enquête de statistique. Finalement, la probabilité de l'occurrence d'un certain événement sera étudiée. Après avoir réussi le cours de Mathématiques 8, les élèves pourront poursuivre avec le cours de Principes de mathématiques 9 ou Essentiels des Mathématiques.

Mathematics 8 (FMTHF 08)

Mathematics 8 students will be required to add, subtract, multiply, and divide fractions, integers, and whole numbers. The concepts of ratio, rate, and percentage will be utilized to solve problems involving practical concepts like tax calculation. The students will create and use linear equations to solve problems. The Pythagorean relationship ($a^2 + b^2 = c^2$) will be used to calculate the lengths of the sides in a right-angled triangle. Area, perimeter, and volume formulas will be developed and used to solve problems. The Mathematics 8 students will classify various four-sided shapes to create and analyze design problems. Each student will conduct a statistical investigation. Finally, the probability of the occurrence of a given event will be studied. Students may proceed to Principles of Mathematics 9 or Essentials of Mathematics 9 after successfully completing Mathematics 8.

Sciences humaines 8 (FSCHF 08)

Ce cours d'humanités est l'intégration de deux disciplines : le français 8 et les sciences humaines 8. En combinant ces deux disciplines, nous espérons démontrer les liens qui existent entre elles et ainsi soulever l'intérêt chez l'élève. Durant ce cours, l'élève développera et approfondira ses habiletés de lecture, d'écriture, de langage et d'écoute. La recherche portera sur la littérature, la géographie, l'histoire et l'étude des événements actuels. Le cours propose une approche pédagogique où l'élève s'implique et développe son indépendance dans sa formation. L'élève apprendra avec ses pairs à penser, à résoudre des problèmes et à interagir avec son environnement physique et social.

Les composants du cours:

Le français

- lecture et compréhension
- enrichissement du vocabulaire
- recherches
- grammaire et orthographe
- composition: lettre, description

Les sciences humaines

- géographie: cartes et graphiques
- le Moyen-Âge en Europe de l'ouest
- la Renaissance et la Réforme en Europe
- les explorations et les conquêtes
- littérature: techniques, poésie, fable, conte

Sciences humaines 8 (FSCHF 08)

Humanities is the integration of two disciplines: Français 8 and Sciences humaines 8; by combining the two subject areas, we hope to add relevance to each course and capture the interest of the student. The skills of reading, writing, speaking, listening, and research are applied to literature, geography, history and current events. The course stresses an independent and active approach to learning through cooperative learning, thinking, creative problem solving and focuses on our interaction with the environment.

Course content:

Français component:

- reading and comprehension
- vocabulary development
- research
- grammar and spelling
- writing: letter, description

Sciences humaines component:

- geography : maps, graphs, charts
- Middle Ages in Western Europe
- Renaissance and Reformation in Europe
- Exploration and Conquest
 - literature: terminology, novel, poetry, fable, tale