

Limestone DSB Secondary Assessment and Evaluation: A Family Guide

Beginning in September 2026, final grades in **Limestone DSB secondary courses will include three parts:** classroom learning, mandatory final evaluations, and attendance and participation. This guide explains how final marks will be calculated and what the different parts of the mark mean. The details may look different by grade and course, so students and families are encouraged to speak with the classroom teacher if they have questions about a specific course.

What families need to know

Prior to these changes, Grades 9 to 12 secondary school courses were evaluated based on 70% classroom learning and 30% final evaluations or exams. Attendance and participation were not included in students' overall grades. Under the new policy, attendance and participation will now account for a portion of the final grade.

How final marks are calculated

Grade level	Classroom learning	Mandatory final evaluation	Attendance and participation
Grades 9 and 10	65%	20%	15%
Grades 11 and 12	65%	25%	10%

Mandatory final evaluations may include a written exam, culminating task, or another required final assessment, depending on the course.

What final evaluation will my student have?

Use the tables below to see what type of final evaluation is required in different subject areas. Some courses may have special requirements or exemptions. If you are unsure which category applies to your student’s course, contact the classroom teacher.

Courses with a written exam only

Course area	Grades 9 and 10	Grades 11 and 12
English, Mathematics, Science	20% written exam Grade 9 MTH1W: EQAO is the final exam	25% written exam Includes NBE3U and NBE3C
Grade 9 Geography, Grade 10 History, Grade 10 Civics and Careers	20% written exam Includes Grade 9 Geography, Grade 10 History, Grade 10 Civics and Careers	

Courses with a written exam and culminating task

Course area	Grades 9 and 10	Grades 11 and 12
Canadian and World Studies		15% written exam + 10% culminating task
Arts, Computer Studies, Health and Physical Education, Technological Education	10% written exam + 10% culminating task	10% written exam + 15% culminating task
Business, Social Sciences, and Humanities	10% written exam + 10% culminating task	15% written exam + 10% culminating task
Classical and International Languages, French, Native Languages, First Nations, Métis and Inuit Studies	10% written exam + 10% culminating task	10% written exam + 15% culminating task
Guidance and Career Education	5% financial literacy requirement + 15% culminating task	Generally exempt from mandatory written exams

Courses and areas generally exempt from mandatory written exams

Still require final evaluations (Grade 9 and 10: 20% and Grade 11 and 12: 25%) that can include in projects, presentations, and portfolios.

Grades 9 and 10	Grades 11 and 12
- Grade 9 and 10 locally developed compulsory courses - Guidance and Career Education, except GLC20 - Interdisciplinary Studies - American Sign Language (ASL)	- Grade 11 and 12 workplace preparation (E) and open (O) courses - Guidance and Career Education - Co-operative Education - Interdisciplinary Studies - American Sign Language (ASL)