*École secondaire Oak Park High School provides a safe, inclusive, and engaging learning environment which nurtures exceptional character, and inspires excellence in academics, the arts, and athletics.*

*École secondaire Oak Park High School se consacre à fournir un environnement d’apprentissage sécuritaire, inclusif, et engageant qui favorise un caractère moral exceptionnel et de l’excellence dans l’académique, les arts, et l’athlétisme.*

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**PEP!AA**

**Program for Elite Performing Artists and Athletes**

**Purpose**

The program is designed to facilitate flexible high school programming to allow elite performing artists and athletes to pursue opportunities outside of school while maintaining academic success.

**Eligibility**

Admission will be based on:

1. Student’s record of artistic or athletic achievement.  
2. Student’s record of academic achievement, particularly in terms of the ability   
 to work independently

3. Parental support

Priority will be given to students who spend over 20 hours a week in a training program, train during school days, and anticipate missing 10 or more school days during the year.

**Academic Achievement**

Students are required to have 30 credits to graduate and students entering Oak Park at Grade 9 will have the opportunity to explore many different options. Considering there are a number of distance courses and other opportunities to earn credits, students would be encouraged to take spares during the day so that they may attend training and performance events and/or complete work due to absences related to their arts or athletic endeavors.

Absences, other than those which occur as a result of training, competitions, performances or illness, should be kept to a minimum. Students are expected to demonstrate appropriate learning behaviours.

**Key Program Features**

1. Customized graduation program plan from Grade 9 through 12, reviewed and updated each semester
2. Ongoing monitoring of academic success
3. English or French Immersion programming
4. Flexibility in educational programming
5. Assignment of a counsellor and a teacher:
   1. Liase between parents, student, and school personnel with particular focus on planning and managing absences
   2. Ensure any external credits toward graduation are obtained in student’s area of excellence
   3. Communicate with classroom teachers regarding the student’s status as an athlete or a performing artist, sharing details such as training schedules
   4. Inform family of all educational programming options in order to maximize academic success and development in the chosen discipline including:
      1. School-based supports, such as Student Learning Centre, Peer Tutoring
      2. Learning possibilities
      3. Online learning through InformNet
      4. University admissions standards, requirements and the application process
      5. Guidance regarding scholarship opportunities in Canada and abroad related to the particular area of arts or athletics
      6. Pay particular attention to the graduation requirements of Physical Education and support PEP!AA students to program appropriately

Students will also be required to attend sessions as we build the PEP!AA community. Examples of these sessions include:

* Nutrition
* Time Management
* Organization
* University Requirements
* Mental Health
* Communication