

January 31, 2024

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

In recent years, we have seen an increase in requests for technical vocational programming at our senior years schools.

Currently, River East Transcona has the facilities and staffing to offer these programs at Kildonan-East and Murdoch MacKay collegiates. Historically, we have tried to ensure students across the division have access to these programs through a divisional program process. However, as our enrolment increases across the division, it is becoming increasingly difficult to accommodate students in all their required courses at the two schools.

For the 2024–25 school year, we are going to trial a new program-delivery model for a technical vocational program—the Carpentry Intensive Program—and collect data to see if this new model helps provide access to more students who are interested. The Carpentry Intensive Program will be offered to students at all six senior years schools. Students who do not attend Kildonan-East or Murdoch MacKay will remain enrolled at their community school and attend one of these vocational schools for two semesters.

Grade 11:

- One semester at their community school for academic courses: ELA/FLA, Math, Phys-Ed, History
- One semester at a vocational school for four carpentry courses

Students will study the practices, principles, and building code standards related to the construction of the superstructure of a building. This sequence of courses explores topics such as surveying property, constructing the roof of a building, using tools and equipment, understanding efficient building design, and cabinetmaking. Students will work under conditions similar to those on a construction site.

Grade 12:

- One semester at their community school for academic courses: ELA/FLA, Math, Phys-Ed
- One semester at a vocational school for four carpentry courses

The final semester focuses on finishing and fine woodworking skills. Students will learn advanced machine operations, an in-depth overview of roof construction, basic stair building, interior finishing (including drywalling and trim work), and how to support their construction decisions with the National Building Code of Canada. Additionally, students will learn and explore trade entry topics, including trade safety awareness, apprenticeship, and post-secondary opportunities in the construction trades.

At the end of this program, students would graduate from their community school with a technical vocational diploma.

Students who are interested would be responsible for their own transportation to the vocational school. They would remain students at their community school for sports and other extracurricular activities.

Due to the hours required to earn a carpentry technical vocational diploma, other options may be limited. Full attendance would be required in order to meet the requirements.

For this September, we are inviting current Grade 10 students who are interested to apply for this trial. We will support those students who are accepted through to Grade 12. Not all students who apply are guaranteed a space, as we will be limited by facility space and staffing.

If you or your student are interested or have questions about the Carpentry Intensive Program, we invite you to view the virtual information session on your school website or reach out to the school principal or counsellor.

If you wish to apply, the attached Expression of Interest needs to be completed and returned to your student's school prior to March 4, 2024.

Sincerely



Karen Boyd
Assistant Superintendent, Educational Programming

CARPENTRY INTENSIVE PROGRAM

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST



Why the Carpentry Intensive Program?

Students who are currently in Grade 10 are invited to apply for a position in the Carpentry Intensive Program. The program runs for two years (Grades 11 and 12) and involves students attending either Kildonan-East Collegiate or Murdoch MacKay Collegiate for one semester in each of the two years. In each semester, students will take four carpentry courses in order to complete their technical vocational diploma.

The Carpentry Intensive Program allows students from across River East Transcona School Division access to technical vocational education, starting at the Grade 11 level. Students remain connected to their community school while having access to specialized training and equipment that is only available at our two vocational schools in the division.

Kildonan-East and Murdoch MacKay will work with the student's home school to ensure that courses required for graduation can be completed. Students will graduate from their home school, pending the completion of provincial graduation requirements. Placement at one of the schools will be based on space and scheduling considerations.

Why technical vocational?

Skilled trade and technology careers are important to the well-being of our communities and are an excellent career path for many young people. Embarking on a career in the skilled trades is great for those individuals who like to think creatively, solve problems, and work actively within a hands-on environment.

Students interested in the Carpentry Intensive Program should be:

- Interested in considering a career in carpentry
- Self-motivated
- Able to maintain focus on a single subject/topic for longer blocks of time
- Able to arrange for transportation to the designated Carpentry Intensive Program school

CARPENTRY INTENSIVE PROGRAM

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST



The attached expression of interest is to be completed by students who are interested in registering for the Carpentry Intensive Program. In River East Transcona School Division, this program is offered at both Kildonan-East Collegiate and Murdoch MacKay Collegiate. Enrolment may be limited due to staff and space availability.

Student name:

Address:

Home phone:

Cell:

Email:

Current school:

Why are you interested in this program?

Describe who you are as a learner and how this fits with the program.

What are you excited about? Highlight skills and interests based on things you have experienced at school, while volunteering, or through work experience, hobbies, and/or extracurricular activities.

For parents: Why are you in support of this application?

I understand that we will be responsible for transportation to the designated school.

Initials

Student signature

Date

Parent/guardian signature

Date