Royal West Academy

www.royalwestacademy.com
WHO WE ARE

Royal West Academy is a **public high school** within the EMSB that operates under *Section 240* of the *Education Act*. This classification permits RWA to select students without regard to school of origin, as long as the candidate has a Certificate of Eligibility for English instruction.

Royal West Academy offers an enriched academic curriculum, and an early French Immersion program leading to a bilingual certificate upon graduation.

**Student involvement and leadership** is encouraged in the many and varied activities at Royal West.
ORIGIN OF
ROYAL WEST ACADEMY STUDENTS

Our students come to RWA from 130 schools.
16% Private Sector
40% Other Boards (French & English)
44% EMSB Schools
School fees are set at $270.00 for the year (subject to change by the school’s Governing Board).

In addition, some fundraising is a fact of life at Royal West Academy. It helps subsidize activities such as the many and varied trips and the compulsory ECA (Extra Curricular Activities) program.
Students are required to participate in three out of four ECA categories annually and cannot skip same category two years in a row:

- athletics
- cultural
- community service
- the environment

Each student must complete 8 hours in each category.

These activities can take place before or after school, at lunch, or on weekends.
Parental involvement is an integral part of life at Royal West Academy. There is a strong emphasis on discipline, cooperation, and involvement.

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WHAT WE DO

The academic program at Royal West Academy exceeds the minimum standards set by the Ministère de l'Éducation et Enseignement supérieur.

**E.g. Electives offered in Secondary IV & V include:**

- Enriched Biology,
- Physics
- Chemistry
- Spanish (introductory & advanced)
- Graphic & Web Design
- 3D Animation & Design
- Sound Engineering
- Computer Programming
- Film
- Intro. To Psychology
- Visual Arts
- Drama
- Leadership & Leisure Studies
- Music
- North American Literature
- Human & Physical Geography
The Instrumental Music Program features:

- Marching Band
- Concert Bands
- Jazz Band
- RWA Winds
- Student participation in concerts as well as in social and competitive events.

- Annual Band Trip (Cuba / Philadelphia / Williamsburg / Toronto)
- Sound Engineering (Senior)
- A Capella Choir (Junior)
- Glee Club
English and French programs are enhanced by:

- Theatre trips
- Performances by professional companies at Royal West Academy
- Public Speaking (Grade Level/School Board Competitions)
For most students selecting our Enriched Biology course, there is an annual Marine Biology Trip to the Huntsman Marine Centre in St. Andrews, NB.
Many and varied visitors of interest are invited to Royal West Academy every year.

• International Student Exchange (most recently with schools in Germany, India, Taiwan, Italy, Poland, and Greece).
Various clubs organize foreign trips as well.

- Costa Rica – Environment
- Cuba/USA – Honour Band
- Peru/Spain/Guatemala – Spanish
- France – French
- Ireland Bike Trip
- England – Theatre
- London/Paris /Italy – Visual Arts
Each grade level is offered an outing, or grade-level trip. This year:

- Sec. V: New York, NY
- Sec. IV: Boston, MA
- Sec. III: Washington, DC
- Sec. II: Stoneham (skiing)
- Sec. I: Camp (Laurentians)
SPORTS & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Education is compulsory in Secondary I through Secondary V at Royal West Academy.

G. M. A. A.

Royal West Academy belongs to the Greater Montreal Athletic Association (G.M.A.A.)

TEAMS:

- Soccer (Indoor & Outdoor)
- Rugby
- Cross Country Running
- Volleyball
- Basketball
- Tennis
- Track & Field (Indoor & Outdoor)
- Cross Country skiing
- Hockey
- Curling
- Swimming
- Ski Club
- Football (Touch & Flag)
- Badminton
WHAT WE HAVE TO OFFER

STAFF & FACILITIES
Royal West Academy is proud of its **hard working and conscientious staff** who put in many extra hours.

- **Homeroom Teacher**
  - Teacher who follows student’s progress and acts as a liaison between the home and the school during their four years through Secondary II to V

- **Guidance Professionals, Special Education Technician, Spiritual and Community Animator, School/Community/ECA Coordinator, and Study Skills Teacher and Tutor**
  - All students have access

- **Nurse and Social Worker**
  - Are available for consultation (part-time basis)
• MINDfulness
• Planning
• Organizing
• Prioritizing
MINDPOP PROGRAM

• Offers learning and life strategies to Secondary I students,
• Aims to facilitate transition to high school,
• Basic components of mindfulness are introduced,
• Each day includes a mindful moment,
• Mindful qualities & mindsets are weaved into various classes (once per month).
#GOALS

Gearing up to Overcome Anxiety in Life & School

- A program to help students overcome test anxiety and learning blocks
- Understand how emotions and attitudes affect your schoolwork
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facilities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Library with PCs and Mac Laptops</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• French, English, and Spanish collections</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Librarian teaches library and research skills</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>3 Computer Labs and 6 Mobile Computer Labs</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• latest technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 3-D Printers</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Drone</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5 Science Labs</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Full Service Cafeteria</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• meals are subsidized by EMSB</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Full Meal for $4.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2 Art Rooms</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Auditorium</strong></td>
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<td><strong>2 Playing Fields</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Music Room</strong></td>
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<td><strong>2 Gyms</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dance Room</strong></td>
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For whom are we looking?
SUCCESSFUL STUDENT PROFILE

Essential Characteristics:

• Motivated and hard working
• Willingness to:
  ✓ abide by the school regulations
  ✓ be involved in the school
  ✓ participate in ECA Programs
• Students must want to come to Royal West Academy;
  ✓ not being pushed by parents
**Procedure/Criteria for Selection**

Royal West Academy attracts more applicants than it can accept. The selection process established by the school is as follows:

- On-time applications to the school are considered first.
- Applications are accepted from any student eligible for English language education.
- All applicants, *regardless of school of origin*, are treated equally.
PROCEDURE/Criteria for Selection

Applicants for Secondary I:
• Must write Qualifying Tests in English, French, and Math (in English or French).
• The tests are multiple-choice in format, and each lasts 45 minutes. There is no additional penalty for wrong answers.
• Applicants must bring 2-HB pencils, an eraser, a snack, and a book to read - no calculator or cell phone is permitted.

All applications must be accompanied by previous school records. The cumulative (June) grade 5 report is particularly important for those seeking acceptance to Secondary I.
If your child's address is outside of the territory of the **English Montreal School Board**, then you must apply for an **INTER-BOARD AGREEMENT** from your local school board (e.g. Lester B. Pearson School Board, etc.) to enroll at Royal West Academy.

Please contact your local school board for additional information on this procedure. **You are asked to wait until acceptance is confirmed before making the request for an inter-board agreement.**
Based on the results of the Qualifying Tests and the Report Cards, applicants will be notified in October by letter of an early acceptance, the date and time for their interview, or that we will not be able to offer placement.

About 300 applicants and their parents/guardians are then interviewed to help ascertain their willingness to participate in all aspects of the life of the school. 2017-18 Term 3 Report Cards must be forwarded ASAP.
The interview report (retired RWA staff), as well as the submitted documents, are reviewed by a selection committee to make the final decision concerning each applicant.

By December, acceptance letters, wait list letters, or refusal letters will be sent to all applicants who have been interviewed. Wait list candidates will be notified at a later date if and when they can be accommodated.
There are many more applicants than we can accept. If your child is put on the wait list, they are a perfectly acceptable Royal West student. This should not be considered a "rejection". Every year, some students from the waiting list are eventually accepted due to other students moving or making alternative choices.

**WAIT LIST**

**KEEP CALM AND GO ON THE WAITING LIST**
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Results of Qualifying Tests are kept strictly confidential.
- Interviews start as soon as possible and run through November.
- You will be notified of any other factors that may affect your child's application to Royal West Academy.
- We will contact each applicant regarding the interview time (9am – 4pm). **DON’T CALL US, WE’LL CALL YOU!** Due to the large number of applicants, it is not possible to reschedule an interview appointment.
Please pick up a copy of the Qualifying Test Answer Sheet on your way out tonight.

Helping your child practice filling out their name and birthdate may help them feel more prepared for this weekend’s test.
Thank you for your interest in Royal West Academy!

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