

Young Entrepreneurship and Leadership Launchpad (YELL)

This course is for students interested in business, entrepreneurship, and innovation, or those just interested in learning more about how the world works and how to put their ideas into action.

This course is delivered in partnership with YELL Canada, a charity that partners with schools to enhance classroom learning and to open doors and to create opportunities traditionally not available to youth. In the course you will hear from over a dozen guest speakers and leaders from the local community, featuring Q&A opportunities to ask the questions you want answered. Teams of students will be matched with a mentor to guide them through the process of coming up with an innovative and world-changing business concept, and you will compete with students across the province in a venture competition hosted by YELL.

This course is based on top-quality university entrepreneurship programs as well as best practices from Silicon Valley. You will learn how to develop and evaluate a business, build a personal network of business contacts, hone your creative and critical thinking, apply teamwork skills, and put your presentation skills to the test. The applied experience you gain through the project in this course will be extremely valuable for you as you apply to university and seek out a job. Even if you do not plan to study business, learning how to think creatively and innovatively within the context of a business are skills that employers and universities are looking for.

84% of students who have taken YELL say they made one or more connections with a mentor or leader that they plan to continue to stay in touch with and 81% say they are more confident in finding or creating a career that aligns with their purpose and passion. To find out more about YELL and the work they do with schools across BC go to <https://www.yellcanada.org/>

This is the fourth year that Surrey Schools is offering this exciting course. In 2019-2020 we have 30 students from 14 secondary schools enrolled.

Dates: September 30, 2020 – May 19, 2021
Times: 4:00 – 6:45 pm every Wednesday night
Location: Queen Elizabeth Continuing Education, 9457 King George Boulevard

Registration is open to students entering grade 10, 11 & 12 in September 2020. Preference given to students entering grades 11 & 12 but grade 10 students will be considered if there is space. Students who successfully complete the course will get a credit for Entrepreneurship 12.

How to Apply

Send a one page professional letter of application – similar to a letter of motivation or letter of application to university that includes the following:

- Name
- School
- Email address
- Phone number
- Grade you are entering in September 2020
- Why you are applying for the YELL program
- Tell us about yourself – volunteer, work experience, achievements, etc
- Why you think you should be chosen for this program
- Please include the name and email address of a teacher reference

Email your letter of application to Kathy Krulitsky at krulitsky_k@surreyschools.ca