

## **Grade 11 Capstone Questions**

### ***Why are we doing this?***

The Capstone Project is an opportunity for students to demonstrate their learning in a particular topic they are interested in learning about. This student-centred approach allows individuals to personalized their learning in an area that they are passionate about.

This also aligns with the new curriculum that focuses on individualized learning.

### ***Will Post-secondary institutions look at my Capstone?***

Your Capstone mark will affect your GPA, which all post-secondary institutions look at. Sharing your specific Capstone Project, if it is relevant to the program you are applying to, can be a benefit you when you submit your application.

### ***Do we have to do a Capstone in order to graduate?***

Yes, all students wanting to graduate will need to complete a Capstone Project.

### ***Will the Capstone Project affect my GPA?***

Yes. Career Life Connections and the Capstone Project are worth 4 credits. 2 credits in Grade 11 and 2 credits in Grade 12.

### ***Are 30 hours of physical activity still required for graduation?***

No, only PE 10 is required for graduation.

### ***Are 30 hours of Work/Volunteer Experience still required for graduation?***

Yes.

## **Capstone Topic**

### ***What if I have no idea what to do? How do we select a proper topic?***

Select something that you are interested in, something you are passionate about! It could be sports, dance, music, food, art, science, technology, etc . Think of starting something that you enjoy doing with the intention of learning something new about it along the way.

### ***Can it be something I already know how to do?***

Start with something that you have an interest or hobby in. However, you want to choose something that you want to explore further. The idea is to learn something NEW in this process, not do something you've already done.

### ***I have many interests! What if I can't decide on a topic or can I have more than one topic?***

You will have to pick one topic. You could find a way to connect more than one topic but they would have to correlate with each other.

### ***Does my Capstone have to be informative? How much detail do I provide?***

Your Capstone has to reflect your growth and learning in the chosen topic. The amount of detail you provide is not specific, however, your Capstone should clearly reflect the depth of your experience.

### ***Can I have more than one topic?***

No. Focus on one topic only. During the Capstone proposal stage you should be able to narrow your scope down to one topic.

## **Capstone Project**

### ***What will it look like?***

Each Capstone will look different for each person. Look through the Capstone Styles Booklet found on our school website for ideas.

### ***Are there restrictions to the topic of the Capstone Project?***

The restrictions to the Capstone are that it must be legal, age-appropriate, and not cause harm to yourself or to other people.

### ***Are there any limits to what we can make?***

No, but remember your timeline and make realistic goals for yourself when approaching your Capstone.

### ***Can we collaborate on a Capstone Project with other students?***

Yes, however the Capstone **MUST** reflect your own personal experience within the project.

For example: a group of students decide to collaborate on a project, or organize an event together. Each person in the group would create an individual Capstone reflection outlining their experience during the process of making their project.

### ***If my Capstone is costly will the school fund me?***

No.

### ***How much time do I need to invest in the Capstone Project?***

Students should be prepared to dedicate, over a period of time, at least 25 hours towards completing their Capstone.

### ***Can my Capstone be about a volunteer experience I had outside of school?***

The Capstone can **not** be about something that you have already completed but could be about something that is *still continuing*.

A volunteer experience could be a Capstone Project **if** you can show that you used it to explore something new.

## ***Where can we find examples of Capstone Projects?***

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7CM8AYjj1Ss> (2 min 45 sec)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xHrQ5-D4dkk&t=585s> (11 min 15 sec)

## ***What are the qualities of a good Capstone Project?***

A good Capstone Project:

- Reflects your personal interest and passion in a certain topic.
- Shows your process.
- Generates questions, not necessarily answers.
- Clearly communicates new learning.
- Evolves over a period of time, and is not rushed.
- Shows the depth of your investigation into your chosen topic.
- Clearly shows the amount of time and consideration you have put in to completing it.
- Is not conclusive, rather, it lends itself to further investigation.

## **Capstone Presentation**

### ***Does everyone have to present their Capstone?***

Yes.

### ***When and who do we present our Capstone?***

Your Capstone will be presented in Grade 12 during the last Conference Day in May to staff, administration, students and invited guests.

### ***What will the presentation look like?***

That will depend on your Capstone Project. The presentation is partly your reflection on your growth in the core competencies and what you learned from the Capstone Project.

## **Capstone Evaluation**

### ***How will we be evaluated?***

You will receive a 2 credit mark in Grade 11 and a 2 credit mark in Grade 12 for Career Life Connections/Capstone. Your Capstone Project will be worth 50% of your Grade 12 mark.

### ***What if you don't finish in time?***

You will have to learn to manage your time well as you go through the Capstone process. There will be a timeline provided to help guide you, and checkpoints along the way, during Conference days, to assess your progress.

Remember: The Capstone Project is about a continued process of learning about something. Your Capstone documents this process regardless if a Project is finished. Your Capstone should reflect your experience, including difficulties that you had during the process.

However, **if you do not complete a Capstone Project, you will not graduate.**

## **Capstone Mentors**

### ***What is a mentor?***

A mentor is an adult that you trust, a person that can provide support and guidance as you are going through the process of completing your Capstone Project. It is preferable that your mentor has knowledge in your area of interest.

You must meet with your mentor on at least 3 occasions, and document these interactions on your Mentor Log form.

### ***How will staff at Burnett assist us with our project?***

All of Burnett's staff are committed to supporting students throughout the Capstone process. Conference Days will be used as checkpoints to see how your Capstone is progressing, and to provide you with guidance.

### ***How do you find mentors?***

Think of an adult you trust, ideally, someone who is knowledgeable in your topic area. The simple answer is to ask someone. Experts in any field are happy to share their knowledge especially to students who also share that passion.

### ***Can you find a mentor outside of school?***

Yes, with permission from your parents/guardians.

## **Capstone Process**

### ***How will our progress be monitored?***

Your progress will be monitored throughout your Grade 11 and 12 years, through Conference Days.

Your attendance, participation, activities, and reflections on Conference Days is required in order to graduate.

All Conference Day documents must be uploaded to a Conference Day Portfolio in myBlueprint.

All Capstone material must be uploaded to a Capstone Portfolio in myBlueprint.

### ***Does my project need to benefit others? Or can it be a project that I just want to do?***

Your Capstone is about personal growth, the experience is beneficial to you and your learning. The act of presenting and sharing your Capstone will inherently benefit others and their learning.