



DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Briefing Notes

Date: September 17, 2008

Topic: Results on the EQAO Primary Division, Junior Division and Grade 9 Assessments

Results of the 2007-2008 EQAO Assessments will be publicly released on September 17, 2008. These results will be used in conjunction with other school-based information to inform professional practices and to coordinate plans for **improving student learning and achievement**. Complete results are available at: www.eqao.com

Overall Results

Over the past 5 years, the percentage of TCDSB students at or above the provincial standard increased from:

- 53% to 62% in Gr. 3 reading
- 58% to 64% in Gr. 6 reading
- 61% to 72% in Gr. 9 academic math
- 62% to 70% in Gr. 3 writing
- 57% to 69% in Gr. 6 writing
- 18% to 28% in Gr. 9 applied math
- 61% to 68% in Gr. 3 math
- 57% to 59% in Gr. 6 math

- Grade 3 reading scores have improved over the past 5 years and they now surpass the Province
- Results for Grade 3 and 6 writing remain consistently higher than the Province
- Grade 3 math scores have improved over the past 5 years and now equal the Province
- Grade 6 reading and math scores are slightly behind the Province (2%) this year
- In Grade 9, scores for academic math have increased by 7% from last year; applied math scores have improved over 5 years, however, scores remain low

Trends by Subgroups

Gender

- In Grade 6 writing, the gap has decreased by 6% this year; the gender gap in Grade 3 and 6 reading requires continued focus
- In Grade 3 and 6 math, scores for females have improved; scores for males have generally remained stable for the past 3 years
- In Grade 9 academic math, scores for both females and males have increased by 7% since last year; the gender gap remains the same with males outperforming females (by 4%)
- In Grade 9 applied math, scores for males have increased greatly (by 15%) over the past 5 years; female performance has not shown similar improvement

English Language Learners (ELLs)

- The greatest gain has been in writing - Grade 3 scores have increased by 7% and Grade 6 by 11% since last year
- Grade 3 and 6 reading and math scores have been variable over time
- Grade 9 scores have improved by 20% in academic math and by 7% in applied math since last year
- System resources for ELLs remain focused on closing the gap between the board and the province

Student with Special Needs

- The greatest improvement for students with special needs has also been in writing - Grade 3 scores have increased by 10% and Grade 6 by 7% since last year; both Grade 3 and 6 scores have improved by 17% over the past 5 years
- Grade 3 reading scores have increased by 3% from last year
- Grade 3 math, Grade 6 reading and math scores remain consistent over the past 3 years
- Grade 9 performance has improved by 8% in academic math and by 13% in applied math over the past 5 years
- System resources for special needs students remain focused on closing the gap between the board and the province

Next steps

- We will continue to support our schools and learning networks in their work to further improve student achievement. Our analysis remains focused on unpacking EQAO results and other school-based achievement data to inform and revise our board and school learning plans. We will continue to align our resources to support individual students and to differentiate areas of identified need within our Catholic professional learning communities.