



# NEWS RELEASE

September 17, 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Toronto Catholic District School Board Students Surpassing Provincial Levels in Many Areas

Over the past five years, the percentage of Toronto Catholic District School Board students at or above the provincial standard has consistently increased. Grade 3 reading scores now surpass the Provincial average, results for Grade 3 and 6 writing remain consistently higher than the province and Grade 3 math scores have improved over the past five years and now equal the Province.

“We are definitely pleased with the improvements that our students have made over the past few years,” says TCDSB Chair Catherine LeBlanc-Miller. “These latest results would indicate that we are moving in the right direction with our programming and support services.”

In Grade 9 math, the scores in the academic level have increased by 7% from last year. Although gains have also been made over time at the applied level, the scores remain below the provincial average.

The recent focus on the gender gap in student achievement has netted some positive results. In Grade 6 writing, for example, the gap between male and female results has decreased by 6% this year, while in Grade 3 and 6 math, scores for females have improved and scores for males have generally remained stable for the past three years. In Grade 9 academic math, scores for both females and males have increased by 7% since last year, but the gender gap remains the same with males outperforming females (by 4%).

Further good news for the Board is the improvement in assessment scores for English Language Learners and Students with Special Needs. The greatest gain for ELL students has been in writing with Grade 3 scores increasing by 7% and Grade 6 by 11% since last year. Grade 9 scores have improved by 20% in academic math and by 7% in applied math since last year. For Students with Special Needs, the greatest improvement has also been in writing, with Grade 3 scores increasing by 10% and Grade 6 by 7% since last year. Both Grade 3 and 6 scores have improved by a total of 17% over the past five years. Grade 9 performance has improved by 8% in academic math and by 13% in applied math over the same period.

“I believe we are on the right track, and our system resources will continue to be focused on the support of our schools and our learning networks in their efforts to further improve student achievement,” says Director of Education Les Nemes. “We will continue to align our resources to support differentiated learning for our diverse student population.”

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*The Toronto Catholic District School Board educates close to 90,000 students from diverse cultures and language backgrounds in its 201 Catholic elementary and secondary schools and serves 475,032 Catholic school supporters across the City of Toronto.*

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