



*Office of the Director of Education*

January 10, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian:

As you may be aware, all students in grade 9 who are studying mathematics during the first semester were scheduled to write the EQAO mathematics assessment in January 2020. The Minister of Education last week announced that it would be left to individual school boards as to whether or not they could proceed with the assessments as scheduled.

Given the current labour situation and pending job action initiated by OECTA on Monday, this assessment of mathematics for students in Toronto Catholic District School Board secondary schools will not be conducted in January 2020. As part of the job actions announced by the Ontario English Catholic Teachers Association (OECTA), its members (which include our secondary school teachers) will not be engaging in preparing, administering or marking EQAO assessments for the duration of the job action.

Teachers will continue to work through the completion of the grade 9 math curriculum as the first semester comes to an end. Traditionally, a student's performance on components of the EQAO Grade 9 Math Assessment has been included as part of the student's final grade, which forms part of their overall mark in the course. Given that this will not be possible this semester, teachers will weigh all evidence of student achievement and will use their professional judgement to determine the student's report card grade. The final evaluation(s) of the course will allow students an opportunity to demonstrate comprehensive achievement of the overall expectations for the course.

TCDSB will await further direction from the Ministry of Education regarding a potential make-up test for semester 1 students. Once all the details are provided to school boards, TCDSB staff will work through the logistics of administering the mathematics assessment for semester 2 students, as well as the potential make-up test for those who completed their mathematics course during semester 1.

Parents will be provided with further information as it becomes available.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rory McGuckin".

Rory McGuckin  
Director of Education

cc. Secondary School Principals, Vice-Principals  
All Trustees  
All Superintendents