

NIAGARA CATHOLIC STUDENTS CONTINUE TO MEET, EXCEED PROVINCIAL AVERAGES ON EQAO ASSESSMENTS

The Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) has released the Board and provincial results of primary and junior assessments in Reading, Writing and Mathematics, as well as the Grade 9 Mathematics assessment and the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) written by Grade 10 students in 2018-2019.

Niagara Catholic students in Grades 3 and 6 continue to exceed the provincial average of students who achieved level three or above on the reading and writing assessments, but fell just below the provincial averages for the primary and junior mathematics assessment averages.

Grade 9 academic students met the provincial average for the provincial mathematics assessment, while students in the applied program fell slightly short of the provincial average. Niagara Catholic's Grade 10 students met the provincial average of the number of students who successfully completed the OSSLT.

Graphics with the results are attached.

"Niagara Catholic recognizes EQAO as one of many assessment tools used to measure student achievement," said Frank Fera, Chair of the Board. "However, student achievement is about more than a score on an assessment test. We are extremely fortunate to have a team of partners, including parents, administrators, teachers and support staff, who are committed to guiding each student throughout their educational journey. We will continue to balance student achievement with the unique needs of our more than 21,000 students to ensure we are creating confident, creative and collaborative students who thrive in school and beyond."

Niagara Catholic Director of Education John Crocco noted that a strong foundation in literacy and numeracy, provided by our staff and community partners, opens the doors to a wide array of career pathways for students, and emphasized the board's commitment to student success.

“Niagara Catholic students continue to exceed the provincial average on elementary and secondary reading, writing and literacy EQAO assessments, and to meet the provincial average on Grade 9 academic mathematics,” said Director of Education John Crocco. *“While we are pleased with the overall achievement trend, and the success of the strategies implemented by our staff to support student achievement, we recognize that even a small percentage below the provincial average in mathematics requires continued review and focus to support mathematical teaching and learning, assessment and professional development. Combined with the Focus on the Fundamentals of Mathematics, and the planned revision to K to 12 mathematics curriculum over the next four years, we will continue to provide the programs, supports and services for student success.”*

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