

April 7, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians of St. Catharines Collegiate:

The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test measures whether students are meeting the minimum standard for literacy across all subjects up to the end of Grade 9. Successful completion of the literacy test is one of the requirements to earn an Ontario Secondary School Diploma.

EQAO will be field testing a new online version of the OSSLT from March 2021 until June 2021. The field test will be available to students in Grade 10, 11, and 12 who are working toward their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). This will allow the opportunity for students in Grades 10 and 11, and non-graduating Grade 12 students, to attempt the test. If successful, this will count towards their literacy graduation requirement. Because the Ministry of Education has waived the literacy graduation requirement for all students graduating during the 2020–2021 school year, graduating students do not need to take the OSSLT field test.

Special accommodations for testing at the school will be made to ensure that Cohort O students have the opportunity to test. The school will be reaching out to Cohort O students to make these arrangements. In-person students will remain with their assigned cohorts and classes for testing. Testing will occur over a number of days between March and June. We will provide more specific plans shortly.

St. Catharines Collegiate staff, in conjunction with our Literacy Team, are committed to helping our students prepare for the OSSLT. Over the course of the school year, all teachers have been incorporating literacy skills into their regular class program. For parents who would like to help their student prepare for the OSSLT, you may visit the EQAO website at www.EQAO.com to access information on the practice test or visit our St. Catharines Collegiate website for a link to the practice test which students had the opportunity to complete during their period 2 class, as well as a link to additional resources that students can access to help them prepare for the test.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at the St. Catharines Collegiate at 905-687-7301.

Sincerely,

Johanna Provost/Principal

St. Catharines Collegiate Secondary School