

# **NEWS RELEASE FROM THE CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF EASTERN ONTARIO**

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**Subject:** OSSLT Results  
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## **CDSBEO Grade Ten Literacy Test: Excellent Results**

**Kemptville, ON** – The Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario (CDSBEO) is pleased to share Board results for the 2008 Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT).

Grade 10 students across the province wrote the test, which is administered in March through the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO).

The OSSLT determines whether a student has achieved the provincial standard in reading and writing. The test is based on the Ontario Curriculum across all subjects up to the end of Grade 9.

CDSBEO is pleased to announce continued outstanding results on the OSSLT. Of the first time eligible students to write the test, 88 percent achieved the provincial standard. This means that the overall improvement, since the test was first administered in 2002, is 14 percent. The provincial average for successful students remained at 84 percent.

Superintendent of Education, Jane McMillan stated, “The results illustrate the dedication and commitment of our whole school community. We are very pleased to see continued excellent results across all schools.”

Director of Education, Bill Gartland, echoed that support. “The Board’s ability to maintain positive OSSLT results truly is a testament to all the time and effort that our schools put in to our literacy initiatives. We are very proud of the achievements of our students and teachers.”

CDSBEO continues to work to help students attain positive results, exceeding the provincial standard. Strategies employed by the Board include: Literacy test awareness and preparation, after school homework clubs, higher level thinking skills resources, and job-embedded professional learning for Grade 7, 8, and 9 teachers that promotes best practices in reading and writing instruction, balanced literacy, and literacy across the curriculum.

Principal of Curriculum, Charlotte Rouleau, stated, “Our commitment to support our students is unwavering. Our Curriculum Department continues to develop whole group, and student-specific, programs based on data, allowing us to target specific areas of study to help overall improvement.”

Board Chair, Ronald Eamer, congratulated all involved in the collaborative effort. “Our leaders take great pride in maintaining the success rate of our students. That enthusiasm is felt throughout our entire system, as it travels to our classrooms, where it is shared by our teachers. It’s that type of enthusiasm that produces these wonderful results.”

For more information, please contact CDSBEO Communications Officer Bob Perreault at 613-258-7757 or 1-800-443-4562 ext. 206 or 613-859-0678 (mobile).

The Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario operates 40 elementary and 10 secondary schools across 8 counties. The CDSBEO offers excellence in Catholic education through provincial-leading programs to approximately 15,000 students.