



MEDIA RELEASE

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More Students in Grand Erie Successfully Complete the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test

Brantford ON: Results from the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) were released today by the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) and indicate improvement for Grand Erie students.

The OSSLT was administered in March 2015 to 1,756 Grand Erie students. Seventy-two percent of participating first-time eligible students passed the test. These results represent a two percent gain from the previous year. They also mark a three percent reduction in the gap between Grand Erie and provincial results. Eighty-two percent of first-time eligible students in Ontario passed the test.

“Successfully completing the literacy credential is required for students to earn their Ontario Secondary School Diploma,” said Andy Nesbitt, Superintendent of Education. “These results reflect our focus on supporting improved achievement and indicate that our teachers and students are engaging in meaningful learning. Literacy skills directly connect to achievement in all subjects, which ultimately leads students to graduation.”

Our secondary schools continue to identify literacy as a priority and have developed strategies in response to individual student needs. Using student literacy data collected throughout the year, Grand Erie has developed its Literacy Support Plan; this includes early intervention strategies in Grades 9 and 10 based on curriculum expectations which align with the skills students must demonstrate on the OSSLT.

Grand Erie success in the Academic and Applied pathways is as follows:

- In 2015, 91 percent of students in the Academic pathway were successful.
- Students in the Applied pathway have demonstrated a two percent increase over the last two years from forty-six percent in 2013 to forty-eight percent in 2015.
- In both pathways, Grand Erie students are within two percent of the provincial averages.

“Supporting all students is our focus in Grand Erie,” said Nesbitt. “For the past five years, our Multi-Year Plan has focused on student achievement and professional development in support of student learning. We are committed to engaging students in a responsive learning environment so they can achieve their educational goals.”

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