



Dear parents and guardians:

On Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Grade 10 students across the province will write the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT). It will also be written by students who were previously eligible but have not yet written the test. The OSSLT is administered by the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO), an independent agency of the Government of Ontario, in order to determine whether students have acquired the minimum literacy (reading and writing) skills expected by The Ontario Curriculum across all subjects up to the end of Grade 9.

On March 27<sup>th</sup>, students should arrive at school no later than 8:50 am and be in their assigned classrooms by 9:10 am. A light breakfast of bagels and juice will be available in the gym starting at 8:25 am and running until 8:50 am.

Please note that this date is the only opportunity for students to write the 2019 OSSLT. Students who are absent will have to wait until the spring of 2020 to write the test.

The test consists of two booklets, each containing multiple-choice and open-response questions. The test is given on one day in two 75-minute blocks. All of the questions are based directly on the expectations set out in The Ontario Curriculum, which is what teachers teach in the classroom every day. Students can prepare as they would for any other secondary school test.

EQAO no longer requires Individual Education Plans (IEPs) for the following accommodations during the test: individual or small group setting, preferential seating in an assessment room, prompts for students with severe attention problems who are at risk of being off task for significant periods of time, and additional time. Accommodation decisions will be made based on the individual needs of each student.

Please use the link for the English Department website [holytrinityfalcons.cdsbeo.on.ca/for-parents/english-department/](http://holytrinityfalcons.cdsbeo.on.ca/for-parents/english-department/) for literacy supports. For more information about EQAO and to view a sample of its assessments, visit [www.eqao.com](http://www.eqao.com).