



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 24, 2014

Rainy River District School Board announces secondary level EQAO test results

The 2013-2014 Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics and Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) results have been released. The Rainy River District School Board has reviewed these results as compared to the previous year, and as compared over the past five years. These results, analyzed with the results of other assessments, help the School Board to focus further supports for students and to prioritize professional development for staff.

In 2013-2014, 240 Rainy River District School Board students wrote the EQAO Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics. In Applied Mathematics, 48% of Rainy River District School Board students achieved at or above the provincial standard of Level 3 and Level 4, which is achieving a B- to A+. This is a significant increase of 16 percentage points as compared with the previous year, and an increase of 6% points over the past five years. In Academic Mathematics, 88% of Rainy River District School Board students achieved at or above the provincial standard of achievement. This is a 2 percentage point increase as compared with the previous year, and a 7% point increase over the past five years.

The School Board is pleased to see that its students are achieving higher than the provincial average in both Applied and Academic Mathematics, but recognizes the need for further improvement in Applied Mathematics. Over the past several years, the School Board has had an increased focus on math strategies, and along with the province, continues to focus in 2014-15 on improved numeracy outcomes for students.

Of the 250 students who wrote the Spring 2014 Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) for the first time, 70% of students were successful in passing the test. This represents a 4% point decrease from last year's results. Students must either pass the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test or successfully complete the Ontario Secondary Literacy Course as one of the 32 requirements for an Ontario Secondary diploma. Along with other school boards across the province, there has been an increase in Rainy River District School Board students completing the Ontario Secondary Literacy Course, which provides stronger literacy supports and another avenue to achieve this requirement for graduation.

For further details, visit the EQAO's website at <http://www.eqao.com>.

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Media Contact:

Casey Slack, Superintendent of Education, Rainy River District School Board (807) 274-9855

Reference:

Darlene Madill, Communications Officer, Rainy River District School Board (807) 274-9855 ext. 4989

Mission: *"Together, we empower all students to believe in themselves, to achieve, and to dream."*

Vision: *"The Rainy River District School Board is an innovative community, nurturing hearts and minds, to build a foundation for tomorrow, today."*