



Kenora Catholic District School Board

We are a Roman Catholic school system dedicated to excellence in education, the Christian formation of youth, and strong partnerships with parents and the church.

002
Press Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press Release

2010-002

Date:	June 16, 2010
Topic:	Kenora Catholic District School Board Releases Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test Results
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Release Date:	June 16, 2010
Instructions:	For Immediate Release and Communication

Communication:

The results are in and the Kenora Catholic District School Board is happy to see them.

Eighty-nine percent of students writing the test for the first time passed the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT). The literacy test is a graduation requirement for all students and was written by all grade 10 students in April of this year in every high school in Ontario.

This is a statistic that makes the board very proud. "It represents a lot of hard work and effort by our teachers, parents, and most of all, our students", says Murray Delorme, assistant to the director. "We have been working very hard on this and are pleased to see such good results." The results represent a **fourteen** percent increase from last year. "Our students are proving that they are literate members of society and ready to move forward in their graduation requirements," he said. "We are happy to see that we are in line with the Provincial scores. It is a good measure of where we are and how we are doing." Provincially 84% of students were successful in this test.

Principal of St. Thomas Aquinas High School, Paul White, is also pleased with these results. "Our staff has been working well as a team to help bring about student improvement," says White. "We have run practice tests and workshops, as well as working with individuals who needed extra assistance. We have a great team!" The staff at the high school has also been implementing school improvement plans that focus on using data informed decision making to help improve student achievement. "The teachers have been implementing a cross curricular approach to the teaching of literacy and so they have seen student improvement on a daily basis as well as in the testing," White adds.

Another area of improvement is in the number of students who participated in the testing. 97% of students wrote the test. "This is a huge piece of the puzzle," says White. "All students realize that we have high expectations for them when we expect everyone to participate."

White says that the school will continue to make the literacy needs of all students a high priority and is pleased to be able to celebrate the good work of students and staff through the announcement of this test's results. "It is not about one test," says White. "This is just a chance to make public one of the great things that is occurring in our school."

Kevin Debnam
Interim Director of Education

Darryl Michaluk
Chair of the Board