



# Bernie Custis Secondary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) is offering the administration of the on-line Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) during the fall and spring. Successful completion of the OSSLT or Literacy course (OLC4O) is a graduation requirement.

**Bernie Custis Secondary School Grade 11 and non-graduating Grade 12 students** will be participating in the OSSLT during the fall session which will run from [**Wednesday, November 17, 2021 to Wednesday, November 30, 2021**]. All participating students attending school face to face will have the chance to try a practice OSSLT from **October 27 to November 3** (students should bring their school-issued iPad that day **fully charged** or their own personal laptop if that is their preference, **earbuds** or **headphones**). **Students with full eLearning timetables** will be contacted by their guidance counsellor who will provide information on when and where they can write the OSSLT. Arrangements, under the guidance of public health, will be made for safe in-person participation.

All participants will complete the on-line assessment on a scheduled date during period one (the morning class, starting at 8:50 AM). Students who participate in the test and are successful will have it counted on their transcript. If a student is unsuccessful this will grant the student eligibility to register in the **OLC4O course** in order to obtain the literacy graduation requirement OR they will have a second opportunity to **write in the spring session**.

## Preparing for the on-line OSSLT

EQAO has offered students the opportunity to become familiar with the online test and its platform through EQAO's online practice test ([CLICK HERE](#)). Participating students are encouraged to prepare and practice before their designated test day.

The literacy graduation requirement for all students graduating during the 2021–2022 school year has been waived by the Ministry of Education; therefore, students who will be graduating in 2021-22 **do not** need to take the test.

## Please Note:

- **Students in period one Grade 11 classes (including ALL co-op students)** can find their scheduled dates and locations for the assessment in the attached **Daily OSSLT Schedule** by searching for their period 1 teacher's name and course code.
- Grade 11 student with a period 1 eLearning class in Quadmester 2 will write the OSSLT in an alternate location according to the schedule below.
- **Grade 11 students not in Grade 11 classes**, please see **Daily OSSLT Schedule** for your scheduled date and alternate location.



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- **Non-graduating Grade 12 students, Grade 11 students will full eLearning timetables and students with period 1 spare please see the *Daily OSSLT Schedule* for your scheduled date and alternate location.**
- All participating students should bring their **school-issued iPad to school fully charged** to complete the on-line assessment. Any students who wish to use their own personal laptop may do so, but the laptop should be fully charged and the Safe Exam Browser must be installed on the laptop prior to their OSSLT test date ([CLICK HERE](#)).
- Any students who require the use of audio features available during the OSSLT should bring **headphones or earbuds** compatible with the device they intend to use for the test.

Sonya Sykes

she/her  
Principal  
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