



# Dundas Valley Secondary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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Principal:  
Vice-Principals:

Kim Collier  
Chuck Balazs  
Andrea Moore

November 5, 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians/Caregivers,

The Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) is offering the administration of the on-line Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) during the Fall and Spring this year. Successful completion of the OSSLT or Literacy Course (OLC4O) is a graduation requirement.

**Grade 10 students currently enrolled in English this semester** will write this test over two days on **November 27 and 28**. The test is expected to take 75 minutes (one period) to write, but all test writers may have double time to complete it and will remain in the same class to finish their writing. If their English class is in the morning, students will write the full morning (if needed). If their English class is in the afternoon, they will write the full afternoon (if needed).

Morning writers begin promptly at 8:05 am in their English classroom, and afternoon writers promptly at 11:40 am in their English classroom, regardless of if it is a Day 1 or a Day 2. There will be no new learning in Grade 10 courses on these days, to allow students to complete their ongoing tasks and activities in their other courses.

**Grade 10 students taking English next semester will write their OSSLT during the spring session** (details will be shared later). Please encourage punctual attendance for your student on both test days.

**Grade 11 and Grade 12 students who need to complete this test** will be participating in the OSSLT session **this semester** on **November 25 and 26**. Mr. Davey, our Student Success teacher, will work with each of these students to determine the best time of day for them to write based on their timetables.

Students will have the opportunity to write at least one practice test during their English class before writing the official test. Teachers will be leading these sessions so that students are fully prepared and know what to expect on their test day. Students who participate in the test and are successful will have completed this graduation requirement. If a student is unsuccessful, they will be eligible to register in the **OLC4O course** to obtain the literacy graduation requirement OR they may have another opportunity to write it during the Spring session.

(over)

**HWDSB**  
**BE YOU. BE EXCELLENT.**

### **Preparing for the Online OSSLT:**

EQAO has offered students the opportunity to become familiar with the online test and its platform through EQAO's online practice test [www.eqao.com](http://www.eqao.com). Participating students are encouraged to prepare and practice before their designated test days. There will be preparation sessions also in class during the weeks prior to the test.

Mr. Davey can be contacted via email at [sdavey@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:sdavey@hwdsb.on.ca) if you have any further questions about this test and/or the accommodations that are available to your student.

**All participating students will need to bring their school-issued laptop to school fully charged** to complete the on-line assessment for both sessions (A+B).

Thank you for your partnership with this graduation requirement as together, we support and encourage every student to be successful writing their literacy test.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Collier'.

Kim Collier(she/her)  
Principal, Dundas Valley Secondary School