



Glendale Secondary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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Hello,

My name is Monica Rees, and I am the Math Department Head and Temporary Math Facilitator at Glendale. If you are receiving this email, it means that someone from your home is taking gr. 9 math this semester. If that is not the case, please disregard this email.

I am sending this letter to update parents and caregivers about some upcoming important dates in Math. I want to make sure people at home are aware of the dates so that students are in class and come prepared.

All high school courses are required to have 30% of the final grade done at the end of the course. For gr. 9 math, 10% of the final grade is determined through the Provincial Assessment of Mathematics, also known as the EQAO Assessment. The other 20% is determined through a Culminating Assignment.

EQAO is an online digital test, so **it is important that students bring their HWDSB laptop (or iPad) fully charged, with all updates completed, with their charger for both the test and the practice test.** Completing the practice test will help students to be comfortable with the online platform, so being in class for the practice is critical.

The following dates have been set aside for these assessments:

Tuesday June 10 – practice EQAO assessment – This is done in class and is necessary for students to learn how to use the digital platform.

Wednesday June 11 – GOLD Day – This is an opportunity for students to catch up on missed material and prepare themselves for the final 30% in each course

Thursday June 12 – Monday June 16 & Wednesday June 18 – Culminating Assignment – This is done independently in class. This assignment is worth **20%** of their final mark and is **mandatory**. These days include review time to prepare for the assignment. The assignment will be similar to unit assessments but will cover the whole course.

Tuesday June 17 – EQAO Day 1 – This will be written by ALL gr. 9 math students during Period 1 and Period 2. Students **MUST** have their charged and updated board-assigned laptop or iPad at school with them on this day as they cannot write the assessment without it. Students are

encouraged to bring their own calculator, but a Desmos calculator is built into the platform and is available for those that are unable to provide their own. The platform also has a translator built in and we will practice using it with students that require a translator prior to the assessment.

Thursday June 19 – Tuesday June 24 - These are **exam days**, and this is when students will write **EQAO Part 2**. This assessment is instead of an exam. Students with **math in Period 1 will write on Thursday June 19 at 8:30 am** in their math classroom, students with **math in Period 2 will write on Friday June 20 at 8:30 am** in their math classroom, students with **math in Period 3 will write on Monday June 23 at 8:30 am** in their math classroom, and students with **math in Period 5 will write on Tuesday June 24 at 8:30 am** in their math classroom. Any students that need to finish their culminating assignment can stay after they are done EQAO to finish this work. Students will be allowed to go home once they are done. This will be the last day of math for students this semester.

Finally, as the Temporary Math Facilitator, I am working with small groups of students to try to improve basic skills. We will be working on integers, fractions, and solving equations over the next few weeks. The better our students are in these three areas, the stronger they will be moving forward in math in gr. 10 and beyond.

If you have any questions or concerns about any of this information, please feel free to contact me at any time. My email address is mrees@hwdsb.on.ca. I have told all students that EQAO is our chance to show the province how great Glendale students are in math – I look forward to seeing our results!

Monica Rees
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