

January 15, 2008

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Your son/daughter will be participating in the E.Q.A.O. Grade 9 Mathematics Test during two mathematics classes: Period 5 on Friday January 18<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday January 23<sup>rd</sup>.



Participation in the Grade 9 E.Q.A.O. Mathematics Test is mandatory for all students taking Grade 9 mathematics at the Academic or Applied levels. The test is NOT a diploma requirement. According to the E.Q.A.O., the *Grade 9 province-wide mathematics assessment provides a snapshot based on student achievement during the assessment unit. These assessments are based directly on the provincial curriculum and administered to students all across the province. They add to the more comprehensive information that teachers collect throughout the year from classroom assessments, daily observations and conversations with parents*

To help students prepare for the test, E.Q.A.O. has provided detailed Grade 9 Support Material on its web site ([www.eqao.com](http://www.eqao.com)). Grade 9 mathematics teachers will be working to incorporate this support material, while still trying to complete the curriculum before the testing period.

All questions are based on the expectations for students in Grade 9 applied and academic courses in *The Ontario Curriculum, Grades 9 and 10: Mathematics Revised 2005*. On Day 1 of the assessment, the test is broken into 7 multiple choice questions, 4 open response questions followed by 7 multiple choice questions. On Day 2 of the assessment, the test will have 7 multiple choice questions, 4 open response questions followed by 6 multiple choice questions.

Since the Ministry requires all students in 1D or 1P mathematics to complete the assessments in order, it is very important that **all students taking these courses are present each day of their assessment**. If you know in advance that your student will be absent, please contact his or her teacher to make alternate arrangements. If a student is absent for an unanticipated reason (illness), your son or daughter will be expected to write the missed test the next day. Similarly, if the busses are cancelled for any reason, the test will occur on the following day.

At the encouragement of the Ministry of Education and the E.Q.A.O., we have decided to use some of the Grade 9 E.Q.A.O. test as **part of the 30% Summative Assessment** of the grade 9 mathematics course. Since we have not seen the test as yet, we are unable to tell what part of it we feel is appropriate to include. Needless to say, we will only include assessment that we feel is appropriate for our grade 9 students. Again, please make every effort to ensure your student is present each day.

Students will not receive any help during the test. They will be provided with a two-sided formula sheet and a *Key Words and Phrases Instructions sheet*. Both of these sheets are available with the *Support Materials*.

“Students with special needs” are defined as students with an INDIVIDUAL EDUCATION PLAN (IEP). These students will be accommodated based on their individual needs following consultation of the math teacher and the Special Education Resource Teacher. These students will be notified of their individual accommodations.

If you have any questions or require further clarification please call 284-1731.

Yours sincerely,

Rob Larsen  
Vice-Principal

Sherry Logan  
Head of Mathematics

