

Assessment, Evaluation, and Reporting

Growing Success: Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting in Ontario Schools covering Grades 1-12 now guides all assessment, evaluation and reporting practices in Peel along with Peel Policy #14.

Course/Pathway Changes – From Grade 9 to 10

Students who are successful in any academic or applied Grade 9 course may select either the academic or applied course in the same subject in Grade 10. Students planning to switch from one course type in Grade 9 to another in Grade 10 in the same subject are strongly encouraged to complete additional requirements such as a transfer course (if available), a summer school course or a demonstration of the achievement of course learning expectations.

Course/Pathway Changes – From Grade 10 to 11 or 11 to 12

A student wishing to change course types between Grades 10 and 11 and/or Grades 11 and 12 must complete the designated course prerequisite.

Credit Recovery

Credit recovery programs help students earn the credits they have previously failed to achieve, as they develop the learning skills needed for academic success. These programs:

- focus on improving learning skills;
- may target particular curriculum expectations that students have failed to achieve;
- may include behavioural or other supports;
- may involve the recovery of more than one credit;
- can involve both independent and group learning;
- may be combined with remedial programs, and may accommodate continuous intake.

(excerpt from Strategies for Student Success, Ontario Ministry of Education pamphlet, 2005)

Credit recovery programs are available in schools. Please check with your home school for availability and detailed information.

Equity and Inclusive Education

All Peel schools are covered by the board's Equity and Inclusive Education Policy #54. This policy is aligned with the supports and expectations of the Human Rights policy (#51) and Safe Schools policy (#48). At all times the Equity and Inclusive Education Policy is to be interpreted as consistent with the Ontario Human Rights Code, [Ontario's Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy \(2009\)](#) as outlined in PPM No. 119, *Developing and Implementing Equity and Inclusive Education Policies in Ontario Schools* (2013), [Ontario's Education Equity Action Plan](#)

(2017) and the Anti-Racism Directorate's three year anti-racism strategic plan, [A Better Way Forward \(2017\)](#). The Policy reflects the board's commitment to provide equity of access and opportunity for all students and staff to learn, work and develop in a climate that is safe, positive, healthy, accessible and inclusive. The board recognizes that every person within the school community is entitled to anti-oppressive, safe, respectful and positive school climates for learning and working, free from all forms of bullying, discrimination harassment and hate. Respect for the diverse perspectives and realities of the entire school community will be integrated in all areas of the teaching, learning and administrative culture. The board will make every effort to identify and remove discriminatory biases and systemic barriers that may limit access to, and opportunity for, effective student engagement and achievement.

Fees for Courses

Under the Ministry of Education's guideline on fees for learning materials, schools cannot charge fees for materials or activities required as part of the core curriculum of the regular day school program, such as workbooks, textbooks, French/second language cahiers, and basic supplies and materials. Schools can charge for enhancements to the curriculum, such as field trips, special presentations or enhanced materials. Any fees charged will be itemized and will only be used for their intended purpose. Families are encouraged to make schools aware if financial support is necessary to ensure their teen can benefit from enhancements to the regular school program.

Regional programs are specialized programs and are optional. The Peel District School Board's regional programs include an application fee and an annual fee. The application fee supports the work done to determine who will be accepted into the program (clerical, auditions, document reviews, etc.). The annual fee provides resources such as guest artists or experts and specialized equipment that are necessary for the program. The fees are indicated on the application package available for each candidate from the school offering the program.

Flexible Boundary Policy

The Flexible Boundary Policy can be found on the PDSB website:

<http://peelschools.org/trustees/boardpolicies/documents/policy%2019.pdf>

The Flexible Boundary Application form is available at **all** elementary and secondary schools.

Students are expected to attend their home school as determined by official school boundaries available at each school and provided through Planning and Accommodation Support Services at (905) 890-1099, extension 2212.

There are some exceptions to this policy:

- The student has been accepted into a regional program. See information about regional programs http://inet.peelschools.org/departments/diroff/policies/policy_64.pdf Transportation is not provided to these sites. However, if the student is entering a secondary school program through an IPRC process (e.g. gifted program) transportation may be provided.
- The student requests access to a program at another school that is not offered at the home school. The student and parent will complete a “[Flexible Boundary](#)” application form at the home school and seek approval from the principal of the requested school. Transportation will not be provided.
- The student requests, for other reasons, to attend a different school in Peel. The “[Flexible Boundary](#)” application must be completed and approved by the principal of the requested school as above. Transportation will not be provided.

Note: Every student who has been registered as a transfer from another secondary school (anywhere) within the previous twelve (12) months is ineligible for all ROPSSAA and OFSAA sanctioned events, unless he/she appeals and is deemed eligible by the ROPSSAA and/or OFSAA Board of Reference Transfers.

Independent Learning Centres

Some secondary schools may offer independent learning courses through the Student Success classroom. Students can receive credits by working through course material provided by the teacher. Students are supported by the teacher during the class, and assignments and evaluations are marked by the teacher. These programs assist students in the following circumstances:

- student needs to begin a course mid-year or mid-semester
- student needs an alternative delivery mode for the course (independent learning)
- extenuating circumstances have prevented the student from being successful in the regular program course

These circumstances may also be addressed through the e-Learning course offerings. Please see the description on e-Learning.

Independent Learning Centres – TVOntario

Students 18 years of age or older can choose to register for an ILC course through TVOntario. Students must provide a “Date of Leaving” letter from the last secondary school attended along with a copy of their Ontario Student Transcript. There is a fee for registration in each course. See the TVO website for more information –

www.ilc-cei.com.

Newcomers to Peel Schools

Secondary students who are new to Canada, including students entering via English speaking countries, new students to Ontario and those students new to Peel who have been in an Ontario school for less than 6 months, and/or who do not have a report card, should be referred to the We Welcome the World Centres for an orientation and assessment. School staff should advise students/parents to call the We Welcome the World Centres or call on their behalf to book an appointment. We Welcome the World Centre staff will determine what type of assessment or orientation process is suitable for the family. Students should be encouraged to book their appointment early to avoid delays in admission. To assist families in locating the appropriate centre, please provide them with the phone number: 905-366-8791. The centres are open year round from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

All students eligible for secondary attendance and who meet the above criteria must contact the We Welcome the World Centres to book a registration, assessment and orientation appointment prior to admission at the school. The interview will include the collection of family and educational background, and may include the determination of English literacy and/or Mathematics skills.

On-Line Math Tutorial

Need help in math? Free tutoring is now available online.

Math students in Grades 7 to 10 can now access live and interactive math help by visiting

www.homeworkhelp.ilc.org. *Homework Help* is free, real-time math tutoring by certified Ontario teachers.

Students can log in from Sunday to Thursday, between 5:30 pm and 9:30 pm for individualized, confidential math tutoring. There are discussion rooms for each grade where students can join and see what questions other students are asking, watch the tutors draw on the whiteboard, and ask their own question for on-the-spot help.

Students will also find 24/7 discussion rooms, video lessons and commonly asked questions. Other online math resources include math games and a virtual locker, where students can save their work.

Homework Help is a project funded by the Ministry of Education.

Remedial Programs

All schools offer remediation for students who require assistance with their courses. This may be offered in a variety of formats:

- after-school assistance by subject teachers. The student should contact his subject teacher for assistance as needed.
- remediation in literacy or numeracy during class time or spare periods as arranged by the school.
- peer tutoring in specific subjects arranged during lunch, spare periods, or after school through the guidance department.
- *Counting On You*: a remedial literacy and numeracy program, for students in Grade 9 and 10, currently offered at select secondary schools across Peel. Running outside of regular school hours, each participating school may run a program either before school, after school, in the evenings or on weekends. Each program is specific to the school it runs out of and is taught by certified day-program Peel teachers from that school.
- Also offered through *Counting On You*, for any interested school, is a three day March Break program and a month-long *Credit Completion* summer school program in July for student's in Grade 9 and 10. Brochures are available in school guidance offices where the program is offered as well as from Alternative Programs, at the Peel District School Board Central Board Office (CBO).

Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

Each school board is required to establish a Special Education Advisory Committee. This committee includes three trustees and representatives from local parent associations. These representatives serve as advocates for students and parents. The associations have useful parent resources. Information about SEAC, the board's special education parent policies and programs can be obtained by calling 905-890-1010, ext. 2345 or by visiting

<http://www.peelschools.org/parents/specialed/specedac/Pages/default.aspx>

Student Bursaries and Scholarships

All graduating students should check the list of Peel scholarships and bursaries regularly to view the wide range of opportunities for post-secondary funding.

The list is available online at

www.peelschools.org/students/scholarships/

Student Expectations

Each school produces their own student handbook every year. It includes important information on student expectations with respect to achievement, attendance and punctuality, resource supports such as computer use, the library resource centre and the student Code of Conduct.