

# NEWS release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## Peel District School Board EQAO scores increase up to 19% over five years *Focused strategies, targeted supports credited with improvement*

EQAO test scores for grades 3, 6 and 9 students at the Peel board have risen as much as 14 per cent over last year in some areas. Five-year trends show significant increases of up to 19 per cent.

“As a board, we’re very pleased with our increasing EQAO results, and know the tremendous effort it takes to improve by several percentage points. We all share in the pride of this accomplishment—and the enormous benefit to our students and their families. This success is a credit to our skilled staff and their unwavering commitment to inspire success, confidence and hope in each student,” says Tony Pontes, director of education. “To continue to raise the bar on student engagement and achievement, we will continue our organizational focus on the implementation of targeted strategies and supports to improve the literacy and numeracy skills of our students.”

Overall, this is how grade 3 students performed:

	All students – levels 2, 3, 4			All students – levels 3, 4		
	2011-12 Peel	2011-12 province	2010-11 Peel	2011-12 Peel	2011-12 province	2010-11 Peel
reading	91%	89%	90%	66%	66%	65%
writing	98%	97%	98%	76%	76%	73%
math	93%	93%	95%	67%	68%	67%

Overall, this is how grade 6 students performed:

	All students – levels 2, 3, 4			All students – levels 3, 4		
	2011-12 Peel	2011-12 province	2010-11 Peel	2011-12 Peel	2011-12 province	2010-11 Peel
reading	93%	94%	93%	73%	75%	72%
writing	98%	97%	97%	75%	74%	74%
math	86%	87%	86%	55%	58%	56%

Overall, this is how grade 9 students performed on the math assessment:

	All students – levels 2, 3, 4			All students – levels 3, 4		
	2011-12 Peel	2011-12 province	2010-11 Peel	2011-12 Peel	2011-12 province	2010-11 Peel
applied	80%	78%	78%	45%	44%	40%
academic	96%	95%	95%	86%	84%	84%

“These results, especially our impressive gains on the writing and grade 9 math assessments, are a tribute to the hard work of staff in schools and centres,” says Shawn Moynihan, superintendent of curriculum and instruction support services. “What’s important about provincial testing is the way we use the results to improve teaching and learning. To maintain our upward momentum, we will continue to review our instructional practices, including differentiated instruction and assessment for learning, to improve math scores, close the gap between boys and girls, and provide even more support for our students with special education needs.”

The five-year trends show significant gains:

- Grade 3 English language learners have made significant gains in reading and writing. Over five years, ELL reading and writing scores are each up by 15 per cent.
- Grade 3 students are performing nine per cent higher in writing and eight per cent higher in reading.
- Grade 6 students are performing nine per cent higher in writing and 10 per cent higher in reading.
- Grade 6 English language learners have made significant gains in reading and writing. Over five years, ELL writing scores are up by 14 per cent and reading scores are up by 13 per cent.
- Scores are up 10 per cent in grade 9 academic math and 12 per cent in applied math.

Other highlights of the report include the following:

- Grade 3 English language learners have made gains in writing. ELL writing scores are up by six per cent in one year. Math scores went up by two per cent.
- Grade 3 students with special needs are performing six per cent higher in reading and eight per cent higher in writing than five years ago. There has been a decline of seven per cent for this group in math scores over the same time period.
- Grade 6 students with special needs are performing seven per cent higher than five years ago in writing and 10 per cent higher in reading. This represents a two per cent increase in writing and a two per cent increase in reading over last year. The five-year trend is also down in math for grade 6 special needs students, by six per cent.
- Grade 9 students with special needs have made significant gains over five years—up eight per cent in applied math and six per cent in academic math.
- Grade 9 English language learners have made gains in math scores. ELL applied math scores are up nine per cent over last year and up 16 per cent over five years. ELL academic math scores are up 19 per cent over five years to 83 per cent, which represents an increase of 14 per cent over last year.
- Over the past five years, grade 3 boys’ scores in reading and writing have increased by 10 and 11 per cent respectively, and there was a two per cent increase in math scores.
- Grade 6 boys’ scores in reading and writing have increased by 14 and 11 per cent respectively over the past five years.

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**The following reports can be found online at <http://www.peelschools.org/parents/EQAO>:**

Peel board report—primary and junior division, grade 9 math

EQAO reports for Peel board—primary and junior division, grade 9 math

school-by-school results—primary division, junior division, grade 9 math