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February 8, 2021

Dear Students, Parents and Guardians:

RE: EQAO Literacy Field-Test (OSSLT)

On April 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30 all Grade 11 students and non-graduating grade 12 students will take part in a field-test of the new online and adaptive EQAO Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT). The purpose of this field test is to allow students and educators to become familiar with the new model, and to support the validation and development of the new platform.

This new platform will allow the opportunity for students in Grade 11 and non-graduating Grade 12 students to attempt the test and, if successful, have it counted on their transcript.

To help prepare students to be as successful as possible on the OSSLT field-test, students will have the opportunity in-class on Thursday, February 11 to explore the Limestone District School Board Literacy Test Prep Resource through their minds online platform. This resource provides specific practice modules that target important literacy skills required on the test. The Literacy Test Prep Resource can be accessed from any device both at school and home for students to practice as frequently and often as they require.

Additionally, on Thursday, February 18 during class time, students will have the opportunity become familiar with the online test and its platform through EQAO's online practice test. The online practice test comprises two sessions, which include content from previous tests. The practice test is equivalent to the two sessions students will be completing during the live test. In addition, the practice test includes an introductory session that allows students to become familiar with the new online platform's tools and functions.

Finally, Bayridge will be hosting a live 'Q and A session' on Microsoft Teams on Tuesday, March 2, 2021 at 7pm. This is an opportunity for students and families to ask any additional questions related to the test as we get closer to the field-test date.

Also available on the EQAO website is the updated OSSLT Framework which provides a detailed description of the EQAO's OSSLT (including how the assessment is grounded in the Ontario Curriculum's expectations for literacy skills for all subjects up to the end of Grade 9) as well as a sample student report.



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This field test is a computer-based assessment that comprises two sessions (Session A and Session B) containing a total of 33 questions: 31 multiple-choice questions (including technologically enhanced multiple-select questions [e.g., drag and drop, drop-down menu, checklist] and two constructed open-response questions (e.g. opinion piece).

If you have any questions about this field-test, please contact Vicki McConnell by email (mcconnellv@limestone.on.ca) or by phone (613-389-8932 x329).

Sincerely,

Heather Highet

Links:

EQAO's Online Practice Test

<https://d1c1qqn86e6v14.cloudfront.net/#/en/student/osslt-assessment>

OSSLT Framework

<https://www.eqao.com/framework-osslt/>

Important Dates:

Thursday, February 11, 2021—In-class introduction to the Limestone District School Board D2L Literacy Test Prep Resource

Thursday, February 18, 2021—In-class EQAO online practice test

Tuesday, March 2, 2021—Online 'Q and A' event for students and families

Monday, April 26-Friday, April 30—All Grade 11 students and non-graduating Grade 12 students write EQAO online field-test with their cohort

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