

**For Immediate Release**

# Exceeding Expectations

## *WECDSB students see significant EQAO gains in math*

(Windsor, Ontario, Wednesday, Sept. 25, 2019) – Students in Catholic schools throughout Windsor-Essex continue to exceed provincial averages on 2018-19 standardized assessments, making some of their most significant gains in such key areas as junior math and Grade 9 applied math, according to results announced today.

“Thanks to targeted academic interventions we’ve been able to help our students succeed where many have struggled,” said Emelda Byrne, Executive Superintendent of Student Achievement. “We use our EQAO data for its intended purpose: to identify those students who may require extra support, and to develop strategies to make sure that they succeed. By supporting our staff and taking a whole team approach to learning, we are now finding that many are exceeding expectations.”

In Grade 9 applied math, the number of WECDSB students who met or exceeded the standard rose from last year’s result of 59 per cent to 62 per cent, and eclipsed the provincial average of 44 per cent by 18 per cent. At the academic level, Grade 9 students exceeded the provincial average by six per cent.

In the junior math category, the number of WECDSB Grade 6 students who met or exceeded the standard rose to 58 per cent, a four per cent increase over last year’s results of 54 per cent, and surpassing the provincial average of 48 per cent by a full 10 per cent.

At Sacred Heart Catholic Elementary School in LaSalle, where the WECDSB announced its board-wide results, the number of Grade 3 students who met or exceeded the standard in math jumped by seven per cent from 62 to 69 per cent, while in Grade 6, that number rose by six per cent from 56 to 62 per cent.

“We’ve been able to help our students by using our data strategically,” said Sacred Heart Principal Tara Clarke. “We identified student needs and obstacles to their learning and worked with board staff to create professional development and classroom supports for our teachers. We used more small-group instruction and rich problem solving tasks in certain classes, but also enhanced the culture of the entire school by fostering a growth mindset where mistakes are viewed as opportunities for learning.”

In reading and writing, Grade 3 and Grade 6 students exceeded provincial averages by four to five per cent,

*"Learning together in faith and service"*

while on the Grade 10 Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) WECDSB students surpassed the rest of Ontario by six per cent.

Board Chair Fulvio Valentinis said he's very pleased with the results.

"Mathematics has been an area of concern throughout the province and it's evident that the strategies our team has developed are working," he said. "Student achievement in all categories is extremely important to our Trustees and we have tremendous confidence in our administrators, teachers and support staff who are working extremely hard to make sure that our students are meeting the desired outcomes."

**For further information contact:**

Stephen Fields, Communications Coordinator

Office: 519-253-2481 ext. 1246, E-Mail: [Stephen\\_fields@wecdsb.on.ca](mailto:Stephen_fields@wecdsb.on.ca)



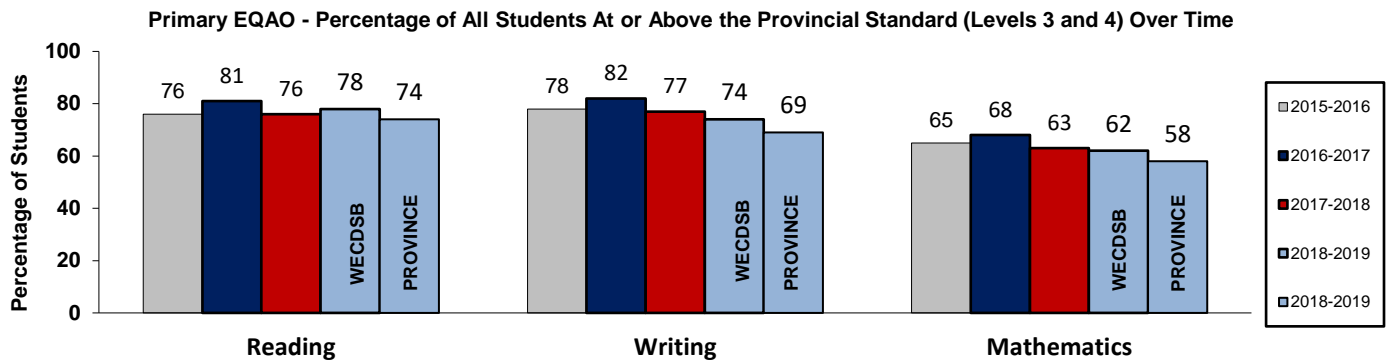
*"Learning together in faith and service"*

# WECDSB: Highlights of EQAO Results (2018-2019)

## Primary and Junior Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics

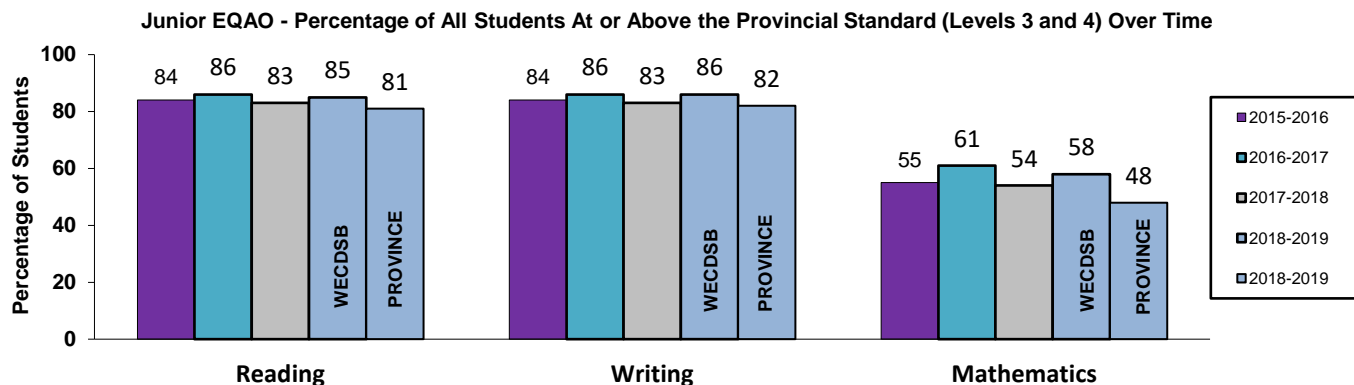
### EQAO Results for All Students, Primary Division (Grades 1-3)

- 1,273 Grade 3 students wrote the 2018-2019 assessment.
- The assessment measures the Reading, Writing and Mathematics skills *The Ontario Curriculum* expects students to have learned by the end of Grade 3
- Students achieving the provincial standard (Levels 3 and 4) has increased by 2% in Reading, decreased by 3% in Writing and decreased by 1% in Mathematics for the 2018-2019 assessment year.



### EQAO Results for All Students, Junior Division (Grades 4-6)

- 1,380 Grade 6 students wrote the 2018-2019 assessment.
- The assessment measures the Reading, Writing and Mathematics skills *The Ontario Curriculum* expects students to have learned by the end of Grade 6.
- Students achieving the provincial standard (Levels 3 and 4) has increased by 2% in Reading, and 3% in Writing and increased by 4% in Mathematics for the 2018-2019 assessment year.



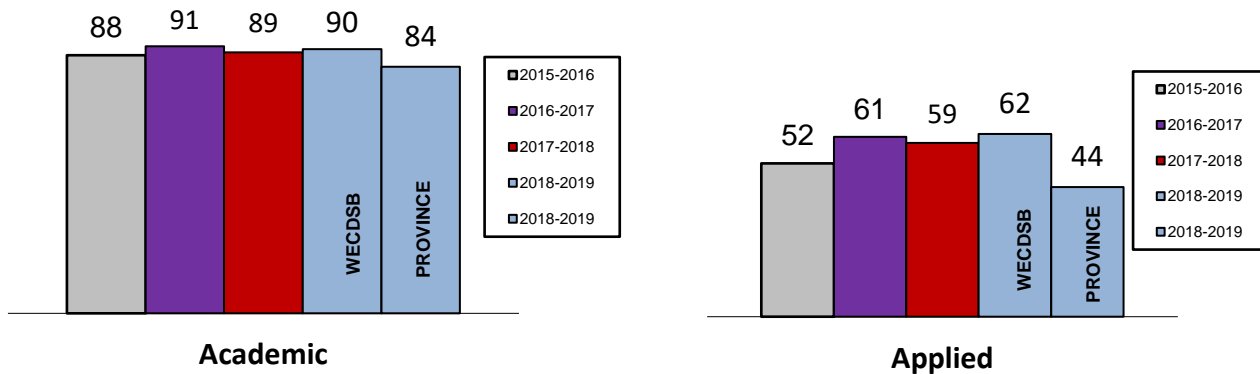
## WECDSB: Highlights of EQAO Results (2018-2019)

### Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics and Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)

#### EQAO Results for All Students, Grade 9 Assessment in Mathematics

- 1,134 students who were enrolled in the academic course and 436 students who were enrolled in the applied course wrote the 2018-2019 Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics.
- The assessment measures the Mathematics skills *The Ontario Curriculum* expects students to have learned by the end of Grade 9. Separate versions of the assessment are administered to students in the academic and applied courses.
- Students achieving the provincial standard (Levels 3 and 4) has increased by 1% in Academic Mathematics and increased by 3% in Applied Mathematics for the 2018-2019 assessment year.

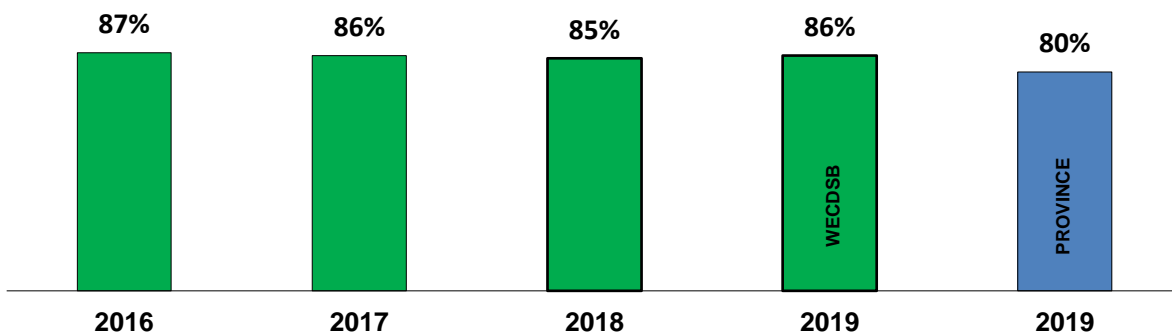
EQAO Grade 9 Mathematics - Percentage of Academic and Applied Students At or Above the Provincial Standard (Levels 3 and 4) Over Time



#### Success Rates for First-Time Eligible (Fully Participating) Students, OSSLT

- 1,418 first-time eligible (fully participating) students wrote the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test in March of 2019.
- The assessment measures the Literacy (reading and writing) skills *The Ontario Curriculum* expects students to have learned across all subject areas up to the end of Grade 9.
- The success rate for first-time eligible (fully participating) students has increased by 1% for 2019.

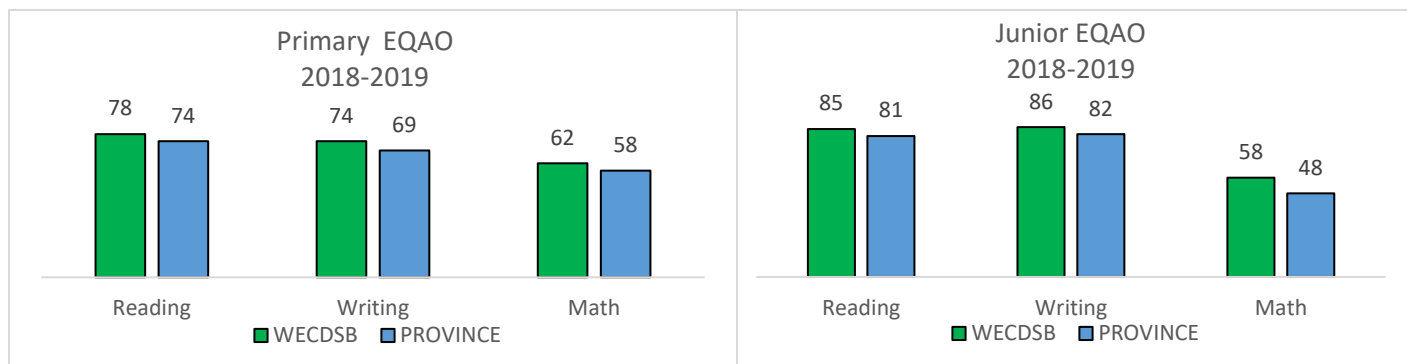
Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)  
Percentage of Successful First Time Eligible (Fully Participating) Students Over Time



# Comparing EQAO 2018-2019 Results: WECDSB to Province

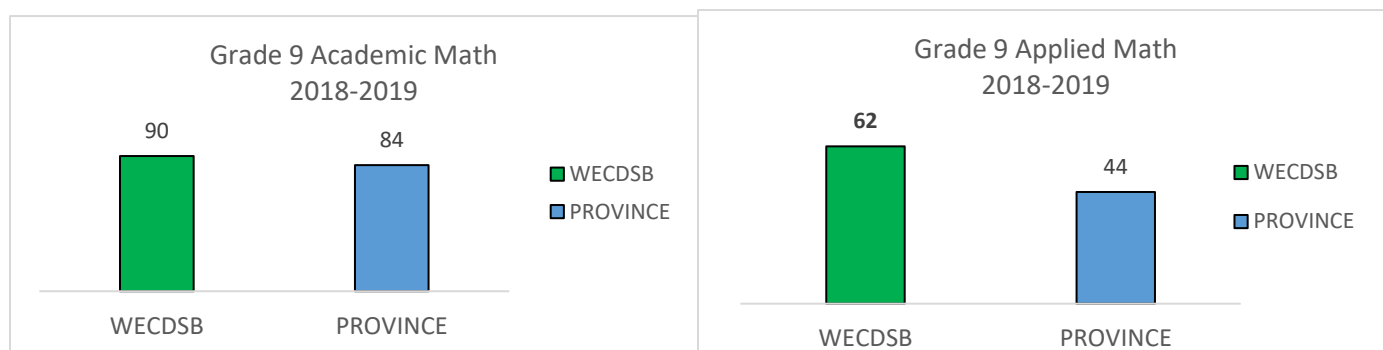
The WECDSB has **exceeded** the provincial achievement levels in all 9 categories for 4 consecutive years.

## Primary and Junior Assessment of Reading, Writing and Mathematics



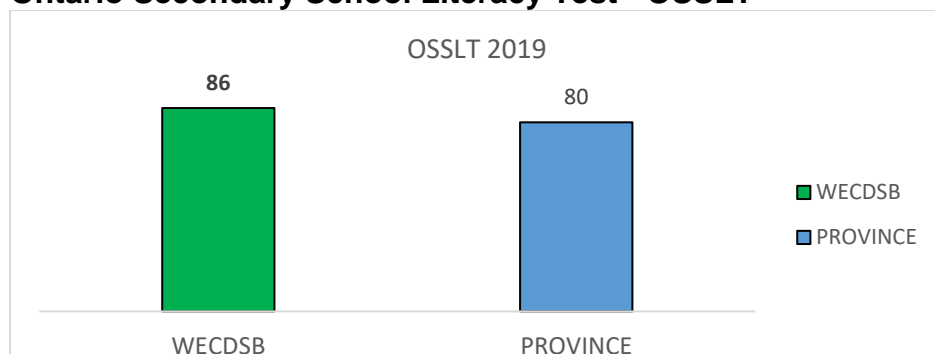
- WECDSB has surpassed the Provincial achievement results by 4% in Primary Reading, 5% in Primary Writing and 4% in Primary Mathematics.
- WECDSB has surpassed the Provincial achievement results by 4% in Junior Reading, 4% in Junior Writing and 10% in Junior Math.

## Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics



- WECDSB has surpassed the Provincial achievement results by 6% in Academic Mathematics and 18% in Applied Mathematics.

## Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test - OSSLT



- WECDSB has surpassed the Provincial achievement results by 6% in the OSSLT success rate.