



*The Northwest Catholic  
District School Board*

---

## PRESS RELEASE

---

### **EQAO Scores Positive for The Northwest Catholic District School Board**

The Northwest Catholic District School Board uses the EQAO results as a resource for teachers and Board staff to guide analysis, identify strengths, and to address areas for improvement for schools and the school Board. The information from the EQAO results allows our school and system staff to use, not only EQAO results, but results from report cards, DRA and CASI assessments in order to develop improvement plans that will have a positive effect on teaching strategies. "This will ultimately increase student achievement throughout the system," states Superintendent of Education, Al Cesiunas.

We use this EQAO data and other assessment results to allow teachers in the system to develop Critical Learning Instructional Pathways that help them to:

- 1) Set high expectations for students.
- 2) Use assessment for learning to guide instruction.
- 3) Provide frequent, useful, and useable feedback for students in the classroom.
- 4) Allow teachers to develop a better understanding of the meaning and scope of curriculum expectations.
- 5) Develop effective classroom discussions, questions and learning tasks that elicit evidence of learning.

"As teachers continue along the journey of learning, the 2008-2009 EQAO results show some very positive growth for the Board comparing the grade 3 results over time to those of the grade 6 results over the 3 years," notes Director of Education, Mary-Catherine Kelly.

The 2005-2006 grade 3 Reading results showed that 64% of the students were at or above the provincial standard of level 3 and 4 over time. The 2008-2009 grade 6 Reading results show that 76% of the students were at or above the provincial standard of level 3 and 4 over time, **an increase of 12% in Reading scores.**

---

---

The Northwest Catholic District School Board

555 Flinders Avenue

Fort Frances, Ontario P9A 3L2

Phone: 807-274-2931 Fax: 807-274-8792

[www.tncdsb.on.ca](http://www.tncdsb.on.ca)

Mary-Catherine Kelly, Director of Education

Anne-Marie Fitzgerald, Chair of the Board

The 2005-2006 grade 3 Writing results showed that 64% of the students were at or above the provincial standard of level 3 and 4 over time. The 2008-2009 grade 6 Writing results show that 72% of the students were at or above the provincial standard of level 3 and 4 over time, an **increase of 8% in Writing scores.**

The 2005-2006 grade 3 Mathematic results showed that 68% of the students were at or above the provincial standard of level 3 and 4 over time. The 2008-2009 grade 6 Mathematic results show that 71% of the students were at or above the provincial standard of level 3 and 4 over time, **an increase of 3% in Mathematic scores.**

Although the Board results are an aggregate of all schools, the schools of the Northwest Catholic District School Board have shown outstanding accomplishments this year.

"The Board has committed a great deal of resources and system supports to increase student achievement and it is obvious with initiatives such as Literacy Coaches, School Effectiveness Lead, Student Success and the work of system coordinators, student achievement is prevalent throughout the system because our teachers are excellent!", states Director Kelly.

The school results at St. Michaels indicate grade 3 student achievement at 71% in Reading, 80% in Writing and 90% in Mathematics. The students were at or above the provincial standard of level 3 and 4 in all areas. These are outstanding results.

The school results at St. Francis School indicate grade 6 student achievement at 85% in Reading, 80% in Writing and 80% in Mathematics. The students were at or above the provincial standard of level 3 and 4. We are very proud of these achievements.

The school results at Our Lady of the Way indicate grade 6 student achievement at 89% in Reading, 78% in Writing and 56% in Mathematics. The students were at or above the Provincial standard of level 3 and 4. The Mathematics results show a 45% increase from the previous year. Due to small class sizes statistics are generally withheld to protect student confidentiality.

The school results at St. Joseph's School indicate grade 6 student achievement at 72% in Reading, 63% in Writing and 74% in Mathematics. The students were at or above the provincial standard of level 3 and 4. These are very strong results.

The percentage gains from grade 3 to grade 6 were very promising. For example, the 2008-2009 EQAO results for Sacred Heart School showed a 26% increase in the Reading scores, a 38% increase in the Writing scores, and a 2% increase in the Mathematic scores. This is testament to showing student growth over time.

New to our Board this year was the addition of St. Patrick's School in Atikokan due to the amalgamation of Boards. St. Patrick's scores were not included in the Northwest Catholic District School Board results for 2008-2009 however, we would like to celebrate that the **grade 3 scores are above the provincial average in all three categories**; Reading 70%, Writing 78% and Mathematics 65%. In grade 6 the Reading results were 88% which is well above the provincial targets and provincial average.

---

---

The Northwest Catholic District School Board

555 Flinders Avenue

Fort Frances, Ontario P9A 3L2

Phone: 807-274-2931 Fax: 807-274-8792

[www.tncdsb.on.ca](http://www.tncdsb.on.ca)

Mary-Catherine Kelly, Director of Education

Anne-Marie Fitzgerald, Chair of the Board