



# Governor Simcoe Secondary School

15 Glenview Avenue, St. Catharines, Ontario L2N 2Z7  
(905) 934-4006 Fax (905) 934-3389



**October 22, 2021**

Dear Student & Parents/Guardians of Governor Simcoe Secondary School,

The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test measures whether students are meeting the minimum standard for literacy across all subjects up to the end of Grade 9. Successful completion of the literacy test is one of the requirements to earn an Ontario Secondary School Diploma.

This year, eligible students in Grade 10 will complete online testing in the semester of their grade 10 English course. Grade 11 students who have not yet attempted or successfully completed the literacy requirement will write during the first semester. The dates for semester 1 are listed below.

## Testing Dates for Semester 1:

Class	Teacher	Date/Time	Location
ENG2D1-01	Kate Crowe	November 17, 2021	Room 141A
ENG2D/2P1-06	Dane Oldland	November 17, 2021	Room 141F
ENG2D1-02	Britta Breivik	November 24, 2021	Room 141B
Grade 11 & 12 students with Special Accommodations (IEPs)	Sean Quinn	November 17th (last name N-Z) November 24th (last name A-M)	Resource (Room 202)
Grade 11 & 12 students who still need to write	Various	November 17th (last name N-Z) November 24th (last name A-M)	Library

## Grade 12 Students

The Ministry of Education has waived the literacy graduation requirement for all Grade 12 students graduating during the 2021–2022 school year. This year's graduating students do not need to complete the OSSLT.

***If you are in grade 12 but you are not graduating in June 2022, you will need to complete the OSSLT and will write the test in the first semester of this school year. Please check with guidance.***

## Students who are Writing the OSSLT this year

Special accommodations for testing at the school will be made to ensure that **remote learners** have the opportunity to complete the test in person at the school. The school will be reaching out to remote learners to make these arrangements.

**In-person students** will remain with their assigned English classes for testing, and you will write the OSSLT in the semester you are taking grade 10 English. Your classroom teacher will share any specifics of this plan with you in class. Grade 11 or 12 students who are still required to write will be assigned a school location and will write either on November 17th or 24th, 2021 (see chart above). Listen to announcements and check in guidance for updates. If you have an IEP and require accommodations, our Special Education Teacher, Sean Quinn will help you plan with this. Should you have any questions, you can contact him at [sean.quinn@dsbn.org](mailto:sean.quinn@dsbn.org)

### **Preparing for the OSSLT**

Governor Simcoe staff, in conjunction with our Literacy Team led by Mrs. Leslie Brophy & Mrs. Karen Smith, is committed to helping our students prepare for the OSSLT. Over the course of the school year, all teachers will continue to incorporate literacy skills into their regular class program. Specific sessions of OSSLT prep will be completed:

- In grade 10 English classes with their English teachers, and
- In the library for grade 11 & 12 students that need to write this semester (dates to be determined).

For parents who would like to help their student prepare for the OSSLT, you may visit the EQAO website at [www.EQAO.com](http://www.EQAO.com) to access information on the practice test, or visit our website for the [DSBN Online OSSLT Prep Guidebook](#).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school at 905-934-4006 or email a Literacy Team member.

Sincerely,

### ***Governor Simcoe Literacy Team***

Leslie Brophy, Student Success and Literacy Lead [leslie.brophy@dsbn.org](mailto:leslie.brophy@dsbn.org)

Karen Smith, Literacy Lead & English Program Leader [karen.smith@dsbn.org](mailto:karen.smith@dsbn.org)

Sean Quinn, Special Education Program Leader [sean.quinn@dsbn.org](mailto:sean.quinn@dsbn.org)

Britta Breivik, Grade 10 English Teacher [britta.breivik@dsbn.org](mailto:britta.breivik@dsbn.org)

Katharine Crowe, Grade 10 English Teacher [katharine.crowe@dsbn.org](mailto:katharine.crowe@dsbn.org)

Dane Oldland, Grade 10 English Teacher [dane.oldland@dsbn.org](mailto:dane.oldland@dsbn.org)

Teri Thompson, Principal [teri.thompson@dsbn.org](mailto:teri.thompson@dsbn.org)

Eric Stewart, Vice Principal [eric.stewart@dsbn.org](mailto:eric.stewart@dsbn.org)