

March 23, 2010.

Dear Parent/Guardian:

As you are aware, one of the requirements of the Ontario Secondary School Diploma is the successful completion of the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test. EQAO administers this test each year to Grade 10 students across the province; the test is subsequently marked in Toronto. This year the test will take place on **April 8**.

The District School Board of Niagara and the staff at E. L. Crossley have in place a number of programs to prepare and to support students under the best conditions possible for success. The Grade 10 students have worked through a preparation package over the past few weeks. On the day of the test and in preparation for next year, the Grade 9 students will write a practice test while the Grade 10 OSSLT is being written.

Attendance on April 8 is crucial. Grade 10 students who are absent for the test are recorded as *Unsuccessful* on the OSSLT.

In order to provide support to all the students writing, schools will not be able to carry on the regular program for students in Grades 11 and 12 on the day of April 8. Instead, school staff will be supervising all the students writing the actual Grade 10 test or the Grade 9 practice test.

The OSSLT will take place from 8:30 in the morning until 12:20 p.m. After that, *Urinetown* will be selling lunch, and there will be activities and Study Hall available for the remainder of the school day. Buses will run on a regular schedule.

Those students in grade 11 and 12 who are not writing the OSSLT will be provided with independent work for the day. Should they need to come to the school, the library will be available, and the cafeteria can be used as a study hall.

We are confident that parents will understand the priority the Board is giving to helping those students who will be writing the Grade 10 Literacy Test. Thank you for your understanding and support.

If you have any concerns or questions, please contact the school at 905-892-2635 or visit the EQAO website at www.eqao.com.

Yours truly,

Ms. A Harrison,
Principal