



Director's Annual Report



BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK
Catholic District School Board

2007-2008

QUICK BOARD FACTS

About Us

The Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board provides a Christ-centred education to over 10,000 students. We employ over 700 teachers, who are supported by a team of consultants, principals and administrators. Over 300 non-academic staff ensure that the best possible facilities, supports and resources are available to teachers and students.

The Board encompasses a broad geographical area bordered by Oxford and Elgin Counties, the Regional Municipality of Niagara and the City of Hamilton, the Regional Municipality of Waterloo, and Lake Erie. We are one hour west of Toronto and one hour east of London.

Enrolment

10 653 students

Catholic Schools

32 Catholic Elementary Schools

3 Catholic Secondary Schools

Instruction Language Enrolment

We have 86 learners with a first language that is not the language of instruction.

First Nation, Metis, Inuit Students

We currently have no recorded self-identified First Nation, Metis or Inuit students.

Primary Class Size

90.6 per cent of our primary classes have 20 or fewer students.

16 by 16

Our percentage of students who achieved 16 or more credits by age 16 continues to increase.

	Grade 9	Grade 10
2004-2005	75	62
2005-2006	82	64
2006-2007	86	76
2007-2008	86.4	76

Information...

For more information:

- Contact your child's school;
- Visit www.bhncdsb.ca;
- Call Communications at 519.756.6505 Ext. 234.

Message from the Director



Cathy Horgan - Director of Education

I am pleased to present the 2007-2008 Director's Annual Report of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board. We have adopted a new format designed to give you a plethora of quick facts, statistics and new information. I encourage you to visit our new website www.bhncdsb.ca to keep updated on our educational system.

I am immensely proud, humbled and appreciative of the work of all who are a part of our system. We strive to live our mission to provide academic excellence in a safe Christ-centred environment and enable all individuals to become life-long learners who make a positive contribution to society. You will find examples of our successes that fulfill this mission within these pages.

Our EQAO scores, as you will see in the charts provided, indicate that our students are outperforming the provincial average in most areas. Staff continues to focus on improving their instructional practices to support student achievement. We have upgraded many of our schools and completed new construction projects. This has all been achieved within a balanced budget.

Our students have been involved in several local and global outreach programs. One of these, the campaign to support Sleeping Children Around the World, encompassed our entire board - trustees, parents, staff and students. We raised enough funds to provide 1700 bedkits for children in Africa.

This year, several of our excellent staff were acknowledged for their talents. Our successes as a system are determined, we believe, by the committed and dedicated parents, staff, trustees and community partners who serve our students every day.

On behalf of our Board of Trustees and Senior Administration, I thank you for your continued support and contributions to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School system.

Our Catholicity, our faith

Students Exceed Goal



The Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic Schools and Board office staff raised more than \$52,000 in support of Sleeping Children Around The World, a Canadian not-for-profit organization dedicated to supplying bedkits to needy children living in third world countries. Bill Chopp, Superintendent for the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board, at first thought

that 500 bedkits was going to be a challenging goal to reach, but he presented this objective to our 35 schools and they exceeded his expectations, donating more than 1,700 bedkits.

Sleeping Children Around The World is an exemplary Canadian Charity that was founded in 1970 by Murray and Margaret Dryden. This Charity has been

recognized by the Toronto Star as one of the five best in Canada. This is largely due to the fact that every penny of each donation is invested in a bedkit that is given to a needy child in a developing country. The bedkit contains items that will provide children with a safe and peaceful night's sleep. Since 1970, this Charity has delivered 923,000 bedkits to the neediest children in 32 different developing countries. A bedkit typically contains a mosquito net, mattress, blanket, bed sheets, shorts, t-shirt, towel, basin and sandals.

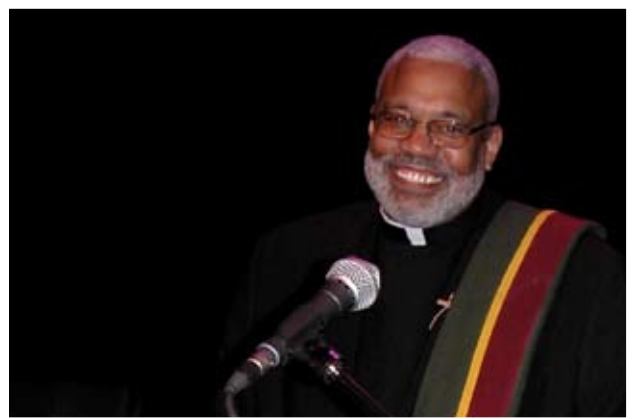
Charity officials, trustees, board employees, staff and students attended the ceremony on April 22 where representatives from schools and offices presented their donations. The Board is very proud of everyone's efforts and believes that this is another fine example of the support shown by our Catholic community.

CCSTA 2008

The Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board welcomed Catholic school trustees from across Canada to their national convention held June 4 to June 7, 2008. The convention's theme, Building on Our Strong Foundation, focused on issues that affect Catholic education in different parts of Canada.

Planning committee Co-chair, June Szeman says that, "It is important to assemble to share successes and tribulations. We do it because we believe strongly in the mandate of educating the whole child – body, mind and soul."

The Board was pleased to welcome Keynote speakers Rev. J-Glenn Murray and Sr. Anne Bryan Smollin. During their three day stay, the delegates had the opportunity to visit local attractions and the distinctive surroundings of the Grand River and Lake Erie area of "Ontario's South Coast".



Improving student achievement...



Principal of St. John's College School
and recipient of The Learning
Partnership National Outstanding
Principal Award, 2008
Dr. Dina Dalia



Principal of Program and
recipient of the Catholic
Principals' Council of Ontario's
Principal of the Year Award, 2008
Maureen Wills

LITERACY - BUILDING CAPACITY FOR INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE

- GAINS (Growing Accessible Interactive Network Supports) is a Ministry sponsored Writing and Technology project. Teachers of Grade 9 applied science, geography and religion used wikis and blogs to explicitly teach a writing skill and create learning materials.
- Technology Curriculum Implementation focus groups use the design down curriculum model for consistency in program delivery, assessment and evaluation components and practices.
- The Secondary Administrator Professional Learning Community investigated Karen Hume's Differentiating Instruction resources to support teachers at the school level.
- Science Curriculum Implementation focus groups used the design down curriculum model for consistency in program delivery, assessment and evaluation components and practices.
- The Nelson Literacy program was implemented in Grades 7 & 8 to support teachers in the explicit teaching of literacy and in the use of Differentiated Instructional Strategies in the classroom.
- School based Literacy Teams worked with board consultants to analyze and use data to promote and support literacy development in the content areas. The teams "went deeper" to increase the use of literacy strategies in the classroom.
- Teachers from each secondary school volunteered to participate in moderated marking sessions (Grade 9 Applied English) working towards greater consistency in the implementation of the Assessment and Evaluation Policy document.
- Differentiated Instruction focus groups were established. The focus groups were comprised of teachers in Grades 9 & 10 as a follow-up to the Ministry Regional Training sessions in December.
- Embedded Professional Development was supported for school based Professional Learning Communities (PLC's) to work on assessment for learning, curriculum alignment and Differentiated Instructional Strategies.
- A Board level P.D. day on January 30th, 2008 featured Karen Hume as keynote speaker, and workshops by the Special Education Departments on Differentiated Instruction.
- All schools utilized the electronic version of learning profiles by student, class and school for planning purposes in terms of instruction, intervention and deployment of staff and resources.

in safe and healthy schools

- The Assessment Data Wall was used in the majority of primary and junior classrooms to drive instruction.
- Central office staff used school data to make decisions in terms of professional development, staffing and resource allocation.
- Literacy teachers were assigned to provide support to lower performing schools, specifically in assessment and reading, while coaches assisted all schools in writing.
- There was a focus on Differentiated Instruction through inservice with principals/vice-principals and all academic staff.
- Further development of the Board Literacy Document included intervention strategies for classroom teachers and SERTs.
- Eleven schools participated in the Ontario Focused Intervention Partnership (OFIP) Tutoring program with excellent results.
- The “Tutors in the Classroom” program was implemented in 18 schools.
- Six schools were involved in the OFIP initiative with three schools participating in a District Review.

MATHEMATICAL LITERACY - BUILDING CAPACITY FOR INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE

- Department Councils participated in P.D. to develop Instructional Leadership Skills to support their role as Curriculum Leaders in the area of curriculum development and assessment and evaluation.
- A Math Advisory Committee was established to develop a three-year plan to address the achievement level and gender issues related to Grade 9 applied mathematics.
- Embedded P.D. was provided for Grades 9 &10 applied level Math. Focus groups related the use of EQAO data to inform practice and expand the use of TIPS4M support materials.
- The Math Organizational Framework, developed in 2007-08 for teachers in Grades 7 - 9, was implemented across the Grades 7 to 9 curriculum.
- Resources were purchased to support the literacy plan (Nelson 5, Nelson 7 and Write Traits).
- An Innovative Classroom initiative was linked to Boys' Literacy using technology.

CARING, COMMUNITY AND CULTURE (3Cs)

- Schools used creative scheduling to provide embedded P.D. sessions for teachers on a variety of issues related to Safe Schools.
- A Grade 9 Student Engagement Pilot Project was conducted at St. John's College to address student engagement issues and achievement.
- An ADHD Pilot Project was conducted at St. John's College. The Hospital for Sick Children, in collaboration with the staff and students at St. John's College, addressed modifications, accommodations and learning strategies to support students who manifest this behaviour.



Improving student achievement...



Teacher at Assumption College School and Brant Skills Development Group's Educator of the Year award recipient, Faye McGrattan with Principal Rob Campbell



Teacher at Holy Trinity Catholic High School and the 2007-2008 Champion of Inclusion award recipient, Reg Ellis

- Grade 8-9 Transition workshops for intermediate teachers continued in feeder school groupings at respective secondary schools to address the needs of Grade 8 students entering Grade 9.
- Student Success Teachers and Teams continued to offer school-based support for program implementation and intervention strategies for students at risk (Credit Recovery; Credit Rescue; alternative scheduling, etc.).
- A Student Success Team Ministry Initiative to support students in Grade 11 who are not on track to graduate was implemented at each of the three secondary schools.
- A new safe schools policy was developed and implemented.
- Renewed cafeteria service contracts ensuring the elimination of Trans Fats and promoting healthy food choices.
- The Religion and Family Life Programs are at the heart of relationship building, healthy relationships and our core gospel values as related to a safe, welcoming and affirming environment.
- Safe Schools - Each of our elementary schools has a Safe School Team focusing on various aspects of student and staff safety and all have specific bullying prevention and intervention programs. Child and Youth Workers support the elementary schools with program, group and individual counselling related to safe school issues.
- The new off-site Alternative Education Program for students aged 15-17 who are disengaged and at-risk of not graduating is in operation, and is serving students in the Brant area.
- School College Work Initiative (SCWI) partnership, including Mohawk College, Fanshawe College, Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board and Grand Erie District School Board continued to smooth the pathways of our students into college and apprenticeships.
- The major SCWI project, School Within A College (SWAC), continued to expand to include the area of Business Studies.
- Guidance Counsellors at secondary schools were specifically assigned to monitor suspended or expelled students.

PARENT AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Parent Engagement - A Regional Symposium was held with a presentation on the new Safe Schools Policy and related legislation.
- Community Use of Schools - Before and after school programs were provided in eight schools throughout the counties of Brant, Haldimand and Norfolk. In addition, there are child care programs, early parenting centres and drop-in centres for parents of pre-school children in several schools.

in safe and healthy schools

- Various forms of communication strategies with a particular emphasis on literacy were provided to parents through publications, parent nights and School Council workshops.
- Partnerships with community agencies were maintained and expanded to include Ontario Early Years, Best Start, local Health Units, Nipissing University, and Mohawk College.
- The Catholic School Planner from Grades 1 to 8 was effectively used as a communication vehicle.
- Ready! Set! Go!, a school readiness calendar, was made available to families during kindergarten registration week and a Best Start Fair, jointly hosted by all stakeholders, was held in the spring of 2008.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

- Guided by the Ministry of Education's standards and initiatives, the Special Education Team worked towards a shared goal of improvement and effectiveness throughout 2007-08. With the mandate to bring about success for all students, special education staff utilized evidence-based strategies to become more precise, intentional and strategic in program planning and delivery for students with unique strengths and needs.
- Introduction of our "Have a Go" Special Olympics for students in Grades 4 to 8.
- Implementation of an ADHD Training Series and teacher tools kits, which were also shared provincially.
- Intentional focus on curriculum access using Kurzweil 3000, a program that allows students to hear text read from a scanned page, a web page or an imported document. This program also provides definitions, highlights passages of text, and uses a variety of tools to study, summarize and edit text.
- Delivery of twenty "Workshop Wednesdays", which served as a catalyst for collegial conversation.
- Collaborative partnership with the Autism School Support Team to meet individual student needs through personalization of curriculum.

- Celebration of access and inclusion with representation at the "Coaching to Inclusion" forum.
- Strategic development of fine motor instructional strategies to support occupational therapy links in the primary classroom.
- Focused refinement of transitional practices at both the elementary and secondary levels.
- Access to individualized knowledge, skills and daily practices through the Geneva Centre certificate programs targeting Educational Assistants.
- We celebrate the progress that has been made. We applaud the efforts of our school and system special education staff.
- Assistive Technology inservice was provided to teachers from schools involved in the Council of Directors of Education program. This technology was then utilized in their classrooms.
- The "Planning Guide for School Entry" was utilized to support special needs students and their families in making a smooth transition to school. An individual document was provided for JK students to ease transition.



Photograph provided by the Brantford Expositor

2007-2008 Budget

QUICK BUDGET FACTS

Construction

- We completed a 15-classroom addition to Assumption College School.
- We completed a 14-classroom addition to Holy Trinity Catholic High School including a new food services program.
- We started construction of the new Sacred Heart Catholic Elementary School in Paris.
- We updated several schools to more energy-efficient systems.

Transportation

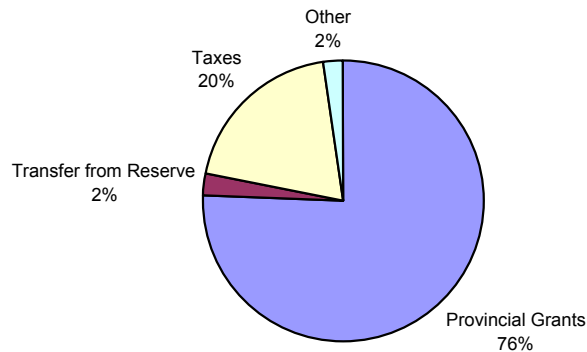
- Entered into an agreement with the Grand Erie District School Board and the Conseil Scolaire du District Catholique Centre-Sud to form a transportation consortium.
- The consortium administers the transportation for over 19,000 students, including over 6,000 Catholic students, on buses travelling almost 40,000 km per day.

Staffing

- The school board employs about 640 permanent FTE teaching staff, 260 permanent school support staff and about 140 other staff.

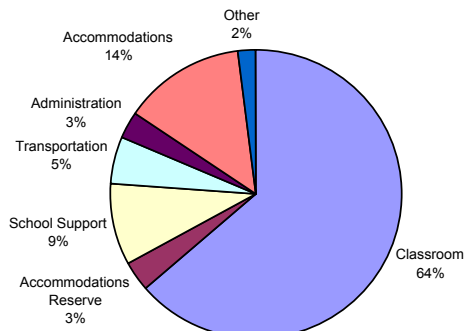
2007-2008 Revenue

Provincial Grants	77,623,881
Transfer from Reserve	2,524,788
Taxes	20,085,316
Other	2,361,664
	<u>102,595,649</u>



2007-2008 Expenditures

Classroom	65,400,524
Accommodations Reserve	3,399,283
School Support	9,401,310
Transportation	5,220,763
Administration	3,125,248
Accommodations	14,150,251
Other	1,898,270
	<u>102,595,649</u>



Highlights

The 2007-2008 school year was filled with many notable events. Congratulations and thank you to the many people who contributed each day to the success of our students and to the strength of our Catholic Community.



CATHOLIC REGIONAL SCHOOL COUNCIL

The Catholic Regional School Council was formed in September 2007.

The primary purpose of the Catholic Regional School Council meetings are to facilitate dialogue, address board-wide issues, seek advice from School Councils on matters within the School Council mandate and represent the intent of all School Councils within the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board.

The Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board Regional School Council membership includes a representative from each School Council, as well as representatives from CPCO, OECTA, OSSTF and the Board of Trustees. The Council's Executive Committee for 2007-2008 was comprised of a Chairperson (Ken Sprong), Vice-Chairperson (Edith Heleniak) and Secretary (Nancy McKinnon).

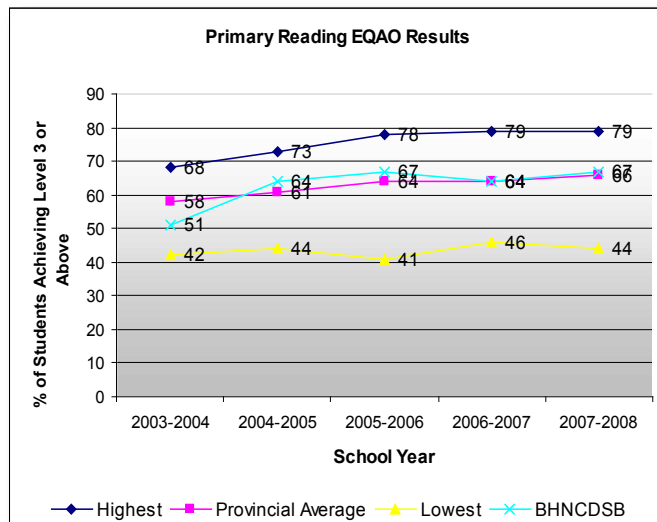
See how we did

We are pleased to present the results of the 2007-2008 EQAO assessments.

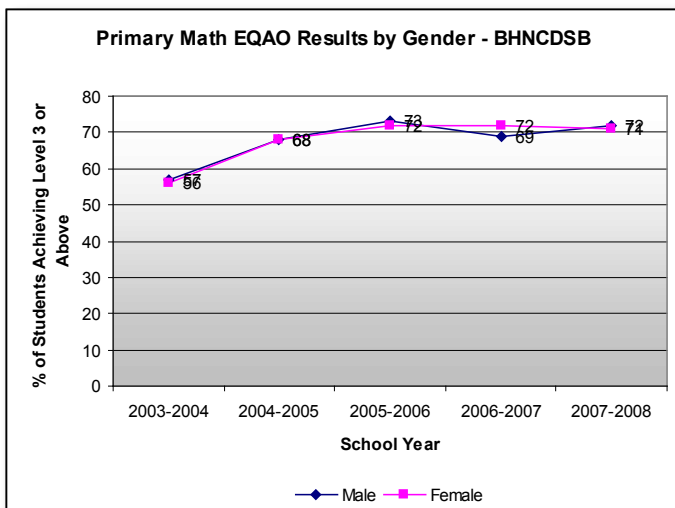
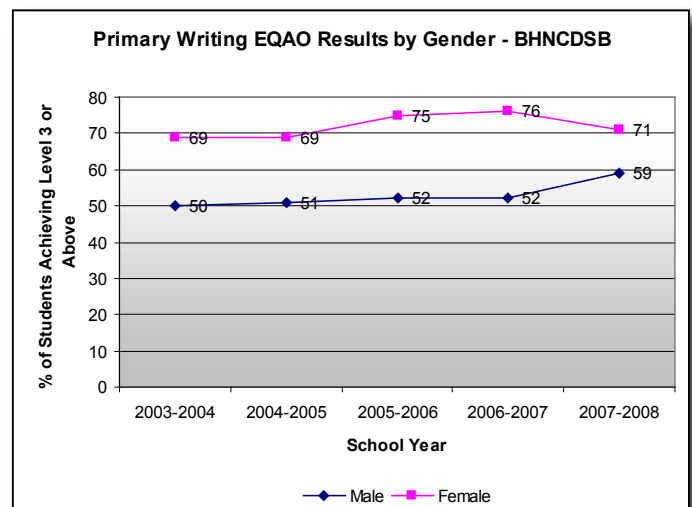
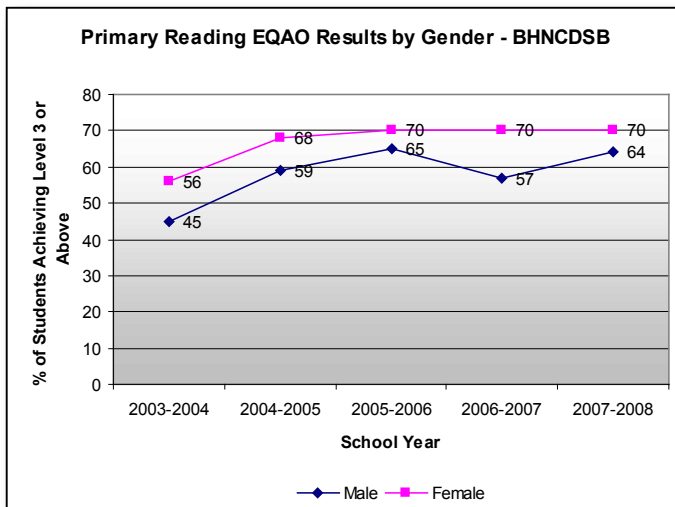
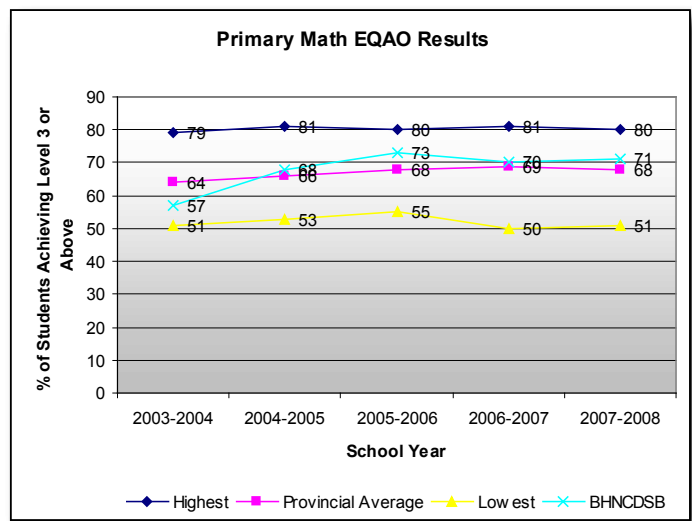
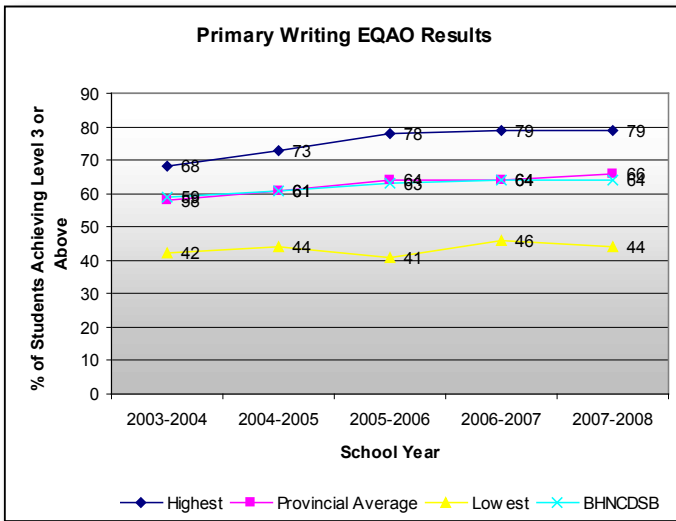
The Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board is on track to achieve, by 2011, the government's target of 75% on EQAO assessments for grade 6 reading, grade 6 writing and grade 6 mathematics (as per the trend line of its 2003 to 2008 results on each of these three assessments).



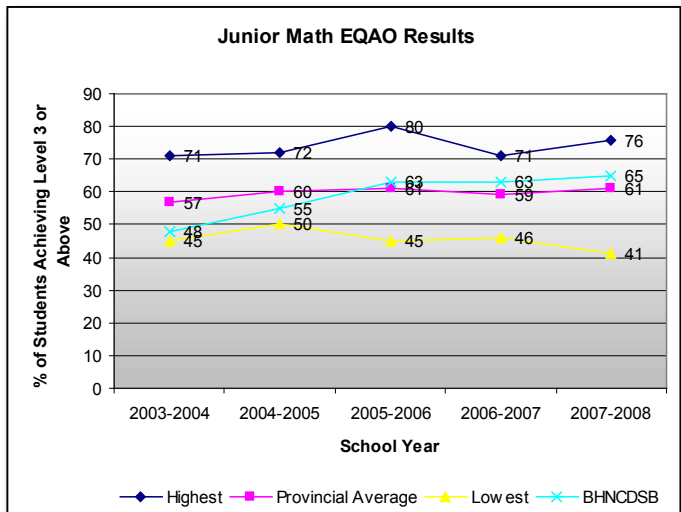
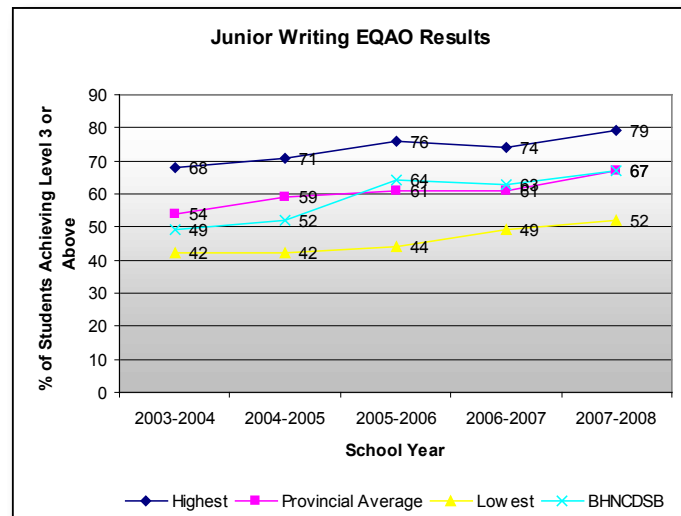
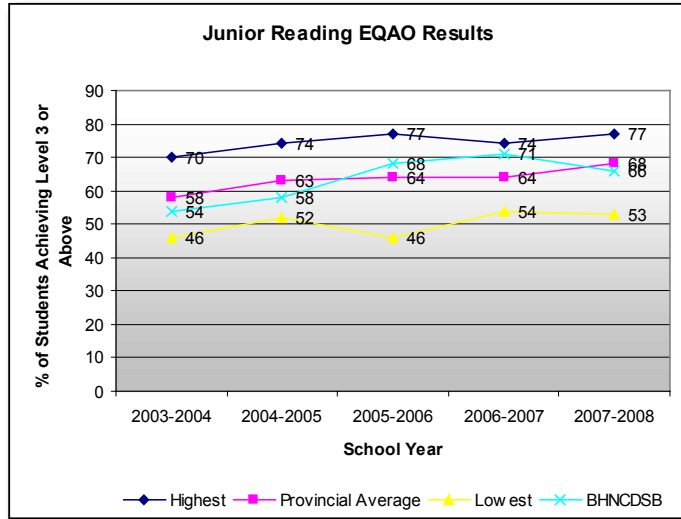
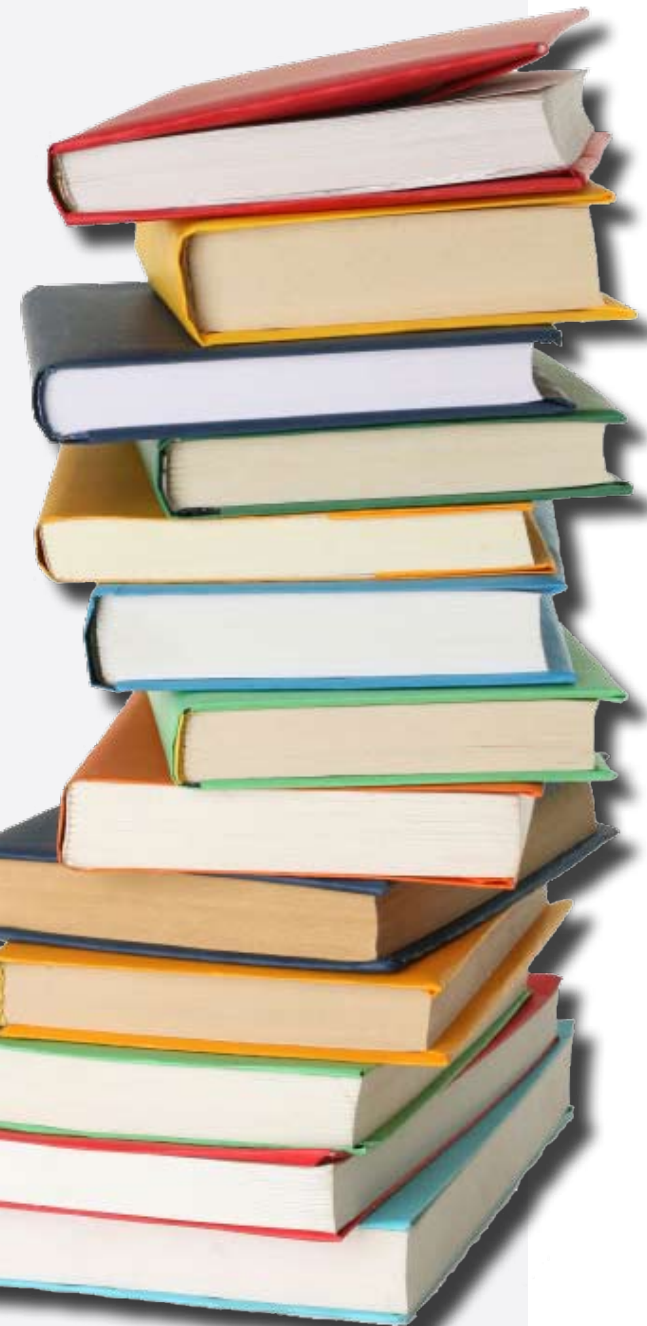
View our results...



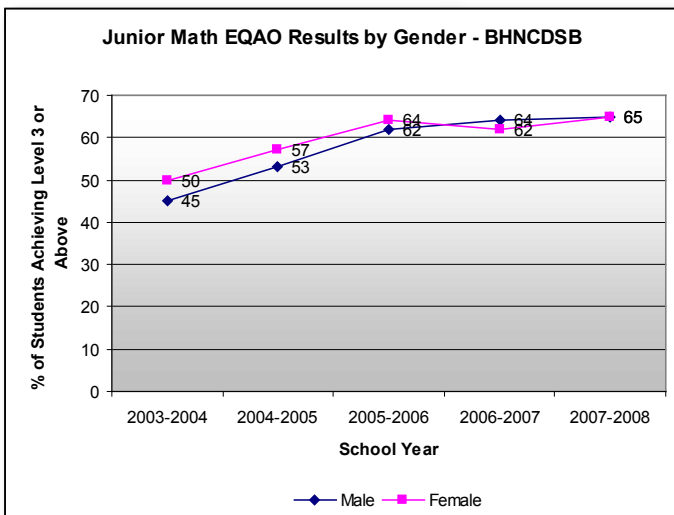
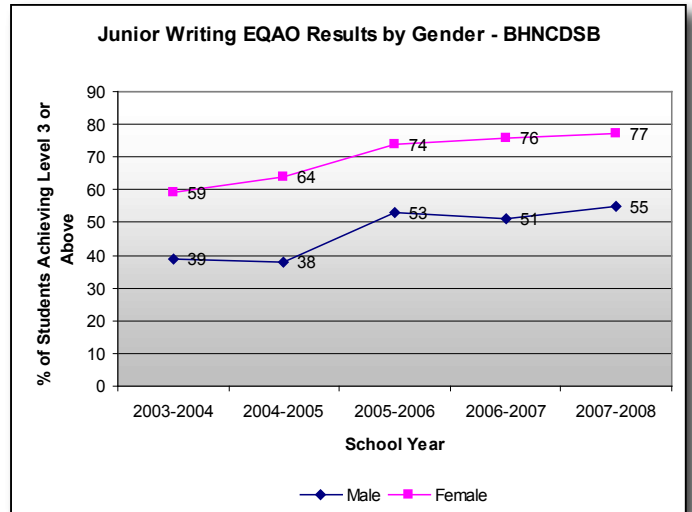
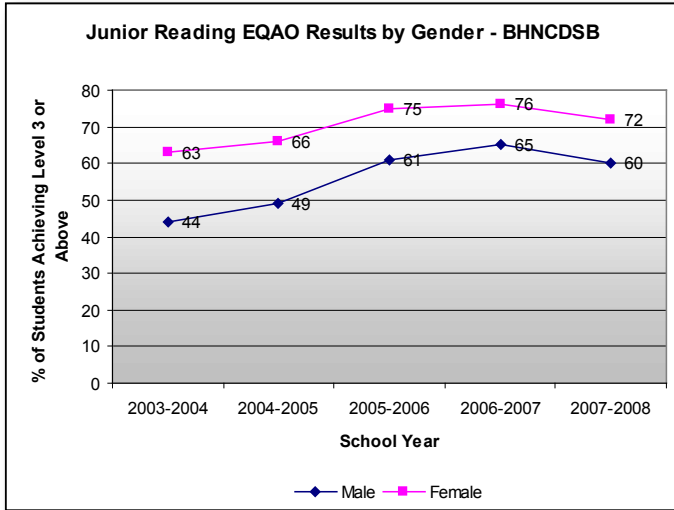
EQAO

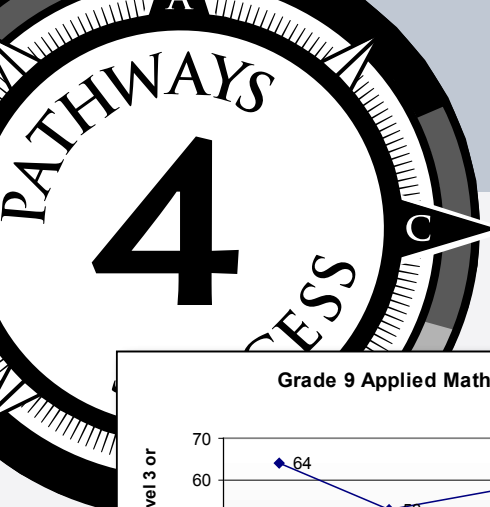


EQAO



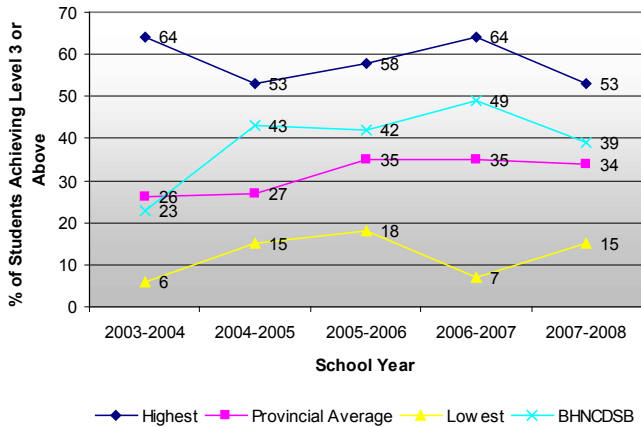
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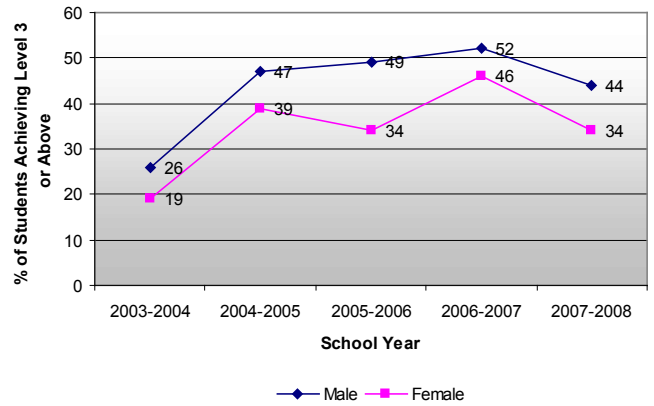


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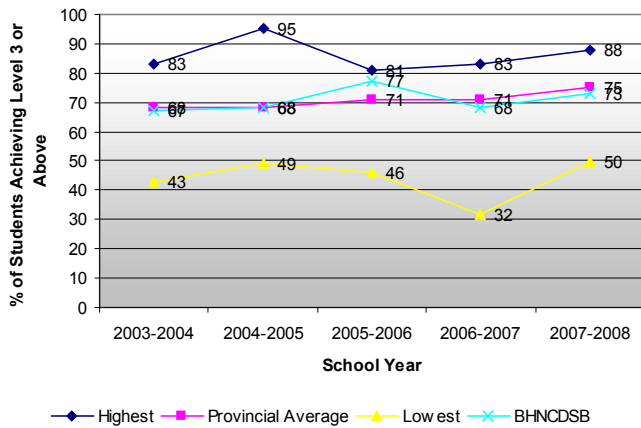
Grade 9 Applied Math EQAO Results



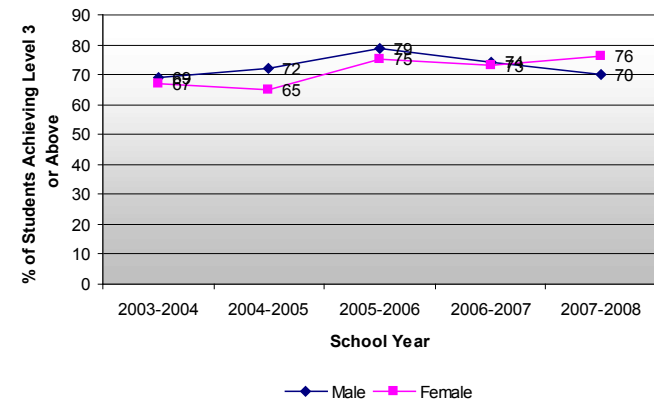
Grade 9 Applied EQAO Math Results by Gender - BHNCD SB



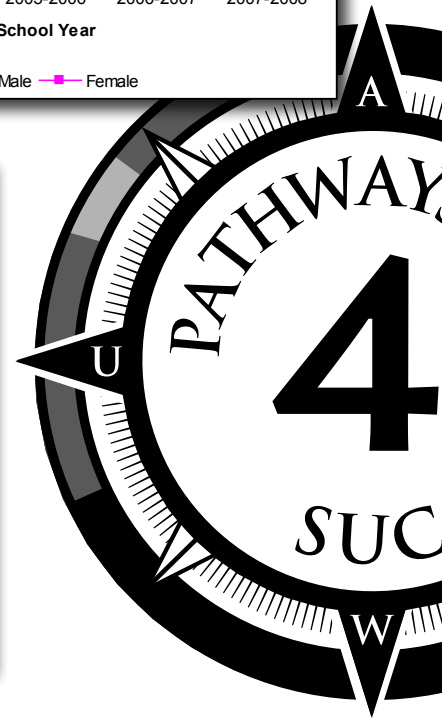
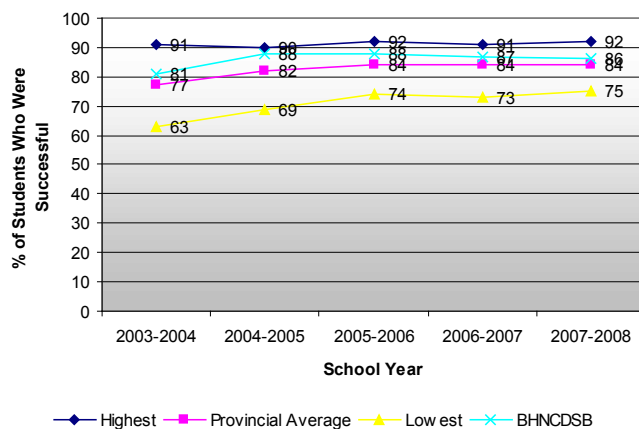
Grade 9 Academic Math EQAO Results



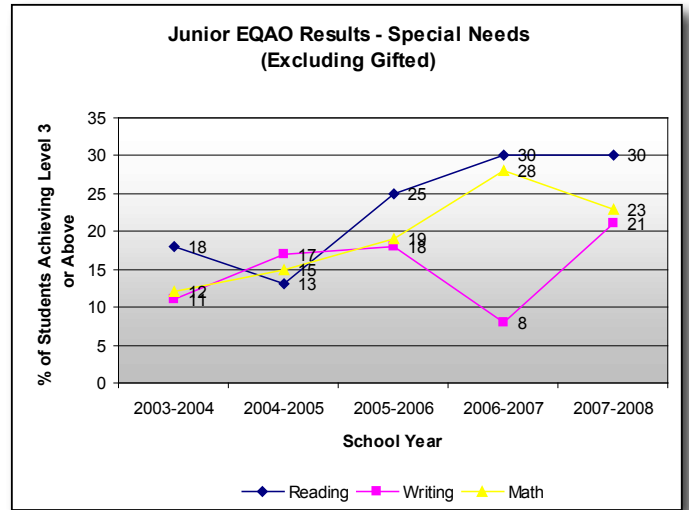
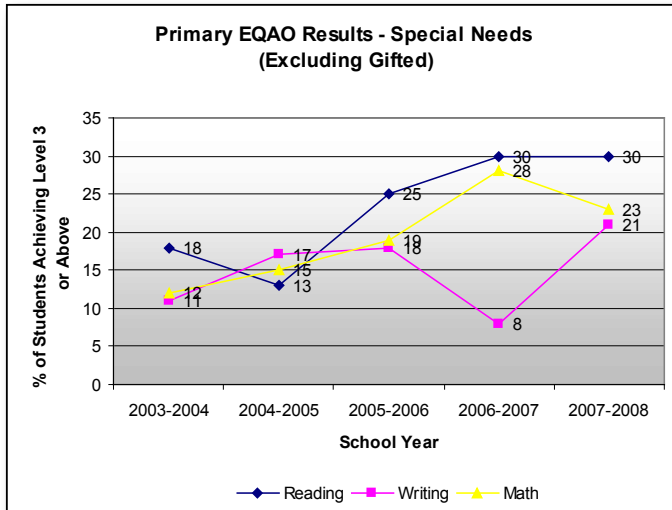
Grade 9 Academic Math EQAO Results by Gender - BHNCD SB



OSSLT First-Time Eligible EQAO Results



EQAO



MODIFIED AND NEW POLICIES

School Board Governance

- Policy Development
- Trustee Support Services

Students

- Safe Schools
- Student Discipline
- Bullying Prevention and Intervention
- Programs for Students on Long-Term Suspensions and for Expelled Students
- Code of Conduct

Human Resources

- Pre-Employment Screening
- Progressive Discipline

Operations

- Pupil Accommodation Review
- School Closure
- Community Use of Schools

Finance

- Purchasing
- School Operating Budget

Our Trustees



Joe McPherson
City of Brantford
Chair



June Szeman
City of Brantford
Vice-chair



Dan Dignard
County of Brant



Dennis Blake
Norfolk County



Cliff Casey
Norfolk County



Bonnie McKinnon
Haldimand County



Norah Mooney
Student Trustee

Our Senior Administration Team



Cathy Horgan
Director of Education
and Secretary



Wally Easton
Associate Director
and Treasurer



Bill Chopp
Superintendent of Education



Trish Kings
Superintendent of Education

Our Community of Schools

Brant Haldimand Norfolk
Catholic District School Board
P.O. Box 217, 322 Fairview Drive,
Brantford, Ontario N3T 5M8
519-756-6369 · www.bhncdsb.ca

Brantford

Assumption College School	519-751-2030
Christ the King	519-759-4211
Holy Cross	519-756-5032
Notre Dame	519-756-2288
Our Lady of Fatima	519-753-5283
Our Lady of Providence	519-758-5056
Resurrection	519-752-5900
St. Bernard	519-756-5751
St. Gabriel	519-756-4706
St. Jean de Brébeuf	519-756-7100
St. John's College	519-759-2318
St. Leo	519-759-3314
St. Mary	519-753-0552
St. Patrick	519-759-0380
St. Peter	519-752-1611
St. Pius X	519-753-6422

Brant County

Blessed Sacrament - Burford	519-449-2984
Holy Family - Paris	519-442-5333
Sacred Heart - Paris	519-442-4443
St. Anthony Daniel - Scotland	519-446-2712
St. Theresa	519-753-8953

Norfolk County

Holy Trinity Catholic High School	519-429-3600
Our Lady of Fatima - Courtland	519-688-0049
Our Lady of LaSalette - LaSalette	519-582-0895
Sacred Heart - Langton	519-875-2556
St. Bernard of Clairvaux - Waterford	519-443-8607
St. Cecilia's - Port Dover	519-583-0231
St. Frances Cabrini - Delhi	519-582-2470
St. Joseph's - Simcoe	519-426-0820
St. Michael's - Walsh	519-426-5462

Haldimand County

Notre Dame - Caledonia	905-765-0649
St. Mary's - Hagersville	905-768-5151
St. Michael's - Dunnville	905-774-6052
St. Patrick's - Caledonia	905-765-4626
St. Stephen's - Cayuga	905-772-3863