



BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK Catholic District School Board

Agenda

Catholic Education Centre
322 Fairview Drive
Brantford, ON N3T 5M8

Committee of the Whole Tuesday, December 16, 2025 ♦ 4:30 pm Boardroom

Trustees:

Carol Luciani (Chair), Bill Chopp (Vice-Chair), Dennis Blake, Dan Dignard
Rick Petrella (on-leave), Mulan How (Student Trustee), Riley O'Brien (Student Trustee)

Senior Administration:

Mike McDonald (Director of Education & Secretary), Rajini Nelson (Superintendent of Business & Treasurer),
John Della Fortuna, Kevin Greco, Michael Lawlor, Phil Wilson (Superintendents of Education)

1. Opening Business

1.1 Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that the land upon which we gather is the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe Nations. We recognize that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board and its schools have many ties to Six Nations of the Grand Rivier and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nations, situated on the traditional land of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe, within the Two Row Wampum and the One Dish One Spoon Treaty areas. As a Catholic learning community and as Treaty People ourselves, we strive to build the Kingdom of God; where all people are treated with respect and dignity as we move forward, as allies towards truth and reconciliation.

1.2 Opening Prayer

Almighty God, bless us as we gather today for this meeting. Guide our minds and hearts so that we will work for the good of our community and be a help to all people. Teach us to be generous in our outlook, courageous in the face of difficulty, and wise in our decisions. We give you praise and glory, Lord our God, forever and ever. Amen

1.3 Attendance

1.4 Approval of the Agenda

Pages 1-2

1.5 Declaration of Interest

1.6 Approval of Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes – November 25, 2025

Pages 3-5

1.7 Business Arising from the Minutes

2. Presentations

3. Delegations

4. Consent Agenda

4.1 Unapproved Minutes of the Regional Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting – November 10, 2025

Pages 6-7

4.2 Unapproved Minutes from the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting - November 18, 2025

Pages 8-10

5. Committee and Staff Reports

5.1 EQAO Update Presenter: Phil Wilson, Superintendent of Education

Pages 11-17

6. Information and Correspondence

6.1 New School Build Updates



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7. Business In-Camera

207. (2) Closing of certain committee meetings. A meeting of a committee of a board, including a committee of the whole board, may be closed to the public when the subject-matter under consideration involves,
- a. The security of the property of the board;
 - b. The disclosure of intimate, personal or financial information in respect of a member of the board or committee, an employee or prospective employee of the board or a pupil or his or her parent or guardian;
 - c. The acquisition or disposal of a school site;
 - d. Decisions in respect of negotiations with employees of the board; or
 - e. Litigation affecting the board.

8. Report on the In-Camera Session

9. Future Meetings and Events

Pages 18-19

11. Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank you for your gifts to us: for making us, for saving us in Christ, for calling us to be your people. As we come to the end of this meeting, we give you thanks for all the good things you have done in us. We thank you for all who have shared in the work of this Board and ask you to bless us all in your love. We offer this prayer, Father, through Christ our Lord. Amen

12. Adjournment

Next meeting: Tuesday, January 27, 2026, 4:30 p.m. – Boardroom



BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK Catholic District School Board

Minutes

Catholic Education Centre
322 Fairview Drive
Brantford, ON N3T 5M8

Committee of the Whole Tuesday, November 25, 2025 ♦ 4:30 pm Boardroom

Trustees:

Carol Luciani (Chair), Dan Dignard (Vice Chair), Dennis Blake, Bill Chopp
Mulan How (Student Trustee), Riley O'Brien (Student Trustee)

Regrets: Rick Petrella (on leave)

Senior Administration:

Mike McDonald (Director of Education & Secretary), Rajini Nelson (Superintendent of Business & Treasurer)
John Della Fortuna, Kevin Greco, Michael Lawlor, Phil Wilson (Superintendents of Education)

1. Opening Business

1.1 Land Acknowledgement

The meeting was opened with a land acknowledgement by Superintendent Wilson.

1.2 Opening Prayer

Trustee Blake led the meeting in prayer.

1.3 Attendance

Attendance was as noted above.

1.4 Approval of the Agenda

Chair Luciani noted that there are no in-camera Committee of the Whole agenda items, therefore the committee will not move to an in-camera meeting.

Moved by: Bill Chopp

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the agenda of the November 25, 2025, meeting as amended.

Carried as amended

1.5 Declaration of Interest – Nil

1.6 Approval of Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes – October 28, 2025

Moved by: Dan Dignard

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the minutes of the October 28, 2025, meeting.

Carried

1.7 Business from the Minutes - Nil

2. Presentations – Nil

3. Delegations – Nil



BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK Catholic District School Board

Minutes

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4. Consent Agenda

4.1 Unapproved Minutes from the Faith Advisory Committee – October 14, 2025

Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Bill Chopp

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the unapproved minutes of the Faith Advisory Committee Meeting of October 14, 2025.

Carried

4.2 Unapproved Minutes from the Special Education Advisory Committee – October 21, 2025

Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Bill Chopp

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the unapproved minutes of the Mental Health Steering Committee Meeting of October 21, 2025.

Carried

5. Committee and Staff Reports

5.1 New Teacher Induction Program Update

Superintendent Wilson presented the New Teacher Induction Program (NTIP) Update report. NTIP is one of many mentorship and leadership opportunities available through the Board. NTIP is designed to provide new teachers with the professional learning, mentorship, and evaluation necessary to support a successful transition into the teaching profession. The 2025–2026 BHNCDSB NTIP program embodies both the provincial NTIP vision and the board's Catholic mission. With over 100 educators engaged and 394 release days supporting their growth, the program promotes mentorship, professional learning, and faith-based formation. Grounded in the theme 'Pilgrims of Hope,' this year's program fosters collaboration and lifelong learning among BHNCDSB's newest educators.

Moved by: Dan Dignard

Seconded by: Bill Chopp

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the New Teacher Induction Program Update to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for receipt.

Carried

5.2 Special Education Department Report: Literacy Intervention Program for Complex Learners (Readopia)

Superintendent Wilson presented the Literacy Intervention Program for Complex Learners (Readopia) Report. This initiative directly responds to the recommendations from the Right to Read Report, which emphasized the need for evidence-based, comprehensive literacy instruction accessible to all students — including those with the most significant learning challenges. Readtopia provides a holistic, developmentally appropriate approach that values the dignity and potential of every learner. This program allows BHNCDSB students to experience the full cognitive, academic, and social benefits of literacy, advancing the Board's commitment to equity, excellence, and high expectations for all learners. This initiative reflects the BHNCDSB's steadfast dedication to fostering inclusion, honouring each person's dignity, and believing in the potential of every learner.



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Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Bill Chopp

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the Special Education Department Report: Literacy Intervention Program for Complex Learners (Readopia) to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for receipt.

Carried

6. Information and Correspondence

6.1 New School Builds Updates

Superintendent Nelson presented updates on the new school build projects. At the secondary school in Brantford, construction has begun. The total cost of the project was discussed, which includes the land purchase and contingency fund. The tender for construction has been awarded and when the design plans have been finalized, they will be shared with the Trustees. Discussion was had surrounding the role that Trustees play in a new school being built. Trustees are involved in the tendering process to fulfill their fiduciary duties, but not the design phase as it falls under operations. There are no new updates regarding the two new elementary schools.

6.2 Attendance Boundary Review Updates

Director McDonald presented updates regarding the attendance boundary reviews. He noted that this is a busy year as three boundary reviews are taking place simultaneously (City of Brantford elementary, Brant County elementary and Brant/Brantford secondary). The first three committee meetings are complete for all three boundary reviews. The committees consist of parent representatives from the schools impacted. The public meeting for the City of Brantford is Monday December 1, 2025, and various options will be presented. The messaging continues to be that this is still very early in the process. The public meeting for the Brantford/ Brant County secondary school boundary review and the Brant County elementary school boundary review will take place in the new year. Discussion regarding the information that is shared at the public meetings was had. Before the public meeting, the committee's final task is to decide which options will be presented to the public. It was noted that the final recommendation that comes to the senior team prior to going to the board of trustees is made by the committee—not by staff or external planners. Discussion regarding the selection process for school representatives was had.

7. Business In-Camera- Nil

8. Report on the In-Camera Session – Nil

9. Future Meetings and Events

Chair Luciani drew attention to the upcoming meetings and events.

10. Closing Prayer

The closing prayer was led by Chair Luciani.

11. Adjournment

Moved by: Dennis Blake

Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board adjourns the November 24, 2025, meeting.

Carried

Next meeting: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 - 4:30 p.m. – Boardroom



Regional Catholic Parent Involvement Committee

Monday, November 10, 2025

Minutes

Members: Sarah Label, Chairperson, Sadeki Simpson, Vice-Chairperson, Michael Lawlor, Superintendent of Education, Carol Luciani, Chairperson of the Board, Joe Persia, Elementary Administrative Representative, Mary Bradford, Secondary School Administrative Representative, Dianne Wdowczyk, Mental Health Lead and Non-Teaching Representative

1. Welcome and Land Acknowledgement:

- Michael Lawlor welcomed all guests who logged on.
- Joe Persia delivered the Land Acknowledgement

2. Prayer and Board Spiritual Theme:

- Michael Lawlor, Superintendent of Education spoke about the Board theme, Pilgrims of Hope designed by the Ontario Catholic Trustees Association and the Jubilee Year Theme proclaimed by the late Pope Francis.
- Michael Lawlor also spoke about the BHNCD SB Faith Day held on October 7th and some of the activities that took place in some of our schools.

3. Greetings from the Board of Trustees:

- Carol Luciani, Chairperson, welcomed and thanked everybody for attending the meeting.

4. Overview of the System Student Achievement Plan:

- Chandra Portelli, Vice-Principal of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, gave an overview of the Student Achievement Plan for 2025-2026 school year, detailing ministry priorities, and targeted strategies for literacy, numeracy, graduation rates and student engagement.

5. Overview of the Religion and Family Life Program:

- Keri Calvesbert, Religion and Family Life Consultant, spoke about the new Family Life Education Program, Blessed and Beloved, implemented in our schools. Explaining its structure, curriculum alignment and communication

6. Overview of the System Special Education Plan:

- Sandra DeDominicis, Vice-Principal of Inclusive Learning and Special Education gave an overview of the BHNCD SB Special Education Plan which is available on the board's website. She spoke about equity, individualized supports, and the process for identifying and addressing student needs.

7. Overview of the Board Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Action Plan:

- Dianne Wdowczyk, System Mental Health Lead, outlined the ministry directives, board priorities, available resources, and initiatives to support the students, families and staff.

8. PIC and PRO Grant Examples:

- Joe Persia and Mary Bradford, School Administrators spoke about the use of PRO & PIC grants for school councils and gave examples of how to use the grant money to strengthen parent engagement and home/school relationships. They also spoke about application deadlines and eligible activities.

9. Closing:

- Michael Lawlor, Superintendent of Education, thanked everybody for joining the first RCPIC Meeting of the 2025 School Year.
- Meeting ended at 7:33pm.



**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, November 18, 2025 – 1:00 pm
Catholic Education Centre and Microsoft Teams**

Members: Dennis Blake (Trustee), Melanie Caldwell (Contact Brant), Mischa Dinsmore (Lansdowne Children's Centre), Shannon Korber (Child and Family Services of Grand Erie), Lauren Moulton (Woodview Mental Health and Autism Services), Tammy West (Haldimand Norfolk REACH), Patti Mitchell (Parent, County of Brant), Kerri Lomax (Principal, Elementary), Michelle Drake (Crossing All Bridges)

Regrets: Ashlee Anderson (Indigenous: Child and Family Services of Grand Erie), Simon Jennions (Community Living Brant), Marilyn Noi (Autism Ontario)

Resources: Sandra DeDominicis (Vice-Principal of Inclusive and Special Education), Jennifer Rudyk (Principal, Elementary), Phil Wilson (Superintendent of Education)

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

Lauren Moulton welcomed the committee.

2. Land Acknowledgement

Superintendent Wilson read the board's land acknowledgement.

3. Opening Prayer

Sandra DeDominicis shared an opening prayer.

4. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Patti Mitchell

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approves the agenda of the November 18, 2025, meeting.

Carried

5. Approval of the Minutes

Moved by: Shannon Korber

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approves the minutes of the October 21, 2025, meeting.

Carried

6. Correspondence

Nil

7. Community Agency Updates

Shannon Korber

Child and Family Services updated that Child and Family Services hosted *Rock a Moc* this month, with eleven students in care attending three sessions to make their own moccasins. The Teen Christmas Dinner is scheduled for December 4, 2025. The new Child and Family Services building will open this week, with a Grand Opening on November 28, 2025, at 221 Henry Street. She expressed gratitude to St. Michael's and St. Stephen's Schools for the collaboration and helping a family with transportation and school transition. Stability funding has also been provided to support the family's smooth transition.

Lauren Moulton

Woodview Mental Health and Autism Services updated that the Client Christmas party is on December 4, 2025, by invitation-only. Woodview will be at Lynden Park Mall for Christmas wrapping and are looking for volunteers. A flyer will be shared with schools.

Jennifer Rudyk and Kerri Lomax

Principals reported that parent interviews were recently held across the schools, providing an important opportunity to strengthen family connections and introduce new families to the school community. They noted this is a busy and exciting season, with students engaged in programs such as Lexia, Key Math, and Empower, and Grade 4 students having completed CogAT testing. Classrooms are preparing for Christmas concerts, community outreach initiatives including giving trees and food drives, and Student Achievement Plans have been shared with teams and staff.

Melanie Caldwell

Contact Brant updated that the complex special needs pathway has been released, along with the new Service Coordination Plan. They noted the coming months will be busy as staff and partners work through these documents.

Mischa Dinsmore

Lansdowne Children's Services updated they have many upcoming events happening in December. All these opportunities are posted on the Lansdowne Children's Services website.

Michelle Drake

Crossing All Bridges updated that they previously hosted a weekly Monday night dance for everyone but have now partnered with Friendship with Kindness to offer the mixer exclusively on Friday nights. Flyers will be distributed soon.

Patti Mitchell

Patti Mitchell reported that informal correspondence from families through Special Olympics indicated that parents were very pleased with the transition into high school visits and the Open House, which provided valuable support and information. They expressed appreciation for these efforts. The Provincial Games were also highlighted as a great success, with families grateful for the volunteers provided by the BNHCDSB.

8. Student Achievement Lead and Superintendent of Education

The Special Education Department updated:

- Students in the Gifted Program attended Anne of Green Gables at the Stratford Festival and participated in a guided tour and workshop at the Stratford Perth Museum. Department support was provided on-site.

- A two-day AI training session explored how AI can support curriculum adaptation for diverse learners, including early development of a Brightspace framework for AI supported instructional practices.
- Secondary department heads, Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs), consultants, Spectrum Abilities Program, Community Living staff, and Peer Assisted Living teachers completed two Readtopia training sessions to strengthen programming for students with complex needs.
- Several system Identification, Placement and Review Committees were held in late October to welcome new out-of-board students into secondary special education classes.
- A virtual Community of Practice meeting was held for resource teachers.
- New Special Education Resource Teacher's completed their fourth training session on key mathematics concepts. All consultants and SLPs attended the Special Education Regional Collaborative Committee (SERCC) Conference in November, where the SLP team presented their Story Champs work. SERCC has since been cancelled for the rest of the year.
- Non-Violent Crisis Intervention training was provided to casual Educational Assistants and newly hired Child and Youth Workers.
- CAT4 testing for all Grade 4 students is complete. District results are being collected and reviewed to support gifted identification and determine additional student needs.
- Meetings with school teams continue regarding modified day schedules for younger students, ensuring accommodations are appropriate and supporting return to full-time attendance.
- A presentation was delivered to the Regional Catholic Parent Involvement Committee and parents outlining guiding principles, department structure, pathways for families to access support, available services, and student-centered decision-making.
- The Educational Assistant Training & Induction Program (ETIP) launched to support newly hired EAs in their first year of permanent employment. The program offers orientation, mentoring, and targeted professional learning. ETIP Mentor EAs are being recruited, with release time provided to support meaningful collaboration.

9. Closing Remarks/Adjournment

Lauren Moulton thanked everyone. The meeting adjourned at 1:38 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 21, 2025.

**REPORT TO THE BRANT HALDIMAND
NORFOLK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL
BOARD COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

Prepared by: Phil Wilson, Superintendent of Education
Presented to: Committee of the Whole
Submitted on: December 16, 2025
Submitted by: Mike McDonald, Director of Education & Secretary

EQAO 2024-2025 UPDATE

Public Session

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The purpose of this report is to provide the Board of Trustees with an update on Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board (BHNCD SB) achievement and growth trends as reflected in the 2024–25 EQAO assessments. EQAO results offer an important snapshot of system performance in relation to Ontario curriculum expectations and support the Board in monitoring progress toward strategic priorities in literacy, numeracy, and student achievement. The Board remains committed to using EQAO evidence alongside classroom assessment and local data to celebrate successes, identify areas requiring focused improvement, and guide system-level supports that advance our mission of “Excellence in Learning ~ Living in Christ.”

DEVELOPMENTS:

Elementary EQAO Results: Board-Wide Growth

Here are the elementary EQAO results for 2024-25 for the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board compared to the province:

Grade 3	Reading	Writing	Math
BHNCD SB	77	65	63
Province	74	65	64

Grade 6	Reading	Writing	Math
BHNCD SB	85	82	44
Province	86	85	51

BHNCD SB students demonstrated encouraging improvement in multiple elementary achievement areas in 2024-25:

Grade 3 (Primary):

- Reading: +5% increase in students meeting the provincial standard
- Writing: results remained stable
- Mathematics: +1% increase

Grade 6 (Junior):

- Reading: +2% increase
- Writing: +2% increase
- Mathematics: +3% increase

These gains reflect the daily commitment of students and staff, supported by strong partnerships with families, and align with Board improvement strategies emphasizing structured literacy and targeted numeracy instruction.

School-Level Trends Across the System

Alongside overall Board gains, multiple schools demonstrated stable or improving performance:

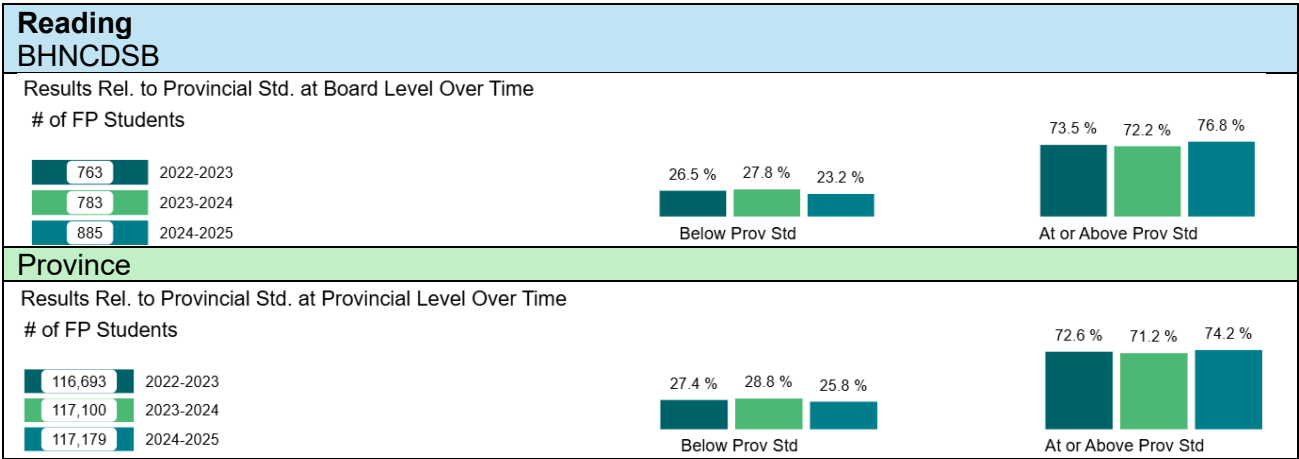
- Nine (9) elementary schools stayed the same or improved across Grade 3 reading, writing, and mathematics.
- Twelve (12) elementary schools stayed the same or improved across Grade 6 reading, writing, and mathematics.
- Four (4) elementary schools stayed the same or improved across all Grade 3 and Grade 6 measures (reading, writing, mathematics):
 - St. Leo Catholic Elementary School
 - Blessed Sacrament Elementary School
 - Madonna Della Libera Catholic Elementary School
 - Holy Cross School

These results indicate system-wide consistency of growth, particularly in foundational literacy and junior mathematics.

Three-Year EQAO Trends and Comparison to the Province (2023–2025)

To complement the current-year gains highlighted above, the Board reviews achievement patterns over time to determine whether improvement is sustained and aligned with provincial performance. EQAO Board results over the most recent three assessment cycles (2023–2025), alongside Provincial averages, were examined to identify trends, areas of growth, and continued needs.

Grade 3

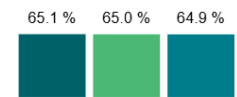
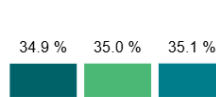
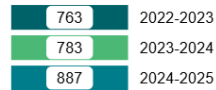


Writing

BHNCDSB

Results Rel. to Provincial Std. at Board Level Over Time

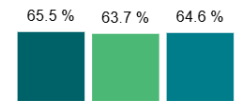
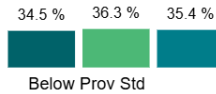
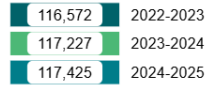
of FP Students



Province

Results Rel. to Provincial Std. at Provincial Level Over Time

of FP Students

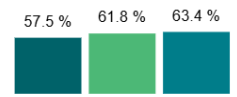
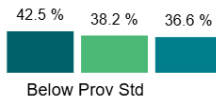
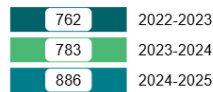


Math

BHNCDSB

Results Rel. to Provincial Std. at Board Level Over Time

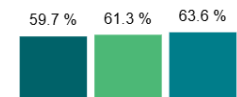
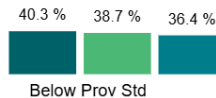
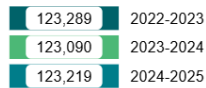
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Province

Results Rel. to Provincial Std. at Provincial Level Over Time

of FP Students



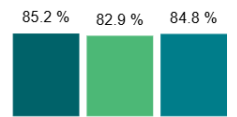
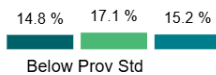
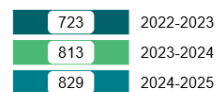
Grade 6

Reading

BHNCDSB

Results Rel. to Provincial Std. at Board Level Over Time

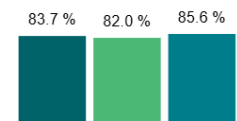
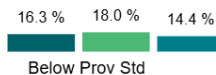
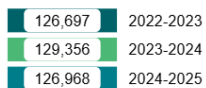
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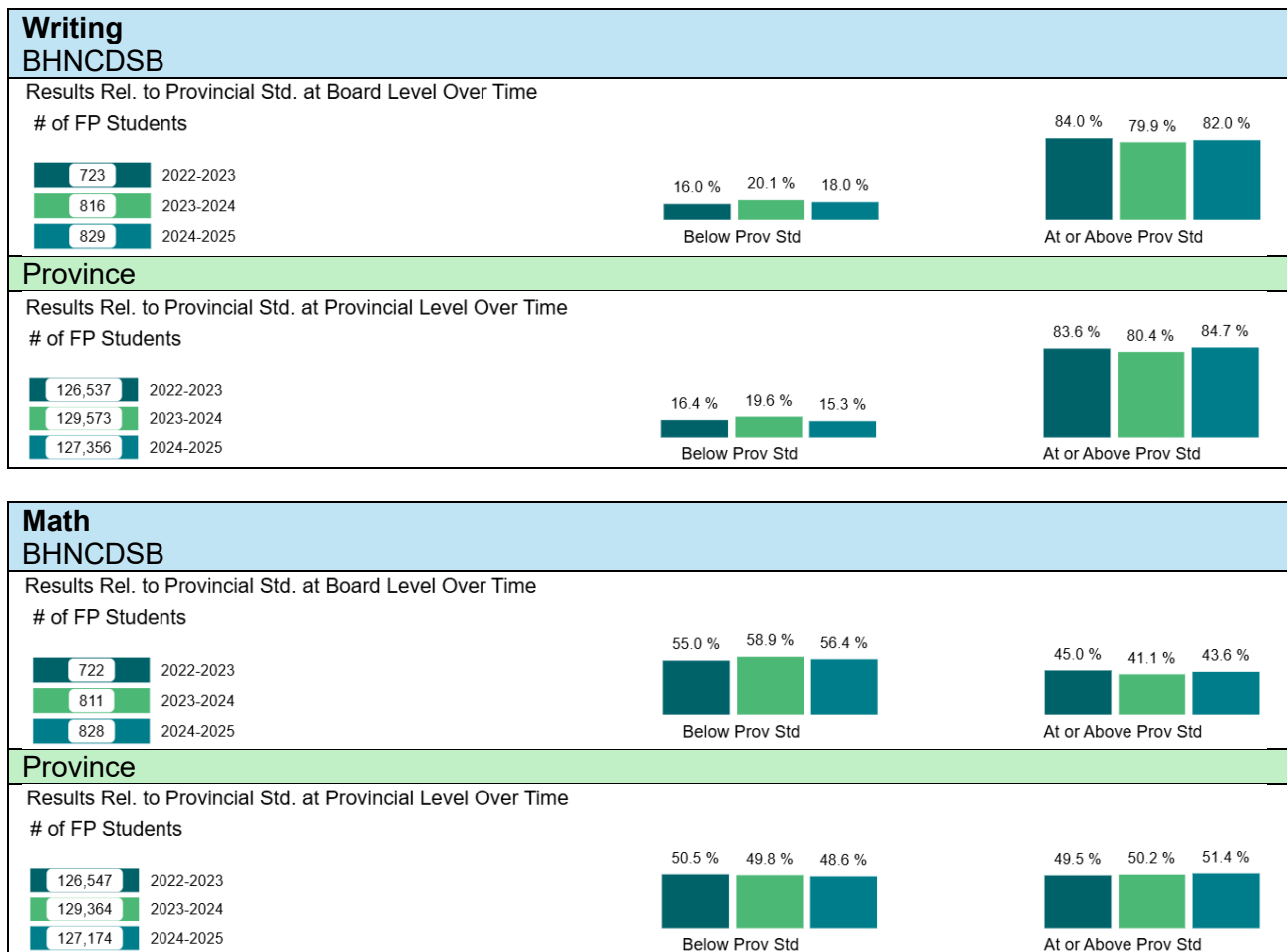


Province

Results Rel. to Provincial Std. at Provincial Level Over Time

of FP Students





Across the three-year period, results indicate stable-to-improving performance in elementary literacy and mathematics, with several areas tracking similarly to, or exceeding, provincial patterns. Sustained gains support continued implementation of structured literacy, responsive assessment, and classroom-embedded numeracy interventions.

Spotlight on Growth: Holy Cross School

Holy Cross School demonstrated especially strong improvement across both divisions:

Grade 3:

- Reading: +15%
- Mathematics: +27%

Grade 6:

- Reading: +28%
- Writing: +23%
- Mathematics: +26%

The school's improvement reflects a coordinated multi-year focus on:

- Reducing unnecessary program modifications in math and language to increase access to grade-level learning.
- Strengthening Universal Design for Learning (UDL), differentiated instruction (DI), and effective accommodations.
- Expanding evidence-based interventions (e.g., Lexia, Empower), and

- Increasing staffing supports for diverse learner needs.

Secondary EQAO Results: Board-Wide Growth

Below are the secondary EQAO results for 2024-25 for the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board compared to the province:

Grade 9	Math
BHNCDSB	52
Province	58

Grade 10	Literacy
BHNCDSB	89
Province	85

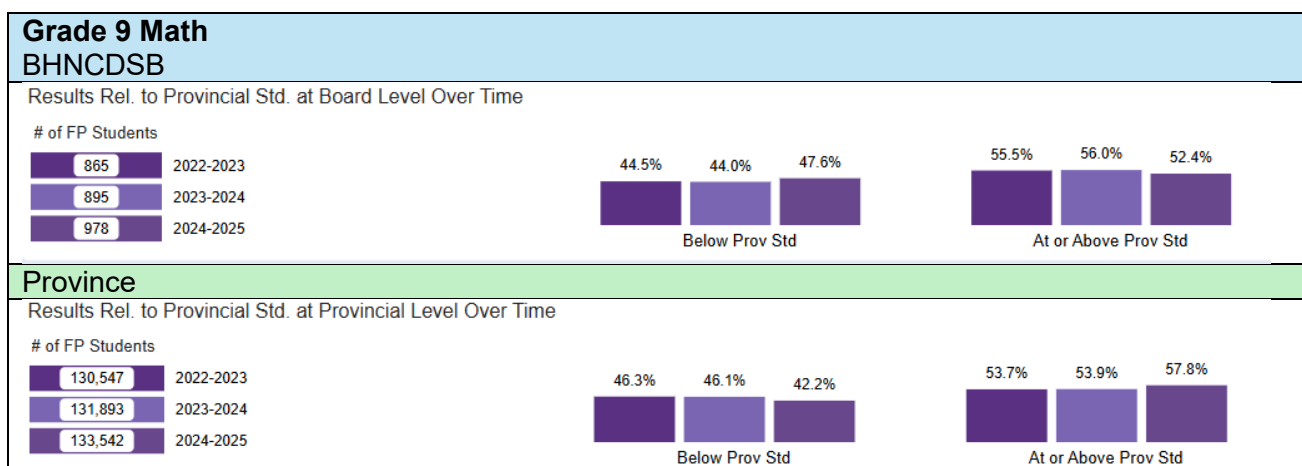
*first-time eligible

Three-Year EQAO Trends and Comparison to the Province (2023–2025)

To complement the current-year gains highlighted above, the Board reviews achievement patterns over time to determine whether improvement is sustained and aligned with provincial performance. EQAO Board results over the most recent three assessment cycles (2023–2025), alongside Provincial averages, were examined to identify trends, areas of growth, and continued needs.

Grade 9 Mathematics

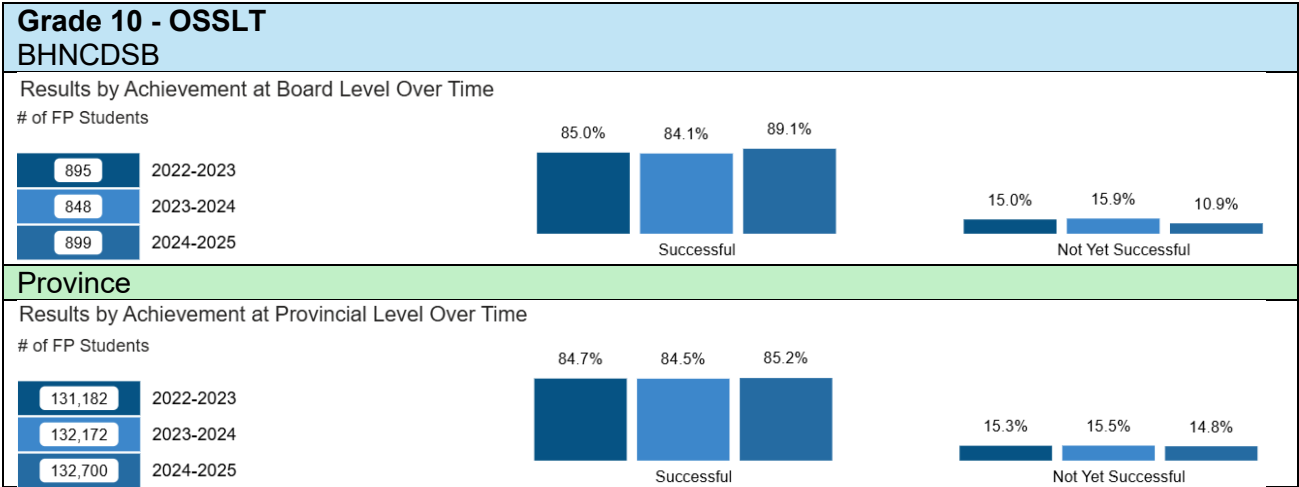
Consistent with provincial trends, these results underscore the continued need to intensify Grades 9 mathematics instruction, learning, and transition supports, and to strengthen ongoing monitoring of achievement in Grade 9 mathematics classrooms. Early identification of students requiring additional assistance will enable timely, targeted intervention and help ensure supports are in place before achievement gaps widen.



OSSLT (Secondary Literacy)

Over the three-year period, BHNCDSB OSSLT achievement remained largely stable between 2022–23 and 2023–24 (85.0% to 84.1%, a 0.9 percentage-point decrease), followed by a strong increase in 2024–25 to 89.1% (+5.0 percentage points). Overall, OSSLT success improved by 4.1 percentage points across the three-year window (85.0% to 89.1%). Board-wide OSSLT

achievement therefore increased by approximately +5% in the most recent year, with gains across all secondary schools. This positive momentum reflects coherent literacy instruction, concentrated interventions, and strengthened classroom practices that support reading and writing across the curriculum and reinforces the continued emphasis on tiered supports and cross-curricular approaches to literacy.



At the secondary level, three-year trends demonstrate positive momentum in OSSLT achievement, while results in Grade 9 Mathematics reinforce the importance of intensified Grade 7–9 pathway supports, including targeted consultation, tiered interventions, and professional learning.

System Actions to Support Achievement Growth

In response to emerging achievement needs and prior to EQAO release, BHNCDSD strengthened system supports in 2025 through purposeful restructuring and staffing investments:

Elementary Supports

- Restructured Student Achievement Team to sharpen focus on EQAO Grade 3 and Grade 6 performance.
- Added seven Elementary Literacy and Numeracy Consultants to priority schools, emphasizing primary literacy and Grade 6 mathematics.

Secondary Supports

- Assigned a De-streamed Mathematics Consultant to each secondary school to support Grade 9 achievement through tiered intervention, close monitoring of student progress, and focused professional learning.
- Secondary Literacy Support has been strategically focused on Holy Trinity Catholic High School, as OSSLT achievement at Holy Trinity has historically been the lowest in the district. A dedicated Secondary Literacy Consultant is working alongside classroom teachers to implement tiered literacy supports and high-impact instructional practices that accelerate student success. This work includes coaching on evidence-based strategies within classroom instruction and strengthening cross-curricular approaches to literacy, ensuring that reading and writing skills are reinforced across all subject areas.

Collectively, these system-level staffing and supports strengthen instructional practice, reinforce tiered intervention structures, and enhance the Board's capacity to respond to identified achievement needs across panels. This sustained focus on evidence-informed improvement advances student learning and well-being and aligns directly with the strategic commitments of the BHNCD SB Multi-Year Strategic Plan, as outlined in the following section.

Alignment with the Strategic Plan

EQAO results reflect progress in relation to BHNCD SB's 2023–27 Strategic Plan priorities:

- Belonging for All: safe, inclusive, equitable, and welcoming environments where students are known, valued, and supported.
- Teaching & Learning for All: innovative, evidence-based learning experiences that strengthen literacy, numeracy, and life-long learning skills.
- Wellness for All: faith-filled communities that support the whole child and help students live their best life.

Growth in elementary literacy and numeracy, alongside improved OSSLT outcomes, demonstrates continued movement toward these priorities, while reinforcing the need for ongoing focus on Grade 9 mathematics.

Next Steps

Building on this year's results, BHNCD SB will continue to:

- Strengthen early and junior literacy supports that are showing positive impact.
- Deepen evidence-based mathematics instruction and intervention from K–6 and through the Grade 7–9 pathway.
- Closely monitor individual student achievement in mathematics and literacy.
- Invest in professional learning focused on classroom practice, student engagement, and achievement.
- Support student confidence, well-being, and identity through inclusive and faith-filled learning communities.

Progress will be monitored through ongoing classroom assessment evidence, school improvement planning, and future EQAO cycles, ensuring resources and supports remain responsive to student needs.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the EQAO Update report to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for receipt.

2025-2026
Trustee Meetings and Events

Date	Time	Meeting/Event
December 16, 2025	1:00 pm	Special Education Advisory Committee
December 16, 2025	2:00 pm	Student Transportation Services BHN
December 16, 2025	4:30 pm	Committee of the Whole
December 16, 2025	6:30 pm	Board Meeting
<i>December 22 2025- January 2, 2025</i>		CHRISTMAS BREAK
January 13, 2026	1:30 pm	Faith Advisory Council Meeting
January 15, 2026	3:00 pm	Executive Council Meeting
<i>January 16-17, 2026</i>		OCSTA Trustees Seminar
January 19, 2026	6:30 pm	Regional Catholic Parent Involvement Committee
January 20, 2026	1:00 pm	Special Education Advisory Committee
January 20, 2026	3:00 pm	Policy Committee
January 27, 2025	4:30 pm	Committee of the Whole
January 27, 2025	6:30 pm	Board Meeting
February 10, 2026	2:00 pm	Student Transportation Services BHN
February 12, 2026	3:00 pm	Executive Council Meeting
February 17, 2026	1:00 pm	Special Education Advisory Committee
February 17, 2026	3:00 pm	Policy Committee
February 19, 2026	9:00 am	Mental Health Steering Committee
February 24, 2026	1:00 pm	Accessibility Steering Committee
February 24, 2026	4:30 pm	Committee of the Whole
February 24, 2026	6:30 pm	Board Meeting
March 10, 2026	3:00 pm	Policy Committee
March 12, 2026	3:00 pm	Executive Council Meeting
<i>March 16-20, 2026</i>		MARCH BREAK
March 24, 2026	1:00 pm	Special Education Advisory Committee
March 24, 2026	4:30 pm	Committee of the Whole
March 24, 2026	6:30 pm	Board Meeting
March 30, 2026	6:30 pm	Regional Catholic Parent Involvement Committee
April 1, 2026	3:00 pm	Accommodations Committee Meeting
April 9, 2026	3:00 pm	Executive Council Meeting
April 14, 2026	2:00 pm	Student Transportation Services BHN
April 16, 2026	1:30 pm	Faith Advisory Committee
April 21, 2026	1:00 pm	Special Education Advisory Committee
April 21, 2026	3:00 pm	Policy committee
April 28, 2026	4:30 pm	Committee of the Whole
April 28, 2026	6:30 pm	Board Meeting
April 30, 2026 – May 2, 2026		OCSTA AGM & Conference
<i>May 3-8, 2026</i>		Catholic Education Week
May 4, 2026	5:00 pm	Catholic Student Leadership Awards
May 11, 2026	3:00 pm	Budget Committee
May 11, 2026	6:30 pm	Regional Catholic Parent Involvement Committee
May 14, 2026	3:00 pm	Executive Council
May 19, 2026	1:00 pm	Special Education Advisory Committee
May 19, 2026	3:00 pm	Policy Committee
May 21, 2026	1:30 pm	Mental Health Steering Committee
May 26, 2026	1:00 pm	Accessibility Steering Committee
May 26, 2026	4:30 pm	Committee of the Whole
May 26, 2026	6:30 pm	Board Meeting
June 2026		CCSTA AGM
June 9, 2026	1:30 pm	Faith Advisory Committee
June 9, 2026	2:00 pm	Student Transportation Services BHN
June 11, 2026	3:00 pm	Executive Council

June 15, 2026	5:00 pm	Audit Committee
June 16, 2026	1:00 pm	Special Education Advisory Committee
June 16, 2026	3:00 pm	Policy Committee
June 22, 2026	3:00 pm	Budget Committee
June 23, 2026	1:00 pm	Accessibility Steering Committee
June 23, 2026	4:30 pm	Committee of the Whole
June 23, 2026	6:30 pm	Board Meeting
June 25, 2026	4:45 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Assumption College Graduation Holy Trinity Graduation St. John's College Graduation

Meetings scheduled at the Call of the Committee Chair: Accommodations Committee, Audit Committee, Budget Committee, Faith Advisory Committee, Policy Committee