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Stratford Central Secondary School

October 11, 2016

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test

The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test will be available to students two times during the 2016-17 school year. Students will have an opportunity to participate on this test on October 20, 2016 and/or on March 30, 2017.

On October 20, 2016 students will complete this assessment online using a computer. On March 30, 2017 students will have a choice to complete this assessment either online or using paper and pen.

If students are **successful** on this assessment during October, they will be exempt from participating on the OSSLT in March 2017. Their literacy requirement for diploma purposes will be met.

If students are **unsuccessful** on this assessment during October, they will be required to participate on the OSSLT in March 2017. Stratford Central will put interventions into place to help these students perform better on their second attempt on this assessment.

At Stratford Central, on October 20th, students will be assigned to a room that contains computers within the school. The length of the assessment is 150 minutes, broken into two 75 minute blocks of time.

All students have been exposed to the on-line practice OSSLT test so they are familiar with the format, and nature of this assessment.

On October 20th, all students from grades 7-8-9-10 will be at the school in the morning. Grade 11-12 students, who have been successful on the literacy test or are enrolled/were successful in the OLC40 course, **are required to attend afternoon classes on this day only.** Grade 7-8 classes will run as usual. Grade 9 students will be given practice with the OSSLT that morning. We ask that all grade 7-8-9 classes refrain from using WIFI/Internet on the morning of October 20. Regular classes for all students, in all grades will occur in the afternoon.

Stratford Central encourages that all students:

- a) take this assessment seriously
- b) have confidence that he/she can be successful on this test as she/he has been well-prepared
- c) talk to Mrs. McConkey and/or other teachers with any questions
- d) eat breakfast on the morning of October 20
- e) **not bring smartphones to this assessment so there are no distractions on this day**

As a school, we wish all students the best of luck on this assessment. Please contact the school with any questions or concerns.

Regards,

Kevin Mills
Principal

Jill McConkey
Literacy Support

