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Dear Parents and Guardians:

For the first time, EQAO will be offering students the opportunity to write The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) <u>online.</u> All first time and previously eligible students will be given the opportunity to participate in this test on Thursday October 20th, 2016. If students are unsuccessful, then they can write again on March 30, 2017. If they are considered first time eligible for the October online version, they will continue to be considered first time eligible in March. An additional note: paper versions and online versions of the test will be available to students in March, but only an online version will be offered for the October 20th date.

Students receiving accommodations as per their Individual Education Plan (IEP) will not be able to access all of the accommodations for this pilot of the online version October 20th.

Accommodations that are available for students with an IEP include:

- Text-to-speech
- Screen/text colour contrast
- Additional time

Additional Information:

- The majority of students will be using our system's Chromebooks along with our desktops to complete the online literacy test.
- Tuesday October 4th will be a pre-testing day. This pre-test will ensure that all students are able to access and navigate the online version of the test which they will write on October 20th.

Choosing to write the on-line version of the test this October is a "bonus opportunity." It is important to note that students, in consultation with their parents/guardians, may choose not to write the online literacy test in October.

## Parent(s)/Guardian(s)

Please indicate below if your child will not be participating in the Online Literacy Test October 20th, 2016:

No,\_\_\_\_\_(name of student) will not be participating in the online version of the literacy test on October 20th, 2016.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date



Waterloo Region District School Board