



**Avon Maitland District School Board**  
 Education Centre  
 62 Chalk Street North  
 Seaforth, ON N0K 1W0  
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 1-800-592-5437 (Ontario)  
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 www.yourschools.ca

Dear Parents/Guardians of Kindergarten to Grade 6 students:

Ensuring equity is a central goal of Ontario’s public school system. When we understand our students, we can provide appropriate and supportive programs that are designed specifically to meet their needs.

As part of this vision, our school board accepted a pilot project from the Ministry of Education’s Equity Secretariat Division in order to gather information about our students’ identities. The board-wide voluntary student survey was conducted in December, 2018 with the aim to help us learn about the diversity of our students. Our response rate in elementary schools (K-6) was low and we have considered that we did not provide enough accessibility to our parents/guardians in order to complete the survey.

We are redistributing the survey, in paper form, in order to re-engage as many families as possible, with the goal to have a fulsome data set to analyze and to which to respond. Although this survey is not mandatory, an increased response rate will provide us with more information to better understand and respond to diverse student populations and communities, identify and respond to barriers to student success as well as enhance the creation and distribution of programs and services.

**We do respect that you may have already made a conscious decision to not complete the survey, and if so, please accept our apologies for this communication.** However, if accessibility or timing was a previous barrier, and if you have **not** already completed the survey, we ask that you reconsider completing your child’s survey and return to school by **Thursday, April 4, 2019**. If you would still prefer to complete the survey online it can be accessed through the board’s website at <http://bit.ly/iammesurvey>.

Parents/guardians are requested to use their child’s Active Directory / Gmail identifier at the beginning of the survey. The identifier includes the **first four letters of their child’s given name, first four letters of their surname** and **first three numbers of their Ontario Education Number (OEN)** which is printed at the top of their progress report (see example below). You can also phone your local school for this number.

Ontario Ministry of Education **Elementary Progress Report Card** Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student:		OEN: <b>123</b> 456 789	Days Absent:	Total Days Absent:
Grade:	Teacher:		Times Late:	Total Times Late:
Board:			School:	
Address:			Address:	

First 3 numbers of the OEN

The survey results are confidential but not anonymous. Only approved board staff will have access to the information provided. To ensure your child’s information is kept confidential please seal the return envelope provided when returning the survey to your local school and they will send these sealed envelopes to the board office. The data will be shared as school board results as a whole and no personal information will be attached to it. Please see the attached **Frequently Asked Questions** document for additional information.

Thank you for your support!  
 Sincerely,  
 Dr. Lisa Walsh  
 Director of Education

***If you have reconsidered and have now completed the survey on paper form, please return the survey to your child's school via the envelope provided (sealed).***

***We request that if you do not want to complete the survey or have already completed the survey online please return the survey in the envelope provided unsealed.***

This letter is available in Dutch, German, Spanish, Arabic and Lao. Individuals may request a translated copy at their individual school.

### **Dutch**

Een kopie van deze brief is beschikbaar in uw eigen taal. Neem a.u.b. contact op met de school om een vertaalde versie te krijgen. Hartelijk dank.

### **German**

*Eine Kopie dieses Briefes ist in Ihrer Sprache verfügbar. Bitte kontaktieren Sie Ihre Schule, um eine übersetzte Version zu erhalten. Vielen Dank.*

### **Spanish**

Esta carta está disponible en su idioma. Comuníquese con la escuela para recibir una versión traducida. Gracias.

### **Arabic**

تتوفر نسخة من هذا الخطاب بلغتك. يرجى الاتصال بمدرستك للحصول على نسخة مترجمة. شكرًا لك.

### **Lao**

ຈົດໝາຍສະບັບນີ້ ມີສໍາເລັດຮ່າງແປບັນພາສາຂອງທ່ານ. ກະລຸນາຕິດຕໍ່ຫາໂຮງຮຽນຂອງທ່ານ ຖ້າຕ້ອງການເອກະສານສະບັບແປ. ຂອບໃຈ.