

Boards hope test results show improvement

BY STEFANIA RIZZI
Staff Writer

York Region public and separate school board representatives are hoping test results released Friday show a marked improvement in reading, writing and math skills.

Province-wide and board-wide standardized test scores for Grade 3 and Grade 6 students conducted by the Education Quality and Accountability Office last spring will be issued along with recommendations to help

schools improve their results. The tests were conducted to determine if students were at the appropriate provincial levels for reading, writing and math.

Approximately 300,000 students participated in the testing, including more than 10,000 from York Region.

Last year's results showed the region's Catholic students performed above the provincial average in all three categories and were among the top in writing.

Grade 3 students scored 62

per cent in reading, 64 per cent in writing and 66 per cent in math for an overall average of 64 per cent. Grade 6 scores were 65 per cent, 63 per cent and 64 per cent in reading, writing and math for an overall average of 64 per cent.

York Catholic District School Board spokesperson Chris Cable said the board is hoping results will show an improvement.

"We'll certainly be very cognizant and look for changes over last year's results," said Cable, adding the board imple-

mented strategies to improve student achievement in the three areas, such as an increased emphasis on non-fiction reading and writing, math journals and improving gender achievement.

Board chairperson

Elizabeth Crowe said the EOAO results is only one of several measures used to gauge student achievement.

"It's a snapshot of where the system is at," she said. "We'll

See PREVIOUS, page 25.

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