



:: ontario school library association

Jennifer Chan, Director
Student Achievement Division,
Curriculum, Assessment, and Student Success Policy Branch,
Ministry of Education
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Dear Ms. Chan,

The Ontario School Library Association (OSLA), a division of the Ontario Library Association, is a recognized subject-matter association, representing over 1,300 elementary and secondary school library staff and school board consultants.

We are writing regarding the recent modifications to the new Grade 9 Mathematics curriculum.

School library professionals support the work of educators throughout the school, by co-teaching, building literacy skills with students, and providing research and information instruction and resources. School library professionals support STEAM learning, particularly at the secondary level, which is critical to ensuring students are equipped for post-secondary or apprenticeship success.

We strongly support the move to de-stream math and the introduction of a new Grade 9 Mathematics curriculum. As information and literacy professionals we recognize the power of words. The June version of this math curriculum provided an important framework to support teachers in eliminating barriers for students, and the guidance of math experts, educators and informed stakeholders played a key role in its thoughtful development. The proposed curriculum explicitly identified the role mathematics has played in normalizing racism and reinforcing systems of oppression and updating how we consciously teach mathematics can be a tool for equity. It also recognized the importance of data literacy, highlighting the ways in which mathematics can be used as a tool to uncover, explore, analyse, and promote actions to address social and environmental issues such as inequity and discrimination.

In July, the ministry revised the curriculum without consultation or notification and removed much of the language that speaks to anti-racism, inclusion, and related topics. In removing the language, the Ministry has undermined the ability of teachers to address these important issues.

OSLA respectfully requests that the Ministry of Education reaffirms its commitment to anti-racism, inclusion and equity in all curriculum areas and reinstates the relevant language that was removed from the proposed Grade 9 Mathematics curriculum. Ontario's students deserve a strong math education that eliminates barriers and bias and prepares them for future success.

Regards,



Maureen McGrath, President, Ontario School Library Association

Cc Ontario School Library Association Council, Judy Mendaglio, president, Ontario Association for Mathematics Education (OAME), Heather Theijsmeijer, President, Ontario Mathematics Coordinators Association (OMCA)

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