

ABOUT THE ONTARIO COLLEGE OF TEACHERS

Since 1997, the Ontario College of Teachers has regulated and governed the teaching profession. Our goal is to ensure everyone teaching in Ontario's publicly funded elementary and secondary schools is qualified and worthy of the trust placed in them by their colleagues, students and parents.

We exist to serve the public interest – you and your child – and are accountable to you.

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Learn more at oct.ca or contact us at:

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SUBSCRIBE TO THE STANDARD

– an e-newsletter from the Ontario College of Teachers

Sign up today to discover College services that help you learn more about teacher qualifications, read about how the College works to ensure high standards in education, and access our reports on trends in education. Visit www.oct.ca/thestandard to start receiving this valuable resource.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Ontario College of Teachers: www.oct.ca

Ministry of Education: www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng

School Information Finder: www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/sift

Find a School Board: www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/sbinfo/boardList.html

Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO): www.eqao.com



Setting the Standard
for Great Teaching

WHO DOES WHAT IN EDUCATION



Setting the Standard for Great Teaching

WHO LICENSES TEACHERS
TO TEACH IN ONTARIO'S
PUBLIC SCHOOLS?

WHO SETS
THE PROVINCIAL
CURRICULUM?

WHO BUILDS, EQUIPS
AND FURNISHES
SCHOOLS?

FIND OUT INSIDE...



WHO DOES WHAT IN EDUCATION

There are 2 million public school students in Ontario. It's up to all of us to create safe and welcoming places where they can learn and grow.

oct.ca

THE ONTARIO COLLEGE OF TEACHERS

licenses, regulates and governs the teaching profession in Ontario.

The College:

- sets the ethical and professional standards for teaching
- licenses teachers and can suspend or revoke their certificates
- receives and investigates complaints of professional misconduct, incompetence and incapacity
- accredits teacher education programs at Ontario faculties of education and Additional Qualification courses

DID YOU KNOW

The Find a Teacher tool on oct.ca helps you learn about the qualifications of 238,000 teachers.

EQAO

the Education Quality and Accountability Office is an independent government agency that:

- administers province-wide, standardized tests in reading, writing and math
- reports results to the Ministry, school boards and the public
- provides data to school boards to inform their decision making

DID YOU KNOW

Students take EQAO tests in grades 3, 6, 9 and 10.

ONTARIO MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

oversees the province's education system. **The Ministry:**

- sets the K-12 curriculum and graduation requirements
- develops provincial policies for safe and healthy schools
- allocates funding to school boards
- regulates how schools and classrooms are organized

SCHOOL BOARDS

provide direction to groups of schools in a specific district and determine when and how to:

- hire certified teachers and oversee performance appraisals
- build, equip and furnish schools
- distribute provincial funding for school resources, facilities and staff
- develop programs to address specific learning needs

DID YOU KNOW

Ontario has 72 public school boards: 31 English, 29 English Catholic, 4 French, 8 French Catholic.

TEACHERS' FEDERATIONS

- the Ontario Teachers' Federation (OTF) advocates for teachers and the teaching profession as the umbrella organization over four, affiliated teacher federations
- participates in the management of the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan
- the federations – Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario, Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation, Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association and Association des enseignantes et des enseignants franco-ontariens – are responsible for:
 - negotiating salaries and working conditions for teachers
 - representing members in grievances/disputes with employers
 - providing professional learning opportunities for members

STUDENTS & FAMILIES



Students are expected to attend class, complete assignments and respect others in their school community. Families can support students by helping with homework, meeting teachers and volunteering to run school clubs, concerts or fundraising drives.

TRUSTEES

are public officials, elected every four years to:

- represent the interests of parents, students, families and local residents
- create school board policy directions
- communicate with government leaders on behalf of the school community



TEACHERS

are certified and qualified professionals who teach in Ontario's public and independent schools. Every public school teacher must be licensed by the Ontario College of Teachers. **They:**

- prepare lessons, evaluate student work and communicate with parents
- voluntarily lead extracurricular activities
- support student learning and well-being
- establish and maintain a classroom environment conducive to learning

DID YOU KNOW

46% of certified teachers have additional special education training.



SCHOOL COUNCILS

include parents/guardians, the principal, teachers and staff, a student (high school), and local residents. **Each school council:**

- advises the principal on school improvement plans
- helps set the school calendar, codes of conduct and dress codes
- organizes fundraising drives and special events
- involves parents and the public in school life

DID YOU KNOW

Parents also serve on Parent Involvement Committees, which advise directors of education and trustees on issues affecting more than one school.

SUPERVISORY OFFICERS

have extensive academic, business and teaching qualifications. **They:**

- are directors and superintendents
- routinely visit schools and liaise with principals
- supervise school operations, conditions and performance
- handle parent concerns, including student suspensions and transfer requests

DID YOU KNOW

Academic superintendents require supervisory officer and principal qualifications and at least 5 years' teaching experience.

PRINCIPALS

manage individual schools and run day-to-day operations. **They:**

- supervise teaching and non-teaching staff and students (Note: Supervision includes the assignment and evaluation of teachers)
- maintain school discipline
- manage student records, admissions and report cards



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