IEA

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION for the
EVALUATION of EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT

SECOND
Study of
MATHEMATICS

GRADE 8
SCHOOL QUESTIONNAIRE
BOOKLET 35L

**The Ontario Institute for
Studies in Education
Educational Evaluation Centre**

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POPULATION A

SCHOOL QUESTIONNAIRE

This questionnaire has been designed to collect information needed for the longitudinal element of the Second International Mathematics Study. Among other things, outcomes of instruction in terms of performance on international achievement tests are related to certain "input" factors, such as the facilities of the various school systems in terms of teacher training, number of hours of instruction, etc. We are aware that, in some instances, a question cannot be answered with complete accuracy unless the School Principal or the Head of the Mathematics Department carries out time-consuming research. We want to avoid placing undue burden on those answering the questionnaire, and therefore urge that estimates should be made in cases where the exact figures are not readily available.

This questionnaire is an international one, and some of the questions may appear to be irrelevant to the situation in Ontario. However, each question is designed to test part of a specific international hypothesis, and should be answered if at all possible.

All information you supply will be treated as <u>confidential</u>. None of it will be published in any reports or released to anyone in a manner which would enable any individual board, school, teacher, or student to be identified.

We feel sure you will be interested in the results of the project. If you have any particular questions, please contact:

> Dr. Les McLean, Head
> Educational Evaluation Centre
> The Ontario Institute for Studies in Education
> 252 Bloor Street West
> Toronto, Ontario M5S 1V6
>
> Telephone: 416-923-6641 local 478

Thank you.

Please answer each question by either writing your response in the space provided or by checking the appropriate box.

SECTION A - TO BE COMPLETED BY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

1. Which of the following BEST characterizes the community served by your school? (Check one)

Rural. ☐

Suburban. ☒

Urban. ☐

Urban-Suburban. ☐

Inner city metropolis (i.e., for cities with a total population greater than half a million). ☐

2. What is the total enrollment of full-time (or full-time equivalent) students in your school?

Boys. | | | | |

Girls. | | | | |

3. (a) What is the number of grade eight students in your school?

Boys. | | | |

Girls. | | | |

(b) What is the number of grade eight students who DO NOT take a mathematics course in your school?

Boys. | | N I L | |

Girls. | | N I L | |

4. What is the number of full-time (or full-time equivalent) teaching staff in your school?

No. of staff | | | |

3

5. How many of the teaching staff are involved in teaching one or more mathematics classes?

Male.

Female.

6. How many of the teaching staff teach mathematics exclusively?

Male. | N | O | NE |

Female. | | NONE | |

7. How many of those teaching mathematics

possess a Type A or Type B Mathematics Certificate?

Ccc.

Male.

Female.

Cr c

possess the Intermediate Certificate with a mathematics option?

Male.

Female.

8. How many official school days are there per year?

No. of days.

9. What is the average number of periods per school day?

No. of periods. | 0 | 8 |

10. What is the average length of each period (in minutes)?

Length of period. | | 4 | 0 |

11. In your school for grade eight, in which subject(s) is the use of calculators encouraged? (Check one)

None. ☒

Mathematics only. ☐

Science only. ☐

Mathematics and science only. ☐

All or most subject where usage is appropriate. ☐

12. Which of the following grade levels are in your school? (Check all that apply)

☐ Pre-Kindergarten. ☒ Grade 4. ☐ Grade 9.

☒ Kindergarten. ☒ Grade 5. ☐ Grade 10.

☒ Grade 1. ☒ Grade 6. ☐ Grade 11.

☒ Grade 2. ☒ Grade 7. ☐ Grade 12.

☒ Grade 3. ☒ Grade 8. ☐ Grade 13.

13. Are there special mathematics classes or courses for grade eight students with severe learning disabilities (such as students with IQ's of 70 and below) in your school? *(An IQ of 70 or below is approximately equivalent to the lowest 3% of all IQ scores.)*

Special classes of this nature are taught in this school. ☐

Special classes of this nature are not taught in this school, but are available at another school in this community. ☐

Special classes of this nature are not available in this community. ☒

14. Are there special mathematics classes or courses for exceptionally gifted and talented grade eight students (such as students with IQ's of 130 and above) in your school? *(An IQ of 130 or above is approximately equivalent to the highest 3% of all IQ scores.)*

Special classes of this nature are taught in this school. ☐

Special classes of this nature are not taught in this school, but are available at another school in this community. ☐

Special classes of this nature are not available in this community. ☒

15. Which of the following best describes the student body attending your school? It enrolls:

All grade eight students in the district or attendance area in which the school is located who do not choose to attend a different school (i.e., this is a public school). ☒

All grade eight students in the district or attendance area in which the school is located whose families are members of the religious or linguistic group that the school serves and who choose to attend this school. ☐

ONLY students who are selected for admission to this school on the basis of ability, achievement, and/or interest in the school's particular programs. ☐

Those grade eight students for whom the school's program is appropriate; i.e., vocationally oriented students or non-academic students. ☐

Students whose families choose to pay the school's tuition charges or who are supported by scholarships (i.e., private school). ☐

16. What will be the typical later careers of students in your school? Please estimate the percentage who will:

Leave school on reaching the legal school-leaving age.

`2 -`

Leave school before completing secondary school.

`15`

Complete a college-preparatory program in a secondary school.

`50`

Complete a vocational or technical program in a secondary school.

`35`

Complete a general curriculum in a secondary school.

`10`

SECTION B - TO BE COMPLETED BY HEAD OF MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT
OR SENIOR GRADE 8 TEACHER

17. How frequently are meetings of the mathematics teachers held in
the school?   (Check one)

Never. ☐

Less frequently than once a term. ☐

Once a term. ☐

Once every month. ☒

Once every two weeks. ☐

Once a week or more frequently. ☐

18. Which of the following activities occupies most of the time
at the mathematics teachers' meetings? (Check one)

Organizational and administrative matters. ☒

Content to be taught. ☐

Teaching strategies. ☐

Professional development of teachers. ☐

19. Which of the following best describes your department's
policy on the use by grade eight students of "four function"
calculators in the mathematics classroom? (Check one)

No policy formulated. Teachers allow use as they
see fit. ☐

Students are forbidden to use calculators in the
classroom. ☐

Students may use calculators, but they are not
provided by the school. ☐

Calculators are provided by the school, but used
only rarely in the classroom. ☐

Calculators are provided by the school and used
frequently in the classroom. ☐

Question does not arise (e.g., calculators are
not available to students). ☒

20. Which of the following best describes your department's policy on the use by grade eight students of preprogrammed multi-function and/or programmable calculators in the classroom?

No policy formulated. Teachers allow use as they see fit. ☐

Students are forbidden to use calculators in the classroom. ☐

Students may use calculators, but they are not provided by the school. ☐

Calculators are provided by the school, but used only rarely in the classroom. ☐

Calculators are provided by the school and used frequently in the classroom. ☐

Question does not arise (e.g., calculators are not available to students). ☒

21. Does streaming take place in grade eight mathematics in your school?

Yes, for all grade eight mathematics classes. ☐

Yes, for some grade eight mathematics classes. ☐

No. No streaming in grade eight mathematics. ☒

22. Which of the following best describes mathematics teaching in your school?

Boys and girls take the same curriculum and are taught together. ☒

Boys and girls take the same curriculum and are taught separately. ☐

Boys and girls take different curricula. ☐

Question inappropriate (i.e., boys or girls school). ☐