

Sample letter to parents/guardians

Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Your child's class has been randomly selected to participate in the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS), an important educational assessment investigating student achievement in mathematics and science. Schools in more than 60 countries, including almost 800 schools in Canada, are participating in this project.

The superintendent and principal of your child's school are fully aware of the project and have expressed their willingness to have the students participate. Your child's participation in this project will not affect their grades or progress in school, and the results will not be reported for individual students or schools. Students will respond to questions in mathematics and science and will fill out a short questionnaire. The assessment will take place at school during regular school hours on **[insert school's test date]**.

As a parent/guardian of a participating child, you will also be asked to complete an online questionnaire; the login information to access the questionnaire will be provided to you in April/May. The questionnaire covers home and school factors related to your child's learning environment and experiences. It should take only about 30 minutes to complete, and all responses will remain confidential. This questionnaire, along with your child's questionnaire responses, will be used to gain a fuller understanding of how children learn at home and at school.

Participating in TIMSS ensures that we, including parents/guardians and citizens more broadly, stay informed about how Canadian students are performing in comparison with their peers around the world. Moreover, through the latest provincial, pan-Canadian, and international results of this and other assessments, we can improve the teaching and learning of mathematics and science in our province.

Please find enclosed a brochure, which provides an overview of the assessment.

More information on this project is available at: https://cmec.ca/756/TIMSS_2023.html. You may also refer to the IEA website at <https://timssandpirls.bc.edu/timss2023/> (available in English only).

We appreciate your child's participation and thank you for your support as we work to enhance the learning experience of our young students across Canada!

Sincerely,