

## Parent/guardian letter

Dear \_\_\_\_\_(students/parents/guardians at your school)

We are writing to inform you about the recently released Policy and Program Memorandum 167 which details the implementation of an online learning graduation requirement for Ontario schools and the associated opt-out process. The memorandum can be accessed through this [link](#).

The Ontario Ministry of Education has mandated a new graduation requirement for secondary students to complete a minimum of **two eLearning credits** as part of the 30 credits required for the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). This requirement begins with the cohort of students who entered secondary school in the 2020-21 school year, which means they are now in grade 9 or grade 10.

Students working towards an Ontario Secondary School Certificate (OSSC) or a Certificate of Accomplishment (CoA) are not required to complete this new graduation requirement. However, students who are completing an OSSC or CoA may still choose to enrol in e-Learning courses.

It is important to note that up to **one** secondary school credit completed by Grade 9 students in the 2020-21 school year during the province-wide school closures (from April 2021 to June 2021) may be counted towards the graduation requirement.

Online learning courses or online learning credits, also known as “e-learning” courses or credits, are Grades 9 to 12 credit courses that are delivered entirely using the internet and do not require students to be physically present with one another or with their educator in the school, except where they may be needed for:

- examinations and other final evaluations
- access to internet connectivity, learning devices, or other school-based supports (for example, academic, guidance, special education, mental health and well-being supports, or ELL supports).

In online eLearning courses in Kawartha Pine Ridge District School board, coursework is teacher-led. The content is offered through a secure learning management system, allowing students and educators to communicate and share learning and coursework online. In KPR secondary schools, students complete their online coursework with the support of a certified Ontario educator who provides instruction, ongoing feedback, assessment, evaluation, and

reporting including implementing any accommodations and/or modifications identified in the student's Individual Education Plan.

For students that choose to complete the Online Graduation Requirement for this coming school year (2022/23), are asked to contact the guidance department at their secondary school by **April 19th** for timetabling considerations.

Families may choose to **opt-out** of the online graduation requirement. All KPRDSB families whose students would like to opt-out of the requirement to complete 2 e-learning (online) courses in secondary school (grades 9-12) must complete the opt-out form provided [here](#) prior to grade 12. Your student's school will follow up with next steps to complete the opt-out process. When the process is complete, the graduation requirement will not apply to the student.

If you require further information about the online graduation requirement, please contact your student's secondary school.