

KNOW MORE

...about mandatory teacher testing

The Ford government has instituted a mandatory math proficiency test for teacher-candidates. The government claims this will improve student achievement, and has instructed the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) to develop the test.

So what does EQAO think about this idea?

In a comprehensive review of nearly 100 research studies on teacher testing, EQAO – the government’s own testing agency – found:

- Teacher testing has little-to-no relationship to student achievement
- Exemplary teaching cannot be determined by a proficiency test
- Teaching experience and continued professional development are far more likely to have positive impacts on student achievement than testing teacher-candidates



The report was clear: “Standardized teacher tests [are] not linked with a level of performance consistency that justifies their widespread implementation.” And the goal to improve student learning “is often not met.”

If the government is sincere about wanting to improve student achievement, they should not waste money on ineffective assessment tools. There are far more effective and efficient ways to allocate funding, such as by ensuring teachers have the necessary resources and supports to deliver math content, and providing teacher-led professional development.

Go to KnowMore.ca to send a message to your MPP and tell them to stop the cuts to publicly funded education.