**14 STRATEGIES FOR ANSWERING MULTIPLE CHOICE**

**GRADE 9 EQAO MATH QUESTIONS**

1. Read the entire question twice slowly. Cover up the answer choices while you read the question to avoid jumping to a quick conclusion. Answer choices will consist of one correct answer and three **distracters** (incorrect answers).
2. If possible, try to predict/calculate/determine the answer before looking at the options. This may reduce the chances that you might get confused with a distractor (in other words one of the incorrect responses).
3. Underline or circle key words in the question stem or choices given.

Bring a highlighter!

1. Look for key words in the stem which you can relate to key words in the choice.
2. Read ALL the choices before selecting. Need to choose the most correct answer.
3. Writing on the test sheet or using scrap paper for rough work will help your performance tremendously!
4. If the answer is not readily apparent, **use the process of elimination**. Cross off all choices which are clearly false and then re-read the choices which remain a possibility.
5. Sometimes, you may need to **work backwards** from the question. Look at the answers.

E.g. If all the choices are equations of a lines, then you must have to find the equation of a line.

1. Start with the questions you know first. It will build your confidence and ease your nerves!
2. If you are not sure about the answer for some of the questions, make a note of it ( put a big star beside it etc.) so that you can revisit those questions later.
3. **Answer every questions!** Even if you have forgotten some of the material, you will probably be able to eliminate some choices, thereby increasing your odds of getting a correct answer. Make an educated guess! Odds are 1 in 4!
4. Pace yourself and be mindful of the time you are given.

Make sure that you’re not working too slowly.

1. Watch for absolutes such as “all”, “none”, “always”, “never”, “only”.
2. **Change an answer only when you have a concrete reason.** Never change an answer because of a feeling. This feeling is often simply nervousness!