

support every child reach every student

Building The Next Phase in
Ontario's Education Strategy

“Great to Excellent”

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Snapshot – Province of Ontario

Ontario has:

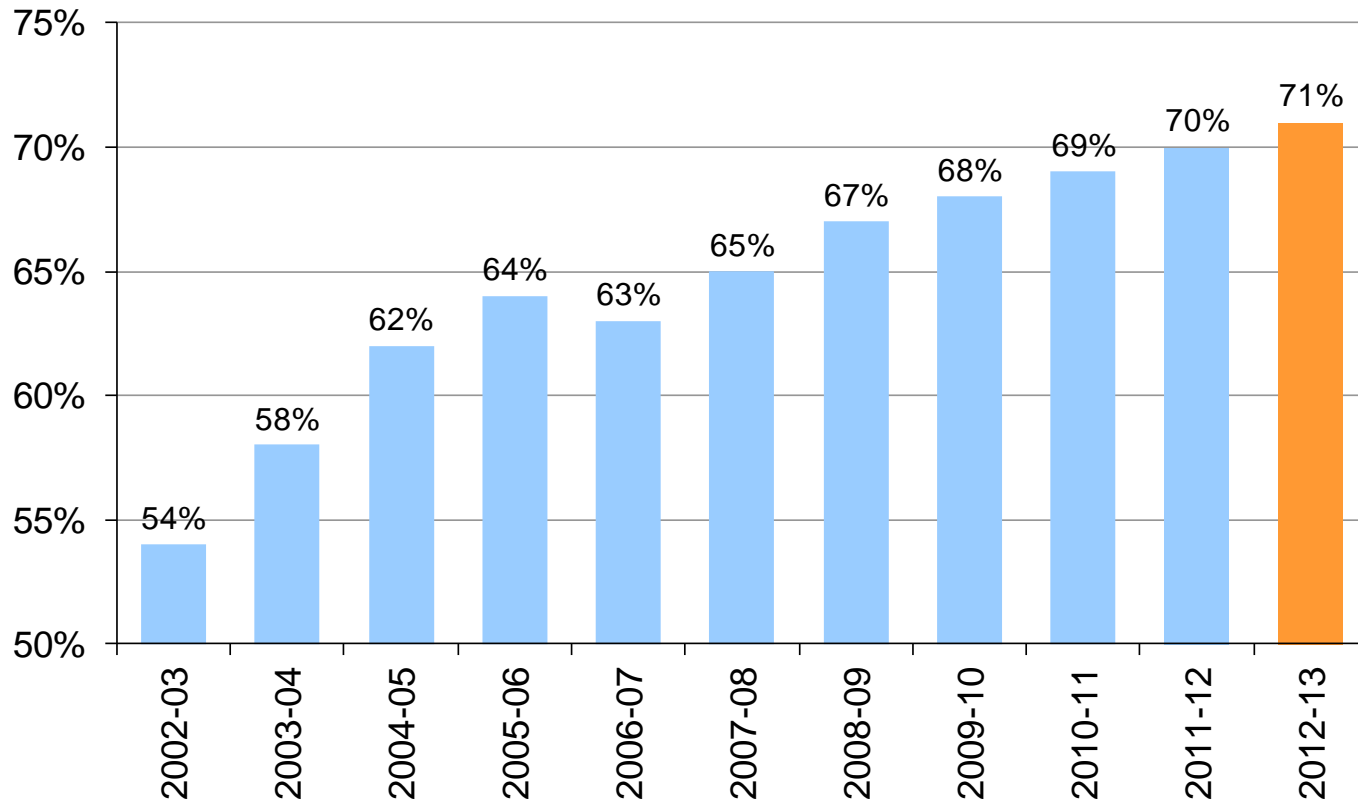
- Almost 40% of Canada's 35.1 million people (it is the largest population by province)
- Nearly 40% of the 260,000 immigrants who come to Canada annually, settle in Ontario
- 2.1 million students total, of which 27% are born outside Canada
- Almost 126,000 teachers (elementary/secondary)
- Nearly 5,000 schools in 72 school districts
- Funding of \$21B (CDN) in 2012-13 (45% increase compared to 2002-03)

Where We Have Been

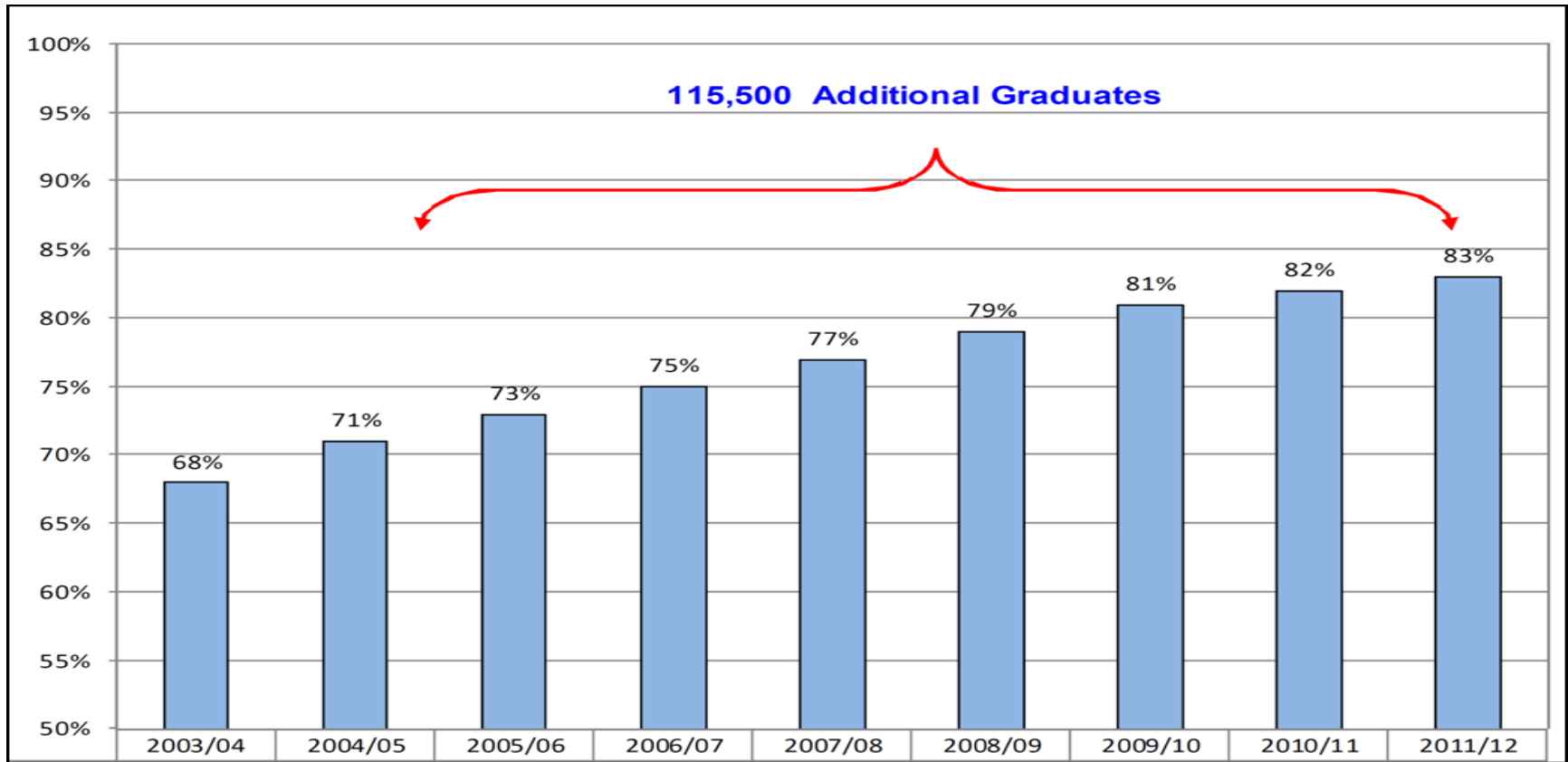
- Education in Ontario come a long way in the last ten years.
- Today, Ontario's publicly funded education system is recognized as among the best in the world.
- A decade ago, only 68% of our students were graduating, and only 54% of children in grades 3 and 6 were achieving the provincial standard in literacy and numeracy.
- Today, those numbers stand at 83% and 71% respectively, and they continue to climb.
- We have closed achievement gaps significantly for several groups, and are making progress on closing gaps for others.

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Overall Elementary Achievement Growth: 2002-03 to 2012-13



The Graduation Rate



How Progress was Made

Building blocks for success:

1. A small number of ambitious goals.
2. Strong, focused leadership and partnerships.
3. High standards and expectations.
4. Investment in leadership and capacity building related to instruction.
5. Mobilizing research, data and effective practices as a strategy for improvement.
6. Intervention based on needs and assets.
7. Creating supporting conditions.
8. Being transparent, relentless and increasingly challenging.

How does Canada compare?

- McKinsey Report 2009: How the World's Most Improved School Systems Keep Getting Better
 - Ontario: from 2003-2009 moved from "good" to "great", now moving from "great" to "excellent"
- In Ontario, the difference in achievement between students in the top socio-economic quarter and the lowest quarter was 50% below the average of the rest of the country.
- In the 2010 Pan Canadian Assessment Program, Ontario was the only province that placed above the Canadian average in reading, math and science.

From *Great to Excellent*

- It is now time to build an updated vision for the next phase of education in Ontario.
- Your input, through this public consultation process, will help craft-the next phase in Ontario's education strategy.
- The updated vision for our education system will be launched in early 2014.

Why Consult Now?

- After our successes over the past decade we want to set our sights even higher.
- We must prepare students for our technology-driven, rapidly changing, globalized world.
- This requires a greater emphasis on higher-order skills, such as critical thinking, communication, collaboration, creativity and entrepreneurship.
- Almost six years have passed since the strategic plan for Ontario education was re-visited with "*Energizing Ontario Education*".
- We must keep moving forward and raising the bar!

There is More to Do

Looking ahead, we must consider how to best address the needs of students who struggle in our current system.

Some of our key areas of focus will be:

- Improving results for Aboriginal students (First Nations, Métis, and Inuit).
- Improving results for children and youth in care.
- Improving results for students with special education needs.
- Improving math skills for all students.

The Consultation Process

- A four page document was created, based on conversations with our education partners.
 - This document included seven questions which we will focus on today
- The document has been sent to traditional and non-traditional stakeholders for consideration over the summer.
- The ministry is conducting provincial, regional, internal and digital consultations throughout the fall.

The Seven Questions

1. What are the skills, knowledge and characteristics students need to succeed after they have completed school, and how do we better support all learners in their development?
2. What does student well-being mean to you, and what is the role of the school in supporting it?
3. From your perspective, what further opportunities exist to close gaps and increase equity to support all students in reaching their full potential?
4. How does the education system need to evolve as a result of changes to child care and the implementation of full-day kindergarten?
5. What more can we all do to keep students engaged, foster their curiosity and creativity, and help them develop a love of life-long learning?
6. How can we use technology more effectively in teaching and learning?
7. In summary, what are the various opportunities for partnership that can enhance the student experience, and how can they benefit parents, educators and our partners too?