

Education on the Peninsula

by Patty McLay

The Bruce Peninsula Press asked area school trustee Patty McLay to contribute a regular column on continuing education on the Bruce Peninsula

Jan. 1995

Hi Readers!

Since the month of November is a month of transition for the Bruce County Board of Education, there isn't a great deal of new activity going on. The new Trustees will be sworn in on December 13, at the inaugural meeting. No new business will be discussed in Open Board until our monthly meeting in January. This is not to say that we won't be holding any committee meetings until then, just that any decisions made within these committees will not come to the Board for approval until the January meeting.

We held a special Board Meeting on Tuesday, November 22nd, to ratify the Elementary Teachers Collective Agreement. This is a great achievement for both the teachers and the trustees, and one that has not come about without a lot of hard work from both parties.

We just held another meeting of the Outdoor Education Centre Committee. We are searching for ways to raise money to allow us to build new facilities on the property. The old buildings are in very poor shape and pretty much beyond repair. From the Ministry of Education's point of view, this facility has no permanent student population, and therefore is not eligible for grants. The fact that this facility hosts over 3000 students each year makes no difference. If anyone is interested in donating money to this project, a special fund has been set up at the Board Office, and you will receive a Charitable Donation Receipt for your generous gift.

ADDITION TO BPDS

We will be setting up a special Board Sub-Committee, very soon, to begin making plans for a new addition to BPDS. This building project is intended to house grades junior kindergarten/senior kindergarten to OAC, all on one site. The Board passed a motion in October, which placed

BPDS at the top of our 5-year capital forecast. We are requesting funding from the Ministry of Education, and hope to begin construction in 1996.

We are planning a meeting with the different local Community Interest Groups, to discuss the possibilities for community involvement and different fundraising possibilities.

QUESTIONNAIRE NOT FROM BOARD

I have received many telephone calls concerning a questionnaire which was distributed in Eastnor, Lindsay, St. Edmunds and Lion's Head. All of these calls were from people who assumed this questionnaire was put out by the Bruce County Board of Education, and that the Board had not yet made a decision concerning the Lion's Head Schools. Both of these assumptions are, in fact, not true. I am not sure who distributed the questionnaire, but I do know that it was not the Bruce County Board of Education. As I stated earlier, this decision was made by the Board in October, and has been slated as our top priority.

During my campaign for re-election, I received many wonderful ideas, and was told about concerns which some people had. I hope I was able to answer most of these questions to each person's satisfaction, and I will be taking many of your ideas with me to the Board.

Now that winter is upon us, please remember to keep your children bundled up when you send them out to school. They spend quite a bit of time outside during recess and lunch time, and its not very nice to be cold when they are out there.

I am looking forward to keeping you informed of happenings within the Bruce County Board of Education, and specifically when they directly affect the children in our local schools. I will be looking for suggestions from you as to what you would like to see addressed in this column.

If you have any questions or concerns, or if you just have an idea which you would like to talk to me about. I would love to hear from you. Please call me at 793-3487.

Hindman: Lorne Robert (Tiny) at the Lion's Head Hospital on Sunday, January 29, 1995. Lorne (Tiny) Hindman of Ferndale in his 78th year. Beloved husband of Grace Cunningham. Dear father of John and his wife Charlotte of Tobermory, Ronald and his wife Bobbi, Steven and his wife Sharon all of Sherwood Park, Alberta. Brother of Olga Vessie, Norma (Mrs. Jack McArthur) and Shirley Proctor all of Owen Sound and Allan Hindman (Norma) of Caledonia. Predeceased by 1 daughter Marilyn Stewart and 1 brother Elmer. Much loved grandfather of Kevin Stewart, Chris, Dan, Nathan, Marina and Kaitlin Hindman. The family received friends at the Davidson Chapel, Lion's Head on Tuesday. Complete funeral service will be conducted from the chapel on Wednesday, February 1st at 2 p.m. Spring interment Eastnor Cemetery. Donations to the charity of your choice would be appreciated.