

ACTON DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

Education complex

Twenty-six teachers staff high school

Acton district high school board is composed of five members, appointed to look after an education complex which becomes more important and involves the expenditure of more taxation revenue each year.

The present board is composed of chairman Tom Watson, appointed by the public school board; Chester Anderson and Ray Arblin, appointed by council; Duncan Moffat, appointed by Nassagaweya township council; and Kerwin McPhail, appointed by Esquimes township council.

The present modern high school was officially opened on November 22, 1964. Since the new school was built student enrollment has quadrupled. It takes a staff of 26 teachers and three caretakers to handle the student load but even then the program is limited.

Courses now taught at the school include:

- Five years Arts and Science
- Four years Arts and Science
- Four year Business and Commercial
- Special Commercial

The five-year program in Arts and Science makes provision for pupils of good general ability who desire to proceed to Grade 13 (9) to secure the further education leading to the Secondary School Honor Graduation Diploma or to qualify for admission to a university course, the studies for which the successful completion of work in Grade 13 is required.

The four-year program in Arts and Science is designed to provide a well-balanced secondary school education based on standards of curriculum and achievement for those pupils possessing good general ability whose particular interests it will serve better than one of the alternate programs.

These pupils do not plan to proceed to Grade 13 but wish to obtain a broad general education and to qualify for the Secondary School Graduation Diploma. Some of them recognize achievement in earlier grades, that the courses of the four-year program are best suited to their particular abilities and are more likely, therefore, to enable them to gain success and satisfaction from their studies.

The four-year program in Business and Commercial provides for pupils who are specially interested in the study of business and commercial subjects and have the necessary aptitudes, an opportunity to obtain both a good secondary school education in these subjects and the training and skills that lead to employment in commerce and industry.

Special Commercial Course, designed to fit the graduate for office employment, is an intensive one-year vocational course based upon an adequate general education. Pupils who have completed Grade 11 or 12 of any ap-

Education complex

proved five-year program or Grade 12 of a four-year program are eligible for admission to this course.

In September, 1965, a crisis in Driver Instruction was established in the school. Many schools in Ontario are now offering the course and more are expected to start offering courses in September.

A memorandum from the Department of Education and the Phisettes that all courses in driver instruction must be held outside regular school hours and with the time allotted to the regular subjects in the school curriculum not offered in their home school (technical or vocational courses) may take such courses at neighboring schools. The Board will pay for tuition out 40 students from this district are now attending Georgetown or Geoph.

A problem which is felt here in Acton and in other schools is an apathetic attitude toward studies. We find all too often that capable students fall to achieve their potential for fear of having an accusing finger pointed at them by some of their more vocal and indolent classmates.

Many are satisfied just to scrape by with a minimum of effort and reproach anyone who does a conscientious job. This attitude is dangerous because it teaches students to develop habits of laziness which culminate in failure.

As a result of a survey of graduates for the past 10 years, it was discovered that no student passed grade 13 in one year who had less than 66 per cent average in either grade 11 or 12. Similarly, no student ever obtained a grade 13 diploma in one year who had less than 75 per cent in grade 9.

These facts point out that no one is able to do his best in a short time. Even if a person is able to develop a healthy attitude toward studies, his inadequate knowledge of previous work makes success close to impossible.

Results show that those students who learn to work hard in secondary school are able to continue successfully. Such students, furthermore, do not exemplify a declining average throughout their high school work.

We refuse to allow students who are obviously not working to remain in school. In most cases, parents have been entirely co-operative in such instances and we have been able to affect

There is no patented method of leading each human being to personal success. However, the school intends to do the best possible with the equipment and personnel which it has at its disposal.

The staff of Acton district high school for 1967-68 is complete and is listed below with the subjects taught as well as indicating where a teacher taught previously if he or she is new.

Mr. E. A. Hansen, B.A., Principal

Miss F. Atkey, Physical Education

Mr. B. Andrews, B.A., Physical Education and Geography

Mr. J. R. Bray, M.Sc., Vice-Principal, Senior Science

Mrs. S. Brown, B.A., Science, Mathematics

Mr. W. D. Coats, B.A.Sc., Head of Mathematics, Physics

Mr. E. C. Curtis, B.S.A., Head of Science

Mrs. J. Hallman, B.A., B.L.Sc., from Central Peel Secondary School, will teach English, Literacy

Mr. J. A. Holmes, B.A., English

Mrs. D. Huenken, B.A., German, History, Geography

Mrs. D. Hunter, B.A., Sc., taught at Fenlon Falls, for past year was Assistant Dietitian at Home Economics.

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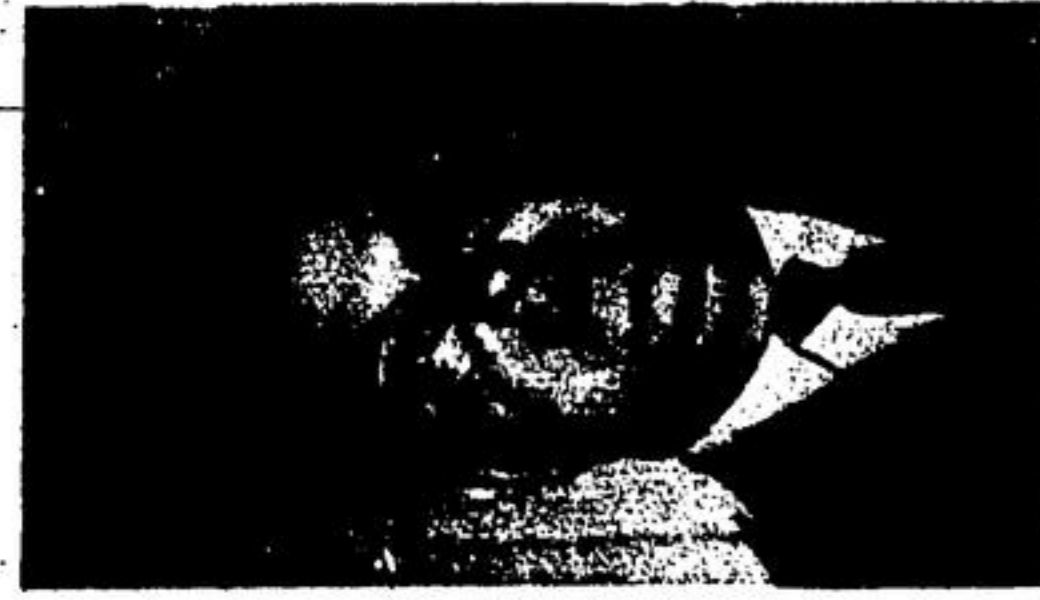
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CORP. RAY MASON

Current renovation and expansion of the Acton police office reflect the growing trend. O.P.P. division quarters are being enlarged to include the former St. John Ambulance room at the end of the hallway in the town hall.

Facilities for the police have been improving steadily in past years, but Corp. Ray Mason anticipates the detachment will require a lock-up and full-time stenographer soon.

Citizens requiring the assistance of the police department normally make their request by telephoning the police office at 853-1250.

With no secretary in the office, it guarantees that the police officers are not in the office on this event, a reading machine, a telephone circuit and a citizen's station.

Operation of the recording device turns on the red light at the corner of Mill and Main Sts. Traffic Control Act, Highway Act, crowd control and the latest methods of criminal investigation.

Every five years, the constable is required to take a refresher course in St. John Ambulance first aid training.

Before a candidate is accepted in the provincial police, he must meet certain requirements, which include high school graduation, physical attributes and provision of character references. After acceptance, the recruit attends a police college for a six-week basic training and on graduation joins a detachment as a probationary constable.

The detachment seldom has a major crime to deal with. Traffic violations, break and entry of buildings, and violations under the Liquor Control Act comprise most of the entries in their daily log.

Each policeman has a monthly quota of car safety checks that

It is the second alternative that Acton chose many years ago.

Under the existing contract with the O.P.P., Acton has a six man police force under veteran Corp. Ray Mason looking after police work in Acton.

By choosing to operate under contract with the O.P.P., the municipality gained by the town would appear to be a less expensive form of police protection, free from local interference in its exercise of duties, plus the additional benefit of being integrated with a province-wide inter-connected organization.

Another advantage to being under contract with the O.P.P. is that the special services and facilities if the provincial police are immediately available through their radio link with Ontario headquarters, which is interconnected with all police forces in North America through a modern Telex system.

Installed in the Acton police office is a radio monitoring system to keep the local office abreast of all calls and information broadcast over the police radio system.

Working on three eight-hour shifts, the local detachment patrols the town 24 hours a day on foot or in the cruiser, with constant supervision over the industrial, commercial and residential areas.

Training and duty for a policeman never end and the men of Acton detachment attend training courses at Burlington on their own time. They take lectures and training in the use of tear gas, small arms and machine guns, the Criminal Code, the Liquor Control Act, Highway Traffic Act, crowd control and the latest methods of criminal investigation.

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It is interesting to know that when an application is received, everyone within 200 feet of the affected property is notified by letter and may attend the meeting. All meetings are public.

When a decision has been reached, a copy of the application, the minutes of their meeting, and the motion outlining their decision, is mailed to the Minister of Municipal Affairs in the Provincial Government.

There is a 14-day waiting period. During this time, the committee's decision may be appealed by the Minister or anyone vitally concerned. If, during the 14 days, no appeals have been received, the committee's decision is final.

Acton's Committee of Adjustment is composed of Murray Smith, Ernie Marks and Don Lindsay. Secretary is Iain Williams.

Committee members are appointed for a three year term.

Committee of adjustment increases in importance as building booms

The Committee of Adjustment is becoming increasingly important as building booms and applications for minor variances are made.

It is to deal with minor variances to its by-laws that the town established a Committee of Adjustment with permission from the Ontario Government.

The Town of Acton controls building within its boundaries by adopting zoning and building by-laws. These by-laws define among other important matters, the size of your lot, the front setback, the distance your building must be from the front lot line and the side line.

Since a minor variance is not clearly defined, it is the responsibility of the committee to take each application received, process it according to the established rules and regulations, and make a decision.

Enlarge Acton O.P.P. offices

Additional benefit. Cruisers and additional officers from Milton have been made available to assist Acton in crowd control and transporting prisoners to jail in Milton.

No arrested persons are kept in Acton as there are no facilities. All court cases are heard in Milton. Acton officers must attend these court sessions on their time off and they are reimbursed by alternate time off later.

To police any community property, there must be co-operation between the police and people. Corp. Mason says he and his staff enjoy excellent cooperation and relationships with the people of Acton.

His innovations has been the weekly police reports, which were instituted by O.P.P. headquarters in Toronto to improve the public relations of the force. It points out how many hours the men work and the number and range of occurrences they deal with each week. The report appears each Wednesday in the Free Press.

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