# Public schools satisfy 75% of Halton parents

practices from its students' held the same view.

Halton parents this year by 70 per cent of elementary shows over 75 per cent are at parents but only 55 per cent of least moderately satisfied secondary school parents felt with the education their chil- the same way. dren are receiving in the region's public schools, education is very important Survey results were released at every grade level and over Thursday.

were sent out to 4,800 ran- cent of elementary parents domly selected parents of thought physical education elementary and secondary classes were too competitive school pupils and 1,700 or 35 and 45 per cent of the same per cent were returned filled out. Members of the public fitness isn't given enough without children in the school system weren't surveyed.

Out of 1,056 parents of elementary students questioned, 86 per cent answered they were either very or moderately satisfied with the education their children are receiving. Out of 600 high per cent said they were very or moderately satisfied with education in Halton.

per cent of parents of high school students indicated they feel there is quality education in the public schools.

Director of Education, Em

sufficient, the survey showed. the same opinion. Parents are ahppy with the ways they are informed of their child's progress and

education in student studies. Special education is supported by Halton parents as is special programs for gifted high school semestering, children. In addition, more Promotion by subject rather than 70 per cent of parents than by grade at high school is the preferred method, parents say. They also feel discipline is well handled in elementary schools, ac-

carding to the survey. Survey results however weren't completely positive. Parents expressed concern about spelling, handwriting and written expression as well as their children's knowledge of Canadian history.

Survey results also showed parents want to see more physical education in Halton schools and are concerned about discipline in high

schools. Class size is another parent worry, the survey showed. results, Lavender said the study that they like. A mere school system is in good shape and doesn't need a of courses available should be major overhaul. However increased.

tors need to examine. Only 52 per cent of high school students' parents felt the board was placing enough emphasis on the fundamentals while 69 per cent of the elementary school students' parents thought there was enough emphasis was sufficient. on fundamentals.

parents, 61 per cent thought classes are too large while only 39 per cent of secondary school parents felt the same parents.

for reducing class sizes with the parents and 22 per cent 81 per cent of elementary were strongly opposed to parents saying smaller them. classes would improve learning and 66 per cent of secondary parents taking the same stance.

smaller classes with increased taxes, however, only 43 per cent of high school parents and 61 per cent of elementary parents an teachers. Among elementary swered in the affirmative.

for parent-teacher interviews as 89 per cent of parents said they were helpful and over 80 per cent thought teachers were doing a good job of keeping them informed of as being adequate by parents. their child's progress. Examinations received children had mastered

strong support from parents. spelling and just 50 per cent Eighty per cent thought they shouldn't be eliminated. Among high school parents 66 per cent thought final

Halton Board of Education examinations are needed in has received a rousing en- student evaluation and 54 per dorsement of its policies and cent of elementary parents

Discipline at school was The results of a survey of viewed as "just about right"

> Parents believe physical 80 per cent thought it should questionnaires be offered daily. Only 12 per parents thought physical emphasis.

also viewed as important while 68 per cent of parents were opposed to team sports becoming the sole province of the community or municipal recreation department.

school students' parents, 76 opposed to percentage grading in physical education despite their strong support last in importance. for physical education On a question dealing with programs. Seventy-six per the quality of education in cent of the parents questioned Halton, 82 per cent of elemen- were against percentage tary students' parents and 76 grades in physical education. Mandatory health physical education in grades 9-13 was supported by a whopping 90 per cent of band executive. parents.

The majority of parents many years, winning various Lavender, outlined his obser- questioned support sex awards. While the experience vations of the survey results, education. Sex education in is valuable, the practices on a saying parents feel there is all grades was supported by couple of selections were time quality education and are 58 per cent of the parents consuming. satisfied with their children's while 85 per cent of elemenachievement in reading, oral tary parents wanted sex Board told: Current levels of French health topics and 89 per cent instruction were considered of secondary parents were of

Over 85 per cent of the parents thought the board should provide special educasupport the inclusion of sex tion programs for children with learning disabilities and over 65 per cent support also thought the board should provide special classes for children who are behaviorally or emotionally disturbed.

High school semestering was viewed by parents positively with 72 per cent saying it was a good move. In addition 73 per cent didn't feel semestering had caused their child any problems.

Promotion by subject instead of grades, at high school was viewed as an educational improvement by 89 per cent of parents but the option system didn't fare so well. Only 48 per cent of parents thought students should be given more freedom as they progress Summing up the survey through secondary school to 22 per cent thought the range

there are issues cited by The present level of French parents which Halton educa- instruction is just what parents want, the study showed.

Only 30 per cent of those questioned were for elementary French immersion programs and 61 per cent

Teaching of subjects in both Among elementary school French and English was supported by just 24 per cent of high school parents and 36 per cent of elementary

Open concept schools are There was strong support supported by 57 per cent of

Parents want more Canadian history studies. Only 44 per cent of elementary parents thought there was When it came to paying for enough Canadian history and 55 per cent of secondary parents held the same view.

There is some support for parent volunteers helping parents questioned, 68 per There was strong support cent like the idea of parent volunteers in the schools but just 41 per cent of secondary parents agreed.

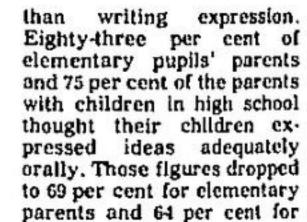
Spelling and handwriting achievement wasn't viewed Only 66 per cent thought their were pleased with handwriting abilities.

Student oral idea expression was considered better

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secondary parents when it came to written expression of Student achievement in reading for understanding and basic arithmetic was considered good by over 75

per cent of parents. Parents said schools should be stressing development of learning, thinking and reasoning skills as its top High school varsity sport is priority closely followed by cultivation of social and

occupational skills. Teaching of values, religious and moral values and social, political and economic justice were High school parents were ranked four, five and six in importance. Teaching children to get ahead was ranked

Acton Citizens' Band did not compete at the Canadian National Exhibition this year. The decision was made by the

The band has competed

ASSISTANT CAMPING Supervisor Nancy Shorthill helps Kim Arnold, 10, during the donut eating contest in the arena Thursday. Many contestants were dressed as medieval knights and peasants.

## Ban bar sales as project

Halton Board of Education has been asked to ban the sale of chocolate bars as a school fund raising venture.

In many schools students

sell chocolate bars to raise

money for athletics and school supplies which the board doesn't provide. Banning the sale of chocolate bars was one suggestion of the joint school-health

services committee which filed its annual report Thursday. Regional health officials and Halton educators sit on the committee. Besides banning chocolate bar sales the committee also suggested only nutritional

all pop machines contain nonsweetened juices. For several years now the board has been campaigning to improve nutrition in Halton

foods be sold in schools and

high schools. The committee's study of school cafeterias and student eating habits showed where schools are close to fast food outlets, shopping plazas and restaurants the quantity of food sold in school cafeterias is rather small.

It was discovered that when students bring their lunches

Study showed Halton school - truits. Dances, paper drives, cafeterias carry foods both garbage bag sales and selling high and low in nutritional school sweaters are other fund raising projects

The biggest selling foods The school-health services are milk, chocolate milk, committee also recomfrench fries, potato chips, ice mended to the board that cream and donuts but at the each principal assign a same time in some schools member of the staff to nutritional foods such as bran promote good nutrition in the muffins, fresh fruits, nuts and school. raisins also sell well. Surprisingly in some school

value.

donuts. French try sales are high but actually amount to less than one serving per student per week. Most of Halton's high schools have pop machines but only three don't have fruit

juice. Pop machines provide

muffins actually outsold

revenue for school councils and athletics. The study also showed schools where there have been active anti-junk food campaigns, consumption of junk foods is lower and cafeteria staffs are eager to help promote nutrition in conjunction with nutrition

instruction in classrooms, Chocolate bars aren't the only things students sell to raise money the committee discovered, and so felt safe in suggesting a chocolate har they supplement them with ban. Six schools sell chocolate snack foods and beverages, bars but seven sell citrus

## thought 20 minutes of French daily in elementary schools 34 enrolled in French **Immersion**

This year, for the first time, driving French immersion classes Joseph Gibbons school will will be held in a school in become their school, with all Halton Hills. The immersion subjects taught there, and the course for 34 Grade One children staying for lunch. students, will begin at Joseph Gibbons School, and will be immersion classes this year, taught by Miss Sally Duggan. are schools in Burlington and

conducted in English and the class in Burlington and two in other half in French, but Oakville. reading and mathematics Two such classes for Grade

from all over town, with Oakville. with parents taking turns sion classes here.

Also launching French Half the classes will be Oakville, with one Grade One

will be taught only in English. seven students are also The children will come starting in Burlington and

parents providing the tran- By their insistence and sportation. Parents in the determination a group of Park School area have parents in Georgetown organized a car pool system, brought the French immer-

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## Shut-in service pleases librarian

Chief Librarian Betsy Cornwell praises the shut-in service provided by Halton Hills Library Board as one which developed slowly and just a delivery of books.

The service has the advantage of being run by two trained nurses in both Acton and Georgetown, she ex-

Halton parents who answered

Halton Board of Education

survey this past spring are

tion across the region, Acton-

Thursday, during dis-

cussion of the survey of 1,700

He said people he talks to

aren't satisfied and he

thought the survey just meant

parents don't feel Halton

education is any worse than it

are still telling him the board

doesn't stress basics enough

and added he "questions" the

board's survey showing over

50 per cent of parents said the

board is stressing funda-

J. Kohari D.T.

llinton said many people

is anywhere else.

mentals sofficiently.

Hinton isn't.

plained to members of the services available. library board last Wednesday. Patrons soon realized they offered counselling services because both public health posts.

As a result they've turned into sort of paramedies and make actual recommendations about doctors and

Although 75 per cent of people, adding non-parent

parents which showed over 75 Lavender noted the survey

per cent are satisfied with the was of parents and not the

public education program in public. He agreed with Hinton

Halton, and over 75 per cent there was a lot of room for

believe their children are improvement especially in

Hinton said he isn't "satisfied all the work there is to be

with the quality of education -done in program, Superin-

He suggested the board media, the same as criticism

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survey didn't poll enough has its place.

Esquesing Trustee Bert with public education in response.

receiving quality education, program, Lavender said with to grade 13.

replaced.

Board parent survey

doesn't impress Hinton

Director of Education Em

tendent of Program Bruce

should be replaced. Earlier in

the meeting Hinton had failed

board should also blow its

own horn about the survey

comments have a place in

what the public learns about

public education through the

Mather who is leaving the parents who want their chil-

board in October needs to and dren to take courses like

in a bid to have Mather courage them to pick those

Georgetown Trustee Barry Canadian history

library never talked about

and one which is never normally associated with solidly and is now more than librarians had worked in libraries, Mrs. Cornwell explained.

The librarian said one Acton shut-in had benefitted medically from a visit from

Chairman Garry Morton,

Trustee Ivan Armstrong of

Milton pointed out parents

want more Canadian history

but often students don't take

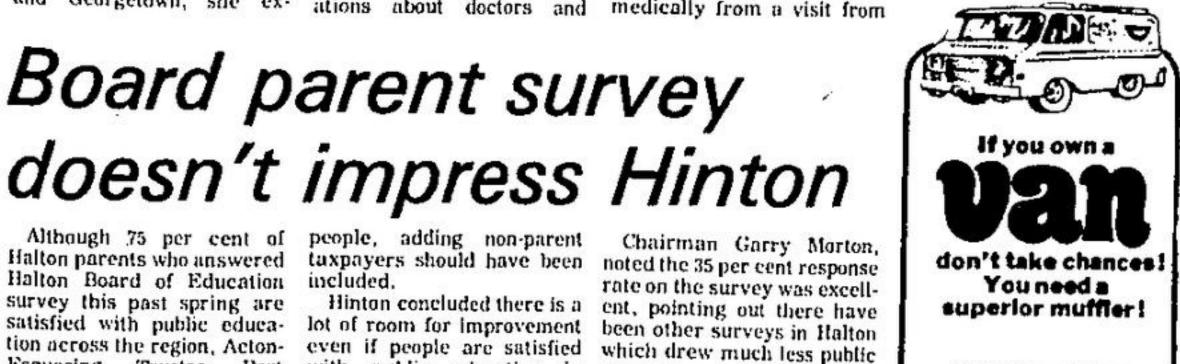
it until grade 13. He wondered

what Canadian history

rate on the survey was excell-

### the service because Mrs. New It is one aspect of the had taken the time to be con-

It is what I consider to be the nitty-gritty of all library service and it pleases me enormously, Mrs. Cornwell





students take if they don't get LIFETIME GUARANTEE IFULL CHITME WARRETTI n the muffler, talipipe, exhaust pipe and labor for as long as you own your American or foreign ran ! Lavender said he hopes

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Shepherd said there is need geography are mandatory at for improvement but the the intermediate level. DOUBLE HAPPINESS results. He said positive

Canadian history

physical education will en-

courses as options. He added

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