

Computer Courses Newest Addition to High Schools

by Jane Wallace
Oakville Journal Record

Halton County Board of Education has officially moved into the computer age thanks to its recently-formed program councils.

Following the recommendation of the computer science program council that computer courses be offered that option is now available to students.

Halton County's program councils are unique in that teachers volunteer for the council in which they're interested rather than being arbitrarily selected.

OWN INNOVATION

"For the first time teachers have a voice in decision-making on courses and future programs by serving on a program council," explained Edna Robinson, assistant superintendent of the Halton Board.

In the past all courses were set by the Dept. of Education.

"Since rigid courses of study were replaced by broad, general guides it's been up to local

boards to develop school programs and make their own innovations," said Miss Robinson.

Much of the motivation for these councils in Halton has been provided by Miss Robinson, a former principal of Nelson High School, Burlington, and then full-time consultant to the Dept. of Education in Toronto.

Heading up the program councils is R. Kenneth Self, who is Halton's superintendent of programs.

RURAL AREAS

Such innovations in Halton as having pupils start French in Grade 5 or extending the volunteer assistant idea to rural areas of Halton County are all due to trail blazing suggestions of the councils.

"About 470 teachers, principals, consultants and superintendents are organized into 21 program councils. Besides evaluating current programs they're responsible for all innovations," says Miss Robinson.

Two reasons for forming

program councils were decentralizing policies of the Dept. which put the onus on local boards. Also the decision to integrate elementary and secondary school programs so they would run from kindergarten to Grade 13.

DISCOVER NEEDS

"First step for teachers on the subject program councils is to discover the needs of Halton County. For instance, if there's a large ethnic community in one area then those languages should be taught in nearby schools," explained Miss Robinson.

She pointed to the fact that French is not taught in some North Halton elementary schools so needs in high schools there are different.

"Those on the councils are responsible for finding out what would best serve students in Oakville while also satisfying needs of Milton, Burlington, Georgetown and Acton schools," explained Miss Robinson.

MOVE EASILY

Most of the program councils

operate county-wide drawing teachers from several schools although some are divided into east, west and north areas which send representatives to a county-wide council.

"The advantage to new programs being planned which run sequentially from kindergarten to Grade 13 is that children are able to move from school to school more easily within the county," explained Miss Robinson.

"Of course on the other hand with decentralization, programs in different counties are much less standardized than they were," she said.

IMPRACTICAL

"All ideas the teachers come up with are considered, then a report is submitted for approval to the Board of Education or executive committee," said Miss Robinson.

"What eventually emerges is a compromise between teachers' enthusiastic ideas and the budgetary considerations of the Board," continued Miss Robinson.

High Church Post For Canon John McMulkin



REV. JOHN McMULKIN

A former rector of St. George's Anglican Church, Canon John H. McMulkin will become Dean of Saskatchewan in February.

Canon McMulkin, who has been rector of St. John the Evangelist Church, Hamilton, since leaving Georgetown four years ago, will assume new duties as rector of St. Alban's Cathedral in Prince Albert the beginning of February where he will be canon-residentiary.

He will succeed Canon Victor Short, formerly of St. Catharines, who has just been elected Bishop of Saskatchewan.

Canon McMulkin's career in the ministry started in West Flamboro. He was later rector of St. Patrick's, Guelph, coming to Georgetown from Guelph.

Women's University Club Hears Hospital Details

Twelve members of the University Women's Club of Brantford met with D. L. Carley, Peel hospital assistant administrator recently.

He traced the hospital history contrasting present accommodation with the past. He explained functions of the board of governors and departments, fund raising projects and plans for future expansion.

The group toured the new wing, viewing the many new facilities.

Warmest Wishes
.. for a wonderful new year!

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PICTURE 1970



OCTOBER

Top left: Mayor of Belfast, Hon. J. F. Cairns, and Mrs. Cairns, visit Georgetown. Top right: Rainwear and soggy candy floss was the style at Georgetown fall fair as a steady downpour shrinks attendance. Left: Dinner honours Georgetown Juvenile ball team which copped Ontario championship. Pictured is team's MVP Tom Brotherton. Right: Georgetown Raiders reorganize to enter Intermediate A League. Centre: New pavilion in Hornby Park is officially opened and named for district King family. Bottom left: Highway 7 traffic is snarled, and firemen standby, when haulage truck loaded with 20 tons of crushed stone flips in Norval spilling load and diesel fuel. Bottom right: Riviera is crowded with shoppers and admirers for Arts & Crafts Exhibition and Sale. Pictured is John Agg of Terra Cotta.

THE 1970 FARM TAX REDUCTION PROGRAM

The 1970 Farm Tax Reduction Program is the most recent phase in the Government of Ontario's long-term plan to reform the system of local taxation in this province.

This program will help farm property owners to pay their municipal and education taxes.

Farm property owners will receive \$20,000,000 in special assistance from the Government of Ontario. This amounts to 25 percent of the net municipal taxes on eligible farm property.

To be eligible, the property owner must live in Ontario. Also, if the farm property is less than 11 acres, it must have yielded \$2,000 or more in gross income during the year.

Cheques and information leaflets are being mailed out by the Department of Municipal Affairs to every eligible farm owner.

Additional information may be obtained from:

The Municipal Subsidies Branch
Department of Municipal Affairs
801 Bay Street, Toronto 5, Ontario

OR

The County or District Offices
of the Ontario Department of
Agriculture and Food

DEPARTMENT OF
MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS
W. DARCY McKEOUGH
MINISTER



DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE & FOOD
WILLIAM A. STEWART
MINISTER