

Director relates 'academic vision of the future'



Ever wondered what education will be like in the year 2000? Halton Board of Education Director Bob Williams addressed 35 parents and teachers Thursday night at Park Public School in Georgetown, and presented an academic vision of the future. "Halton's going to be a growth

area in the next 20 years," said Mr. Williams. "Halton's got land to feed that hungry animal, Toronto." The north, in particular, has land. North Halton is not experiencing the space problems of their southern Regional counterparts Oakville and Burlington, said Mr.

Williams, but he predicts space problems in the north by the year 2000.

Classrooms that now have a capacity of 29 to 31 students could shrink in the future and could be filled with cross-sections of children at different ages, said Mr. Williams.

"We're getting schools that have a ratio of 12 to 1 - 12 students to one adult," said Mr. Williams, adding that more paraprofessionals and teachers per student would be beneficial.

The structure of student life could change. The classroom could

be divided not in terms of age groups, but how far a child has progressed when he or she first enters school.

The child would be placed in a classroom on the basis of ability rather than age.

"It's almost pathological (to place children in age groups). Cross-age grouping is a much better form of instruction," said Mr. Williams.

Mr. Williams said the school of the future would see more money spent in the elementary group "where the problems can be detected early," and on computer software to modernize the school system.

As far as putting all kindergarten to Grade 8 students under one roof, Mr. Williams said, "If I had a magic wand, I'd probably have K to 8 schools." But this may not happen, he said.

The Halton board, once described as "frugal," according to Mr. Williams, will have to cut more corners in the future as they lose a percentage of government funding each year.

"The provincial government's out of money. We're in a huge financial crisis right now," he said.

Schools, like one in California, could be put on trimester systems to rotate students and to save the school boards money.

But the board takes on increased responsibilities every year, said Mr. Williams. They are expected to be "custodians" of students, in addition to being teachers, he said. For example, when school is closed due to weather conditions, there is a panic, said Mr. Williams.

Students in the year 2000 will be connected with the outside world, said Mr. Williams. Arrangements will be made with the industrial sector to have "school-to-work" co-operative systems, he said.

The schools will no longer "fall miserably" with the 66 per cent of student population who leave high school to go directly to jobs.



Bob Williams

But although Mr. Williams sees changes in Halton's future as a school board, he said he is proud of the system presently in place.

"We've just about solved the problem of educating youngsters," said Mr. Williams.

He said 91 per cent of students in Halton graduate from high school.



Over the top

Students of St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic School in Georgetown met their \$250 goal for the new Halton Hills Civic Centre. The school raised \$250 to donate a bicycle rack to the centre. Left to right are

student council members Lynne-Ann Clarke, Jennifer Crocker, Laura Cascone and Kevin Galway. (Herald photo)



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JUNIOR/SENIOR KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR SEPTEMBER 1989

THE HALTON ROMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL BOARD



ADVANCED registration for those children who will be attending Junior or Senior Kindergarten in the Catholic Schools in Burlington, Oakville, Milton, Georgetown and Acton will be held at all schools on

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY
FEBRUARY 14, 15 and 15, 1989
9:00 a.m. to Noon
1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

AGE OF ADMISSION AND REQUIREMENTS

Junior Kindergarten

Children are required to be 4 years of age on or before December 31, 1989.

Senior Kindergarten

Children are required to be 5 years of age on or before December 31, 1989.

- Birth or Baptismal Certificate required for age verification.
- Before registration is finalized, a child will have completed the prescribed program for immunization for diphtheria, tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles, mumps and rubella.
- Families registering for the first time at a school are requested to provide their family O.H.I.P. number at the time of registration.
- For further information or alternate registration date, please contact the principal of your nearest Catholic School.

Donald W. Schrenk
Chairman of the Board

C.G. Byrnes
Director of Education

LE CONSEIL DES ECOLES CATHOLIQUES DE HALTON

AVIS D'INSCRIPTION SCOLAIRE

PROGRAMMES DE MATERNELLE ET DE JARDIN D'ENFANTS

(pour la rentrée des classes en septembre 1989)

L'inscription par anticipation d'enfants francophones d'âge scolaire admissibles à la maternelle ou au jardin d'enfants en septembre 1989, aura lieu à l'École Sacré-Coeur (Georgetown), l'École Sainte-Marie (Oakville) et l'École Saint-Philippe (Burlington) aux dates suivantes:

MARDI, MERCREDI ET JEUDI
les 14, 15 et 16 février, 1989
entre
9h et 12h
13h30 et 17h

AGE D'ADMISSIBILITE ET DOCUMENTATION REQUISE

Maternelle

Tout enfant ayant atteint l'âge de quatre ans au plus tard le 31 décembre 1989

Jardin d'enfants

Tout enfant ayant atteint l'âge de cinq ans au plus tard le 31 décembre 1989

- Certificat de baptême et/ou de naissance.
- On demande à tout parent qui inscrit son/ses enfant(s) pour la première fois, de bien vouloir fournir lors de l'inscription, le numéro d'assurance santé de l'Ontario (OHIP).
- Tout enfant doit avoir complété le programme prescrit par la Loi sur l'immunisation contre la diphtérie, le tétanos, la poliomyélite, la rougeole, les oreillons et la rubéole avant que son inscription soit finalisée.
- Veuillez communiquer avec la direction de l'école catholique française de votre communauté scolaire pour obtenir des renseignements supplémentaires ou pour fixer une autre date d'inscription.

Donald W. Schrenk
President du Conseil

Gilbert McGraw
President de la Section de langue française

C.G. Byrnes
Directeur de l'éducation