

Newspapers in Education

12 PAGES

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, 1991

Students get hands-on journalism training

Welcome to a special edition of the Halton Hills Herald, a supplement produced as a pilot project and introduction to Newspapers in Education.

The students of Park School and the Grade Eight students of Centennial Middle School spent three weeks working on this project which will be expanded next

year to include all schools in Halton Hills wishing to participate.

The students spent three weeks using the Herald as a guide and studied advertising layout techniques and the art of letter writing.

Many of the topics presented in this package are of the utmost

importance to the students and are reported on from their viewpoint.

The students participating were from Mrs. Horton's and Mrs. Reist's classes of Centennial Middle School and the Park School principal treated it as a school project and part of their

Education Week topics the students from Grade 1 to 5.

They wrote all of the stories and letters, created the art, and designed all of the advertisements in this newspaper which is distributed in your regular edition of the Herald, as well as to the participating

schools.

The program is sponsored by the Herald, the Ontario Community Newspapers Association and the Halton Board of Education. If you are interested in taking part in the Newspapers in Education program at your school, call the Herald for details at 877-2201.

Halton Board of Education gives straight facts

"In Ontario more than 30% of students drop out of school."

HALTON FACTS

• Our own study of premature school leavers showed a "drop out" rate of 8.19% for 1986/87 and 8.83% for 1987/88.

• Board retention strategies allow students to achieve credits and diplomas in alternate settings and programs.

"Ontario faces a critical shortage of good teachers. Boards have had to hire a large number of "unqualified teachers" on letters of permission."

HALTON FACTS

• Our reputation as a progressive board continues to attract the best staff.

• For the school year 1989/90, more than 2,600 applications

were received for the 249 available teaching positions.

• Overall, 86% of our teachers have degrees.

• Only about one half of one per cent of our teaching staff are teaching on Letters of Permission.

"No one can tell what a child is supposed to know after any given grade in the Ontario system, leaving parents unable to say definitely how well their child is learning."

HALTON FACTS

• All subjects at all elementary grades have specific outcomes.

• Halton is recognized as a leader in Ontario in developing core subject documents.

• At the secondary level, specific student learning outcomes are found in all subjects at all grade levels and at all levels of difficulty with the exception of Language Arts for Grades 7-12. These are scheduled for completion in 1989/90.

"Schools have abandoned the "three R's." It's time to go back to the basics."

HALTON FACTS

• An actual increase in time for reading and writing in elementary English has occurred as language skills are now being taught in Environmental Studies, Science and Math.

• For every 100 students registered at the secondary

school level, 117 English credits are being taken (September 1989)

• For every 100 students registered at the secondary school level, 110 Mathematics credits are taken.

• In elementary schools all students take Mathematics every year for 250 to 300 minutes per week.

• The Ministry has increased requirements for secondary English to five courses.

"Our students compare poorly to other students in this country and to those in the rest of the world."

HALTON FACTS

• In the Second International Mathematics Study (SIMS - 1984) our grade 8 students placed among the top four of the 24 nations taking the test.

• We educate our elementary students to the advanced level at a rate that is one and one-half times the corresponding proportion in Ontario and two times that in U.S.A. and Japan.

• We cover more topics than most other countries in the world.

• Halton has been an active voluntary participant in all Ministry of Education provincial reviews. Our students perform at or above the provincial averages in virtually all areas.

• In the International Science Study (1984) which was replicated in Halton in 1986, our students scored above the On-

tario means in all areas.

• In Science fair competitions, one international winner and three Canadian winners came from Halton during 1989.

• For the past two years a Halton school has won the Canadian Academic Decathlon Championship.

"The public gives school systems a failing grade."

HALTON FACTS

• The Halton Community Opinion Survey conducted in April, 1986, showed that 99% of the respondents gave our school system a passing grade and 77% gave it an honour grade (compared with 48% who gave schools across Canada an honour grade in 1984 Canadian Education Association Survey.)

• Those responding to confidence in institutions gave the Halton schools the highest ranking - ahead of municipal government, the church, provincial government, the courts, big business, federal government and unions in that order.

"Let's Talk Quality" is a communication program that reaffirms the quality of education in Halton public schools. Please talk about these facts with friends and colleagues.

For more information contact: Brian Woodland, Communications Officer, 335-3663, extension 3280.

McMartin bursaries

Each year, the Halton Region Museum and the Halton Board of Education offer the McMartin Bursary Awards to students in the Halton Board of Education. All students, from Kindergarten to Grade 12, are invited to submit essays or projects which demonstrate a knowledge of Canadian history or geography. The deadline for submission is Wed., May 15, 1991.

Established by the late Catherine T. Hainer McMartin, a Halton teacher who donated many artifacts to the Halton Region Museum, the Bursary is designed to encourage students to gain a better understanding of the history and geography of Canada. The aim of the Bursary, to familiarize young people with issues unique to the development of Canada as a nation, is especially relevant today during this current unsettled period in Canadian

political and economic history.

Awards in the Primary (Kindergarten to Grade 3), Junior (Grades 4 to 6), Elementary/Intermediate (Grades 7 and 8), Secondary/Intermediate (Grades 9 and 10), and Senior (Grade 12 and O.A.C.) Divisions will be presented at the Halton Region Museum on Wed., June 12. Winning students in Elementary grades receive a book prize and commemorative plaque. Awards at the secondary level will consist of a cash prize and plaque.

Interested students are asked to contact their teachers at the Elementary level, or Social Science teachers at the Secondary levels. For further information, contact Al Finlayson, Social Science Consultant (335-3663), or Sandy Lucs, Education Officer for the Halton Region Museum (875-2200).

Berry's World



"I wanted a diplomatic solution but had to settle on a military one."

The Cow

Kiro Lawrence Gr. 3

