

School News

Prospect of a new start

By BRYN DAVIES,
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Herald Special

Students and staff look forward to February at Georgetown District High School.

Exams are over, report cards are in the mail and the students are starting new courses with new teachers.

This week marks the beginning of semester two and the challenge and the prospect of a "fresh start".

This is also an important week because this is when students, with the assistance of their parents, teachers and counsellors, sign up for courses for next year.

To the parents in our community, I would ask that you read through our Program Poster with your sons and daughters and assist them in selecting a program that will meet their future needs and goals.

The posters and option sheets will be handed out to the grade 9s and 10s today and to the grade 11s, 12s and OACs on Friday.

Guidance counsellors will be stationed in our cafeteria during the lunch hours beginning this Friday through to Tuesday of next week to answer any questions.

The number of option sheets and the number of courses selected by the students will determine how many teachers we

will have and ultimately how many classes will be offered next year.

It is very important that our students make good decisions NOW if they wish to secure the courses that they want. It isn't always possible to change a student's timetable once it is committed to the computer.

Equally important is that everyone who plans to attend our school should have their option sheets filled out and handed in by Wednesday, February 12.

This is our deadline so that we can meet the Board's computer deadline so that we can plan our over-all timetable and staffing for next year.



World's longest poster

Students at Harrison Public School signed their names to the world's longest poster to indicate their support for a smoke-free planet. Some of the students and teachers who signed their names were (top, left to right) Gary Southworth, Adelle Beltz, Melissa Benson, Brady Buck and (bottom, left to right) Erin Carter, Gavin Craig, Candice Shipley, Alexander Stiehl, Jessica Gray and Cathy

McGillivray. The Harrison portion of the poster will be joined together with posters from other schools across Ontario and organizers expect the total length to be over two kilometres. The world's longest poster for a smoke-free planet campaign was sponsored by the Halton Council on Smoking and Health and highlights National Non-smoking week from Jan. 20-26. (Herald Photo)

Staff instructional video

The Halton Board of Education has produced a video that informs staff of the economic challenges ahead, prepares them for the sacrifices to come and invites them to provide input in a collaborative way in order to reduce costs. Stresses Bob Williams, Director of Education, "Since the Premier's announcement, rumours have been running rampant within school systems about the impact of the provincial restraint on staff and schools. It was critical that we take fast action in providing much needed consistent information for staff in order to squelch the rumours and communicate the seriousness of the fiscal situation we face."

The video titled "Director's Report" is a first for the Halton Board of Education. It was com-

pletely produced internally and Williams emphasizes that "This was done on the cheap. Production costs for the 100 videos total \$20.00. The tapes that have been sent to schools will be returned to us for reuse. This kind of frugality reflects our approach to cost saving."

The 11 minute report clearly communicates to staff the severity of the impact of the recession on the school system. Williams notes that, "For the next three years or longer, we will be looking at much constrained resources."

Williams goes on to say in the video that it is clearly administration's plan that there will be no layoffs. He stresses, however, that, "Part of the sacrifice in order to achieve no layoffs, will be a change in salary expecta-

tions for staff", and goes on to ask staff to consider a 1 per cent increase similar to that recently accepted by the Ontario Public Service Employees' Union.

Highlighting that the administration's goal is to present for trustees' approval an expenditure budget with an increase around the inflation rate, Williams calls on staff to work together to help reduce costs. Williams adds that, "We have a school system based on caring and co-operative relationships. In tough times these basic beliefs are tested, but I know that our staff will be willing to come together to suggest ways to save money." The Director encouraged staff to send suggestions to him on ways to cut costs, either signed or anonymously.



"MEAT THAT DOES MORE THAN COMPETE"

"BONELESS"
TOP SIRLOIN
STEAK

FROZEN
TURKEY
QUARTERS

"SUNSHINE FRESH PRODUCE"

PRODUCT OF U.S.A.
NUMBER 1 GRADE

CRISP HEAD
LETTUCE

PRODUCT OF CHILE
NUMBER 1 GRADE

SWEET RED
SEEDLESS
GRAPES

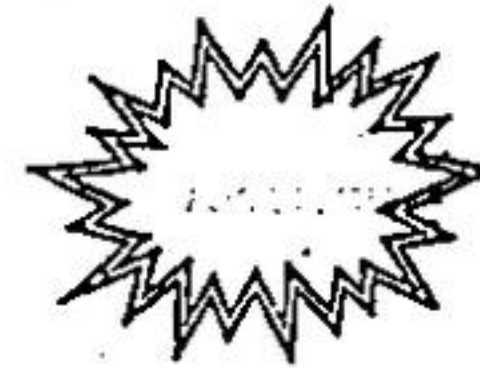
"GROCERY KNOCKOUT SAVINGS"

"BUY ONE
GET ONE FREE"
LACTANCIA
MARGARINE
COUPON VALUE

KNECHTEL
CHILLED
ORANGE JUICE
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*Values effective Mon., Feb. 3, 1992 through Sat., Feb. 8, 1992