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# Board to cut extended-day program after running up \$15,000 deficit

By **DOMINIK KUREK**  
*Special to the IFP*

Ontario's extended-day program for young learners is too expensive to run for the Halton District School Board.

In its first four months at four Halton public schools, the program has run up a \$15,000 deficit.

The extended-day program is an extension of the Full Day Early Learning Kindergarten program. It offers before and after school extended hours for young children, much like a day-care, however in the classroom with a Ministry of Education based curriculum.

All Ontario school boards had to begin implementing the program within the coming years starting this past September, to be run by school staff.

Halton District School Board opened the extended-day program at four of its schools this year.

However, the Province changed the policy, now saying the program only needs to run where there is sufficient parent demand and boards have the option to deliver the program through third party providers. Furthermore, the program must break even financially, which so far it has not been doing this year.

Starting next school year, the public school board staff will no longer provide the program; it will be run by third party providers.

The full-day kindergarten is operating at 11 schools and will continue to do so.

The decision was largely due to the costs associated with running the program.

"We do this with some reluctance on our part, to be quite honest with you. We were quite successful with the delivery of the program this year with the exception of that we were doing it at a loss," Superintendent of Education Mark Zonneveld

told trustees recently.

"We can't do that. We must run this program as best we can and break even. At the \$25 we've been charging parents we have been losing money."

He added it was the cost of the program that forced the decision.

In the staff report, it said the program has already come \$15,000 over budget by December. In order for the program to break even, it said the board would have to charge about \$31 per day, which is significantly higher than the \$22 average at Halton child-care centres.

A reason for the high costs at the school board, are due to the higher wages of a school board's Early Childhood Educator than at most child care providers.

The costs are not the only thing that have been challenging for the board, human resources have been an issue as has providing special education.

"For students with special needs, meeting those needs has probably been the area of greatest challenge as the province moves forward with the full-day program," Zonneveld said.

"The Province has heard from many boards and organizations, loud and clear, that there is a lot of concern for special needs students and they have been fairly silent."

He told trustees the board has been working with numerous service providers for children with special needs to ensure there is sufficient support service for the students.

However, he said there are currently wait times for students with special needs, a lack of service and a lack of funding from the Province.

He also noted that with the implementation of the program by third parties as a partnership with the schools will be different than in the past. Previously, the child-care providers were simply tenants at schools and used areas such as the gymnasium.

The new program will require that the before and after school students are in the classrooms where they will receive curriculum based education.

"The onus is on us now to provide the appropriate space," Zonneveld said.

## Halton public school board approves 2011-12 calendar

Are you curious when your school breaks will be next school year?

The Halton District School Board has approved its calendar for the 2011-12 school year.

The year will start the day after Labour Day as always on Tuesday, Sept. 6.

The board has decided to take a slight departure from the Ministry of Education's proposed calendar and is beginning its December holiday break a week later. The first day off will be Monday

Dec. 26, however Christmas Eve and Day fall on Saturday and Sunday. The break will end on Jan. 6 and students will return to class on Monday, Jan. 9.

March Break will run March 12 to 16.

High school examinations in semester one will run Jan. 26-Feb. 1, 2012, while the second semester they will take place June 21 to June 27.

For a full list of PA days, visit the board's website at [www.hdsb.ca](http://www.hdsb.ca)



FORM 6  
 Municipal Act, 2001

### SALE OF LAND BY PUBLIC TENDER

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

Take Notice that tenders are invited for the purchase of the land described below and will be received until 3:00 p.m. local time on 7 April 2011, at the Halton Hills Civic Centre, 1 Halton Hills Drive, Halton Hills (Georgetown) Ontario L7G 5G2.

The tenders will then be opened in public on the same day as soon as possible after 3:00 p.m. at the Halton Hills Civic Centre, 1 Halton Hills Drive, Halton Hills (Georgetown).

#### Description of Lands:

Roll No. 24 15 070 006 24600 0000; 12580 25 Highway; PIN 25018-0057(LT) Part Lot 23, Concession 2 Esquesing, as in 852019; Halton Hills/Esquesing. File 09-11  
**Minimum Tender Amount: \$98,440.00**

Tenders must be submitted in the prescribed form and must be accompanied by a deposit in the form of a money order or of a bank draft or cheque certified by a bank or trust corporation payable to the municipality and representing at least 20 per cent of the tender amount.

Except as follows, the municipality makes no representation regarding the title to or any other matters relating to the land to be sold. Responsibility for ascertaining these matters rests with the potential purchasers.

This sale is governed by the Municipal Act, 2001 and the Municipal Tax Sales Rules made under that Act. The successful purchaser will be required to pay the amount tendered plus accumulated taxes and the relevant land transfer tax.

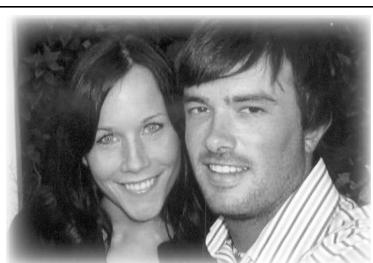
The municipality has no obligation to provide vacant possession to the successful purchaser.

**Note:** HST may be payable by successful purchaser.

For further information regarding this sale and a copy of the prescribed form of tender contact:

Simone Gourlay  
 Manager of Purchasing  
 The Corporation of the Town of Halton Hills  
 1 Halton Hills Drive  
 Georgetown, Ontario L7G 5G2  
 905-873-2601 Ext. 2210  
[www.haltonhills.ca](http://www.haltonhills.ca)

1 Halton Hills Dr.,  
 Halton Hills, ON L7G 5G2  
 Tel.: 905-873-2601  
 Fax: 905-873-2347



Betty & Bill Cunningham,  
 together with  
 Don Williams and Wendy Derjugin,  
 are proud to announce  
 the engagement of their daughter  
**Melissa Anne Williams**

to  
**Nicholas Andrew**  
 son of Andy and Sylvia Murphy.

Wedding to take place in 2012.  
 Much love & happiness always!

