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Intel P-II 400MMX CPU

- *QDI- Intel BX440 Motherboard
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- *1.44 Floppy Drive
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Public secondary teachers 'reluctantly' agree to deal

Continued from pg. 1

Teachers may go 'on-call' for much of this extra time, handling classes for colleagues away because of illness, field trips, sports events or other reasons.

"Our supply teaching budget has been reduced so we're asking schools to cover off classes more with their own staff," said Marklew.

As a mother of three high school students, the trustee sympathizes with teachers wanting a daily period for preparation.

"There are all kinds of things that period is used for," she said, such as ordering supplies for technical subjects, providing extra academic help and more.

Union leader Al Tanner said maintaining the scheduled workload of six courses was the key issue for teachers.

"There's no doubt that was critical," said Tanner, president of the Ontario Secondary Schools Teachers' Federation (Halton). "The increased workload was just not do-able."

Besides additional teaching time, the extra course means more preparation and marking time, he said.

Tanner said a solid majority ratified the contract.

"I would categorize it as reluctant acceptance," he said. "The majority felt this was as good as they were

going to do."

The top teacher's salary will remain at \$65,000. Those who are department heads receive an additional annual allowance of \$4,900.

Entry level teachers earn \$30,000 annually and receive \$2,000 for each step they reach on a 12-year experience grid.

Tanner said most teachers are atop the grid and won't receive any increases. With the new contract, the teachers will be going eight straight years without an increase in their base salaries.

"That was certainly a sore spot, since we've seen other members of society get increases,"

said Tanner. "But there was no money from the funding formula. We had to apply everything to get teachers back down to handling six classes."

He said teachers will no longer be directed to boycott school extra-curriculars. But those teaching four classes until November may find it difficult to volunteer after school, added Tanner.

The new contract provides for an average class size of 22 and is retroactive to Aug. 31.

Halton's public elementary teachers were to vote Friday on a tentative contract settlement reached last week.

—By Dennis Smith, special



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