

Halton Catholic school board director excited about new year

While Tuesday marked the first day of classes at the Halton Catholic District School Board, it also ushered in the continued development of various initiatives and programs.

These include the expansion of the OYAP (Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program), English-as-a-Second Language, Students At Risk, Autism (Pervasive Development Disorder/Autism Spectrum Disorders), Gifted Education and Literacy/Numeracy.

"As we begin a new school year, we continue to pursue our goal of providing the best in Catholic education to

those we serve in Halton," says Lou Piovesan, Director of Education.

"Our system is committed to maintaining and promoting its distinctive mission in publicly-funded education with a budget that continues to emphasize the effective use of available funding to support school improvement planning in terms of student achievement in literacy and numeracy initiatives, special education, including programs for identified intellectually gifted students, as well as in the arts."

This year's budget provides for an increase in classroom spending of 6.9 per cent, allowing the board to intro-

duce new curriculum texts and resources for a variety of programs from Kindergarten to Grade 12. Each system goal is aligned and focused on improving student achievement with an approach that is inclusive and sensitive to the needs of all of the board's partners in Catholic education, Piovesan explained.

"Another highlight for this school year is the provision of a new program for Primary Class Size Reduction as was announced by the Ministry of Education this past spring," Piovesan added. "The Halton Catholic District School Board continues to recognize the

importance of student learning in the early years."

This program will be the first step in implementing the government's cap of 20:1 on primary (Junior Kindergarten to Grade 3) classes.

The board anticipates an overall growth in enrolment of approximately 450 students. The projected enrolment figures indicate that 26,900 students (18,534 elementary and 8,366 secondary) returned to the board's 36 elementary and seven secondary schools on opening day, compared to 26,457 last year.

—By Tim Whitnell, special

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Major appliances sale prices start Monday, September 6 (where open) and end Friday, September 17, 2004, while quantities last
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FUTURE SHOP CORRECTION NOTICE

Product: Averatec 3220 Notebook: Ideal for the Ultra-Mobile User SKU: 10043002/9. The processor speed for this product appears incorrectly on pg. 1 of our September 10th flyer as "AMD Athlon 2000+." The correct speed is AMD Athlon 2000+.

We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused our valued customers.

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Happy 3rd Birthday
EMILY
Love Mommy, Daddy, Oma & Opa

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Guide to the Outdoors

Julie Pomeroy

This Sunday, Sept. 12, from 1-3 PM, Canoe Country will host the first meeting of the HALTON HILLS OUTDOOR CLUB. There has been interest from many of our customers in having a local club where you could join others to go skiing, hiking, canoeing, kayaking, cycling, camping and even dog walking. At the first meeting we will have Maureen Smith from the Bruce Trail Association, Brent Oliver from the Wilderness Adventures Outdoor Club and Mellita Smole from the Halton/Peel Naturalist Club to share information on how their clubs work and what they offer. Refreshments provided. No fee but RSVP please.

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