



**Trends as important
as grades to
college applications**

A common myth is that once students are in the second semester of their junior year (Grade 11) of secondary school, it's too late to improve their grades.

The truth is that most colleges and universities look for a trend in high school academic performance and place a lot of importance on improvement in grades during the second semester of a student's junior year.

Even if your child started out poorly (Grade 9 English was not supposed to be that tough) or faltered along the way (he/she was totally convinced the tenth grade biology teacher 'had it in' for him/her), a trend of improvement can help erase poor freshman or sophomore year grades. Admissions officers are much more likely to give the benefit of the doubt and assume that students got their act together as secondary school progressed.

The weight placed on grades gradually increases, making first semester senior year the most important, then second semester junior year. Depending on when your teen applies to college or university, one of these sets of grades will be the last ones admissions officers see and the marks most likely to represent an accurate measure of your child's ability and work ethic.

The good news is, if you act now, there's still time to do what's necessary to improve a grade point average: stay in some weekends to study, go to teachers for help, do an extra credit assignment, or invest in a tutoring program such as the Oxford Learning Advantage High School Success™ program.

At Oxford Learning, our exclusive Dynamic Diagnostic Assessment™ pinpoints any weaknesses in how your teen learns. Then, we individualize a program to teach him/her to achieve his/her full academic potential by working smarter, conquering homework, studying effectively for tests and exams and writing brilliant essays. Advantage High School Success™ will prepare your child for success in the upper grades and college or university and build the skills required for graduate school success.

For more information on how an Oxford Advantage program can work for your child, please email or call us today!

211 Guelph St., Georgetown
905-877-3163
www.oxfordlearning.com

Education

Library supports literacy

Lisa Hunziger, library assistant in the Children and Youth Services Department at Georgetown branch of Halton Hills Public Library read excerpts from popular Robert Munsch storybooks during a special reading hour. The special Storytime recognized Family Literacy Day, of which Munsch was the honorary chair. Family Literacy Day is the national initiative created by ABC CANADA Literacy Foundation that promotes the importance of reading and learning as a family.

Photo by Ted Brown



One-stop shopping for careers to be held here

The Halton Industry Education Council, with its partners in the Halton Catholic District School Board and the Halton District School Board present Careers Unlimited 2006, 6:30-9 p.m. at Christ the King High School in Georgetown.

Careers Unlimited is an informal walk-about career fair that provides an opportunity for students, parents and individuals from the community to interact with representatives from a wide variety of occupations.

Careers Unlimited offers over 100 exhibitors from different occupational sectors and an additional sector for career planning.

Careers Unlimited is free for both the exhibitors and the attendees.

Highlights to look forward to include the #88 apprenticesearch.com race car, the McMaster Fireball Show, the Ontario Public Works Association and the Halton Hills Fire Protection and Prevention Services.!

Careers Unlimited has helped more than 5,000 students, parents and community members gather information about the variety of options available in the

world of work.

Students can explore and learn from professionals about various careers and occupational pathway options.

Parents have the opportunity to expand their current knowledge of the resources available to assist their children with career/education planning.

Educators can update their existing knowledge on labour market trends and emerging career opportunities.

Industry participants and exhibitors have a chance to share their expertise and resources with students while networking with other industry representatives.

HIEC encourages all community stakeholders to come out and explore occupational pathways at Careers Unlimited 2006.

The Halton Industry Education Council (HIEC) has been bringing business and education together for 16 years with the determined vision of inspiring youth in Halton to make informed career decisions.

Over the past 16 years HIEC has delivered career education programs to more than 60,000 students in Halton. HIEC runs three websites, www.hiec.on.ca,

www.schooltocareer.ca and www.apprenticesearch.com, which all focus on providing career information and industry connections to the Halton community.

Yuk Yuk's in Acton

Cure your winter blues. Support Acton High School's Band-Aid committee presents three comics direct from Yuk Yuk's Toronto for an evening of laughs, 8 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 23, at the high school.

Proceeds will go towards the Acton High School 2006 Band Trip to New York City. The kids have been working hard to defer costs.

What a great way to support your local community and have some laughs to melt away your February blues.

Tickets are limited (adults: \$15 advance/\$18 at the door; students or seniors: \$12 advance/\$15 at the door). Tickets available at Acton High School. Info: Ruth, 905-877-2618.

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