

Firefighter Emmerson honoured with 25-year medal

Part-time Halton Hills firefighter Wade Emmerson of Georgetown was recently awarded a Provincial Fire Services Long Service medal at an investiture ceremony at Hamilton Place.

Emmerson joined the Halton Hills Fire Protection and Prevention Services in 1982 and is stationed at District 2 station in Georgetown. The

medal is an expression of public appreciation.

Incorrect information released last week by the Ontario Fire Marshal's Office, and published in *The Independent & Free Press* Oct. 10, reported Halton Hills Fire Chief Brent Marshall also received a long service medal at the ceremony when, in fact, Marshall did not.

EQAO results show

Public school students making the grade

The majority of local public school students are performing at/or above the provincial and school board average in recent Grades 3 and 6 level 3Rs and Grade 9 math.

Halton District School Board (HDSB) students wrote the Ontario Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) provincial standard tests last spring.

The percentage of Grade 9 students that achieved the provincial average are:

Applied math (province 35, HDSB 45)
Acton High: 52
Georgetown High: 41
Academic math (province 71, HDSB 79)
Acton High: 82
Georgetown High: 75

On the Grade 3 assessment, HDSB students continued to improve in all three areas, with scores above the provincial average.

At the Grade 6 level results also indicated public school students were above the provincial average in all three areas. For comparison purposes, the provincial standard (Level 3&4) is

a B grade or above.

Grade 3 reading (province 62, HDSB 69), writing (province 64, HDSB 71) and math (province 69, HDSB 73)
Brookville: 66, 68, 81
George Kennedy: 75, 67, 83
Glen Williams: 76, 76, 76
Harrison: 65, 65, 68
Joseph Gibbons: 80, 80, 80
Limehouse: 77, 77, 87
McKenzie-Smith Bennett: 64, 67, 81
Park: 77, 65, 84
Pineview: 63, 65, 67
Robert Little: 69, 69, 69
Silver Creek: 77, 75, 80
Grade 6 reading (province 64, HDSB 68), writing (province 61, HDSB 64) and math (province 59, HDSB 62)
Brookville: 60, 56, 58
Centennial: 69, 63, 64
Silver Creek: 61, 61, 55
Stewarttown: 66, 63, 70.

"For Grade 3 numeracy our students have benefited from smaller class sizes and our teachers are more familiar with the revised curriculum expectations," said Ruth Peden, HDSB Associate Director of Education.

...Grade 9 Catholic students struggle in math

The Halton Catholic school board is disappointed by the recent results in provincial standard tests done by Grade 9 math students last spring.

Results of the Ontario Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) tests showed a decrease in scores over the previous year.

The percentage of all Halton Catholic Grade 9 students, at over above the provincial standard (Level 3 and 4) which is a B or higher, is 71 in academic math and 39 in applied math. The provincial average is 71 and 35 respectively.

Applied math (province 35, HCDSB 39)
Christ the King: 43
Academic math (province 71, HCDSB 71)
Christ the King: 70

"The Halton Catholic District School Board is concerned with our academic program results, which demonstrate that 71 per cent of our students are achieving at or above Level 3 (about a B average)," said Director of Education Lou Piovesan. "This reflects an 8 per cent decrease from the 2006 results and indicates that some adjustments are required."

This is the first time in five years that the HCDSB's academic mathematics results have decreased, said Piovesan.

Meanwhile Catholic students in Grade 3 and 6 continue to do well in the 3Rs.

The percentage of provincial students working at Level 3 (B) or Level 4 (A) in Grade 3 reading, writing and math were 62, 64 and 69. Halton Catholic Board's result was 70, 72 and 79.

The percentage of Grade 3 children working at Level 3 (B) in reading, writing and math are: province (55, 58 and 57), HCDSB (63, 65 and 64) and:

Holy Cross: 60, 56, 67
St. Brigid: 68, 67, 76
St. Catherine: 55, 74, 63
St. Francis: 55, 74, 69
St. Joseph: 56, 56, 58

For Grade 6 students in reading writing and math, the average provincial standards (Levels 3&4) are 64, 61 and 59. In comparison, HCDSB results are 72, 69 and 68.

The average Level 3 (B-grade) reading, writing and math results are: province (57, 54 and 48), board wide (64, 60, 54)

Holy Cross: 65, 57, 47
St. Brigid: 67, 51, 53
St. Catherine: 71, 59, 65
St. Francis: 71, 65, 59
St. Joseph: 59, 59, 44

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hrs. M - W 10-6, Th - F 10 - 8, Sat 10-5