

Region may need mill rate increase

By STEVE ARNOLD
Champion News Editor

If Halton Region does not expand its programs and services in 1983, it will still need a mill rate increase of more than 10 per cent.

Anything less than that, administration and finance committee members were told last week, would mean a cut in the Region's total budget.

Those grim facts were laid out in a report prepared by Dennis Perlin, chief administrative officer, and former Regional treasurer Gerry Lawson dealing with future directions for Halton's budgeting process.

In 1982, the Region raised \$20.1 million in taxes as part of a total operating budget of \$50.5 million. If those programs are to continue in 1983, then \$22.8 million (an increase of 10.5 per cent in the mill rate) will have to be raised through taxes.

The report also noted that if the mill rate increase was kept to six per cent, then \$927,000

would have to be trimmed from the total budget. If the increase was held to eight per cent, then only \$513,000 would have to be cut.

Mr. Perlin noted that all of those figures were based on assumptions about the growth of the Region's assessment base, increases in Provincial grants and other forms of revenue, and on being able to control increases in some parts of the budget, such as staff salaries.

Denture Therapy Clinic

Gabriel Szocs
878-1100
155 Main Street, Milton

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who come in from other areas in town and even as far away as the hamlet of Kilbride; these youngsters are enrolled in our French Immersion classes which now extend from Grade 1 through to Grade 4. Next year when this program extends to Grade 5 we will have, in effect, two classes at each grade level—one regular and one French.

This September we came in very close to our projected enrolment; we have some 277 youngsters spread through the grades as follows:

K) 34, Grade 1) 47, Grade 2) 53, Grade 3) 51, Grade 4) 58, Grade 5) 32.

The Grade 5 total is, of course, smaller because our French section does not extend through to Grade 5 until next year.

We got off to a good start this term, but the year moves quickly and we are already closing in on our first special event—meet the teacher on Thursday evening, Sept. 23 at 7 p.m. At that time, children are invited to bring their parents, and introduce them to their new teachers. Also, there will be a chance to get together with friends over coffee and cookies.

We have at least two special events coming up shortly; we hope parents will join us on:

- 1) Thursday Oct. 7 at 9 a.m. Thanksgiving Assembly.
- 2) Friday Oct. 29 at 10.30 a.m. Halloween Assembly.

On either occasion we can certainly promise an enjoyable time!

As the title above suggests, Martin Street, is the oldest school in town and in fact, many folk will remember that it was the original high school—built around 1920. Later, it became a middle school and now it swerves the youngest generation of school children—Kindergarten to Grade 5 inclusive. The building was, of course, modified over the years and what we have now is a rather interesting building with lots of nooks and crannies so to speak; we also can boast the largest library in town—built in what must have been the auditorium of the original Milton High School. Altogether, ours is an interesting and perhaps somewhat historic building in which to work. Drop over sometime and take a walk through the building; we welcome visitors!

Pineview Public School

Pineview Public School is located in rolling countryside on Trafalgar Rd., midway between Milton and Georgetown. The school community stretches from Steeles Ave. in the south up to No. 15 Sideroad, and from Third Line in the west across to the Halton-Peel boundary on Winston Churchill Blvd. With the exception of six families who live adjacent to the property, all other pupils are bused into the school.

Like many other Halton schools, Pineview is experiencing a declining enrolment. This has seen its student population drop from a high of approximately 500 pupils to the present size of 215 children. This September there is one class at each of the grades from Kindergarten to Grade 6. In addition there is a Grade 4 French Immersion class plus one Specific Learning Disabilities class.

One half of the school is composed of traditional classrooms, with the other half being open teaching areas surrounding a bright resource centre. A large creative playground, designed and constructed by Pineview staff and community families, provides many hours of enjoyment for children in the area. Upon leaving Pineview, pupils attend Stewarttown Middle School for Grades 7 and 8. Graduates from there go on to high schools in both Milton and Georgetown.

The Pineview gymnasium and classroom facilities are well used by community groups. The school is normally booked for activities on four evenings a week plus occasional weekends. The Pineview Soccer Club uses the school's two soccer pitches as its headquarters for both schoolage and adult teams drawn from the community. Last year almost 40 mothers and fathers volunteered their assistance weekly within the school's daily programs. The generosity of neighbors has allowed pupils from the school to use the surrounding farmlands and woodlots for many productive hours of outdoor education, nature study and physical education activities.

The Pineview Parents' Association has been an active and supportive body at the school for several years. It has assisted in the on-going operational needs of the school and has helped to organize information nights and educational workshops for parents in the community. It was recently instrumental in raising \$3,000 towards the purchase of micro-computer hardware and software for pupil use.

Pineview will be holding its fall open house and program night on Tuesday Sept. 28 at 7 p.m.

Sam Sherratt Public School

Sam Sherratt Public School is a Kindergarten to Grade 8 school located in the Timberlea area at 649 Laurier Ave. Mr. J. Lenz is the principal and Mr. R. Kaufman the vice-principal. In its third year of operation Sherratt's current enrolment is 713 pupils. We are in a unique situation because approximately 100 E. W. Foster Public School pupils in Grades 1 and 4 are located at Sherratt until the Foster school site is completed. The following chart shows the number of classes per grade housed at Sherratt School:

K-5, 1-3, 2-1, 3-1, 4-3, 5-3, 6-4, 7-3, 8-3.

In total, there are 36 staff members. Several staff though are working one-half time at Sherratt or hold teaching assignments between two schools. We have three full-time and one part-time staff who comprise our custodial team.

Our building has 20 instructional areas which include such specialty areas as art, family studies, library resource centre, industrial arts, music, science and Special Education. In addition to our in-school classrooms, we have eight portables located close to our main building. Our daily lunch program is run in our main school building.

We are proud of the fact that our community supports and utilizes our school through areas such as our volunteer programme and after school use such as Beavers, Brownies, Cubs, Guides and adult education courses.

We look forward to an exciting and rewarding year and invite you to visit our school. Our school phone number is 878-1556.

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