Most of us know what trustees, accountability and co-op education mean.

But what about whole language, benchmarks, IPRC, SEAC, outcomes, transition years, destreaming, even metacognition psychometrician?

As education increasingly comes under criticism, the Halton Board of Education is using this year's focus (previously education week) to attack educational jargon.

It's being done in the hopes of reaching out to the 60 per cent of the school system holds a stake for Halton taxpayers who don't have children in the public school system.

"We've decided to take aim against jargon and deal with it head on," said the boards communications officer Brian Woodland in explaining this year's theme Education: Explained! which runs April 26 to May 7.

A "hit list" of the top 10 jargon terms was compiled in a survey of community business and parent/ teacher organizations.

"The unanimous response was that there is a tremendous amount of jargon in the school system. As the board communications officer. can attest to the fact that the school system has an unbelievable amount of jargon," said Mr. Williams.

The "hit list" terms show up as whole language (69 per cent); benchmarks (44 per cent); IPRC (In-\* dividualized Placement and Review Committee) (44 per cent); SEAC ( Special Education Advisory Committee) (44 per cent); outcomes (42 per cent); equity (36 per cent); transition years (36 per cent); cooperative learning (33 per cent); active learning (27 per cent) and The Basics (27 per cent).

Mr. Woodland said one business representative's response hit the mark. Start from "A" and go on to

## Over half of board staff donate a day

By ANGELA BLACKBURN Special to The Champion

A request for Halton Board of Education full-time employees to donate one day's pay to offset education costs has fallen far short of its goal of \$1.2 million.

At Thursday night's board meeting, Halton Board of Education director Bob Williams said about \$430,000 has been raised from the voluntary donations.

The deadline for contributions was March 31. Mr. Williams said about 2,300 of the board's 4,000 full-time employees contributed.

When the request was originally see SCHOOL on page 15

CRAFT TIME OFFER. FAIR May 1st & 2nd rom 10:00~4 00 Central Lions Club Hall 471 Pearl Street Burlington Just in Time for Mother's Donations Gratefully Accepted For The Children's Assessment Treatment Centre (CAIC)

Acronyms like SEAC and IPRC are what Woodland calls "jargon double-whammies" which take complex terms and abbreviate them, compounding the problem for parents, business and the public.

Mr. Woodland admitted there were even terms that showed up in the survey which he had to get explained — like psychometrician ironically explained as a psychoeducational consultant.

"Over the last three years, even six months, we've seen a tremendous amount of attack on education," he

Every industry has jargon however

home to schools.

Many parents with children in schools are familiar with local

lowest level of understanding of guage or Phonics? What's Best For what's going on and the least supportive," said Mr. Woodland.

In Halton that covers 60 per cent of the population.

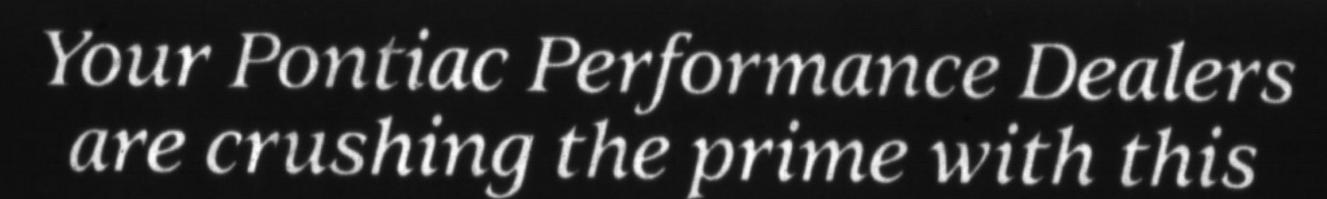
"Across the region, we will be launching a long-term program or publications and events to try and clear away the 'jargon jungle' that sometimes builds walls between education and the community," said Mr. Woodland.

The "hit list" was used to develop nine Education: Explained community events running over the next with titles "Whatever public schools, but those without Basics?", "What's Wrong With many people. "No Jargon Zones" in children in the system and people in Rows?" "Cooperative Learning and at the Sir John Colbourne Centre in schools will try to get the message the business are "the people with the Other Controversies" "Whole Lan- Oakville April 27 at 1:30 p.m.

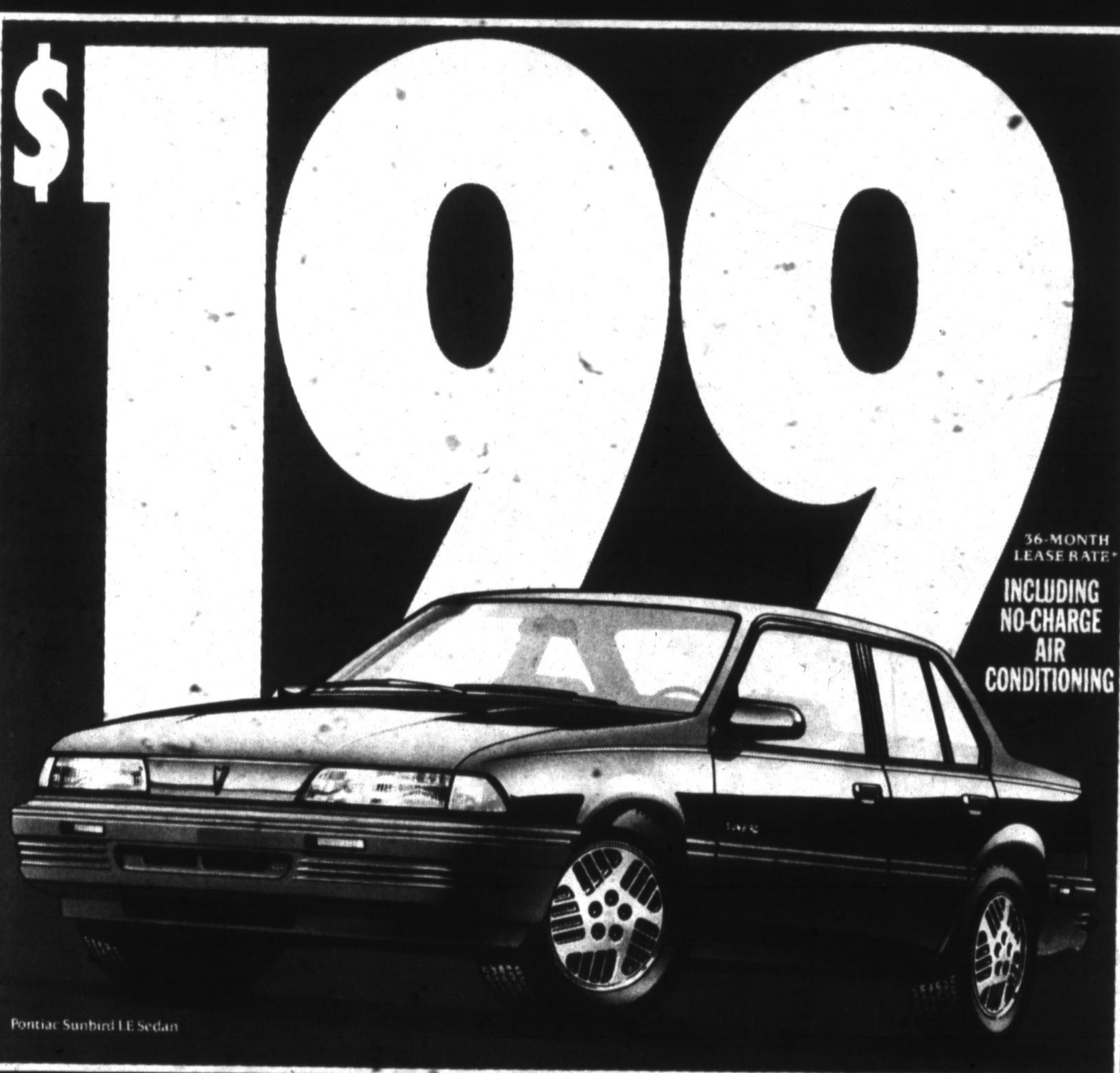
Special events — all featuring 45 Q minute-presentations and an equal session for questions - are slated throughout Halton.

More than 200 activities will be occurring within local schools, including traditional shopping mall displays, celebration of Student Excellence tomorrow (Thursday), at. Nelson High School and a regional kick-off event Monday, April 26 at Allendale (former Halton Centennial Manor) in Milton.

A showcase of student performances of music and drama will be held







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