

Only elementary school grads to receive report cards

By Tim Whitnell

METROLAND WEST MEDIA GROUP

The Halton District School Board is warning parents that only elementary students in their graduating year will receive a final report card later this month with subject grades and achievement levels noted.

Graduating students are considered those to be Grade 8s in Kindergarten-8 schools, Grade 6s in K-6 schools and Grade 5s in K-5 schools. That information was provided in the latest letter posted on the board's website (<http://goo.gl/rUUQil>) about labour relations during current contract negotiations with its elementary and high school teachers.

Public elementary teachers and teachers at some public high schools, including Halton, have instituted legal job actions such as, in some cases, not participating in standardized testing, or not attending certain administrative meetings.

Reports cards are the latest item to be affected by the job action of the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO).

Dated June 12, Halton District School Board

Director of Education

David Euale's letter to elementary parents and guardians states, in part, "This action includes not providing report card comments and not inputting student marks/achievement levels electronically...."

"The production of report cards for more than 40,000 Halton public elementary students relies on the inputting of this data by teachers. Halton District School Board staff has explored many possible solutions to allow for the production of report cards in the absence of teacher participation in the process.

"It is not be reasonable to expect 150 principals and vice-principals to take on the work of approximately 2,700 classroom teachers while also attending to essential end-of-year responsibilities."

"It is true that teachers have submitted marks for all students," Euale said in an email to the *Champion's* sister paper, the *Burlington Post*.

The board says all other students will be provided with a letter confirming the pupil's grade placement for the 2015-16 school year.

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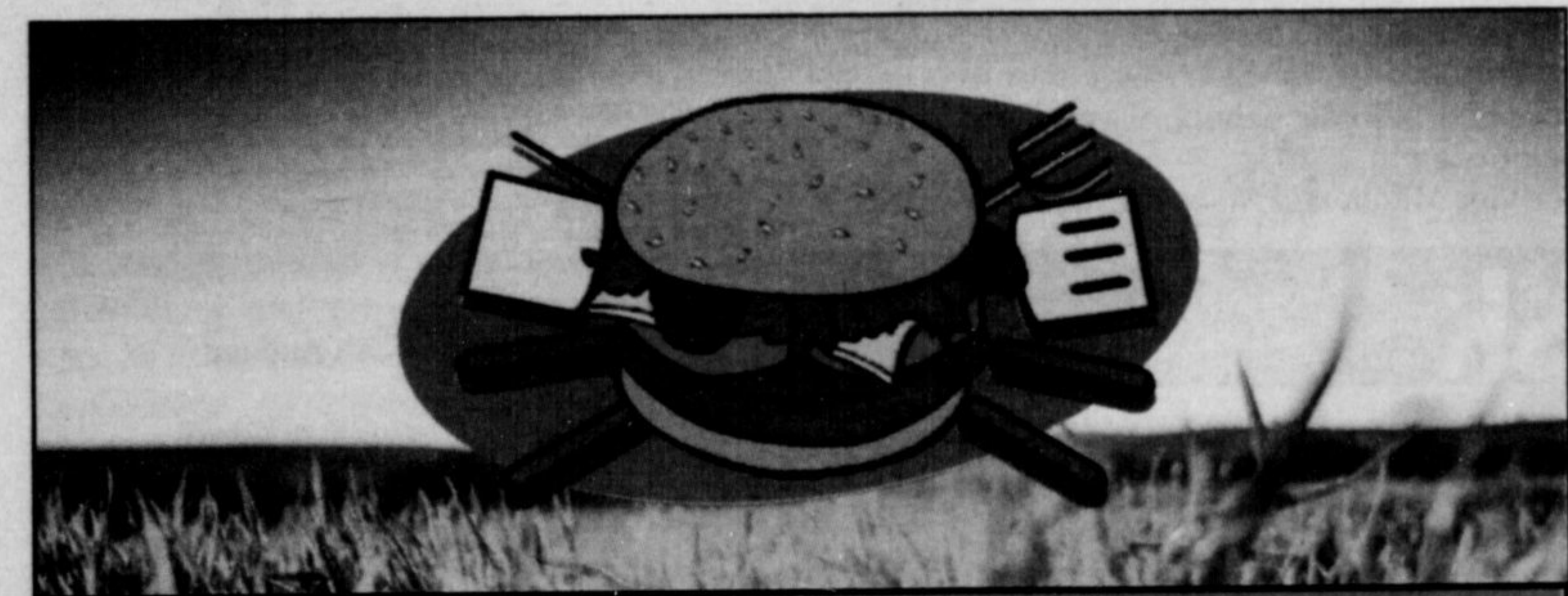
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Indira Naidoo-Harris MPP
Halton



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