

Hard at work

It was hard slugging for some of the students, making their way through the 86 questions contained in the survey. Cathy Crippin,

Maureen Ferguson, Sandra Hatton and Shiela Baan put their noses to the grindstone. Staff photo

Survey poses problem for students

Grade seven and eight students at Burkevale School took an hour off from regular classes Friday to take part in the shaping of their future.

Under the supervision of principal Clara Piotrowski, the senior students filled out the co-operative evaluation review which is sponsored by the three school boards represented in Penetanguishene.

Some looked interested, some looked bored and a number appeared not to understand many of the 86 questions posed in the survey.

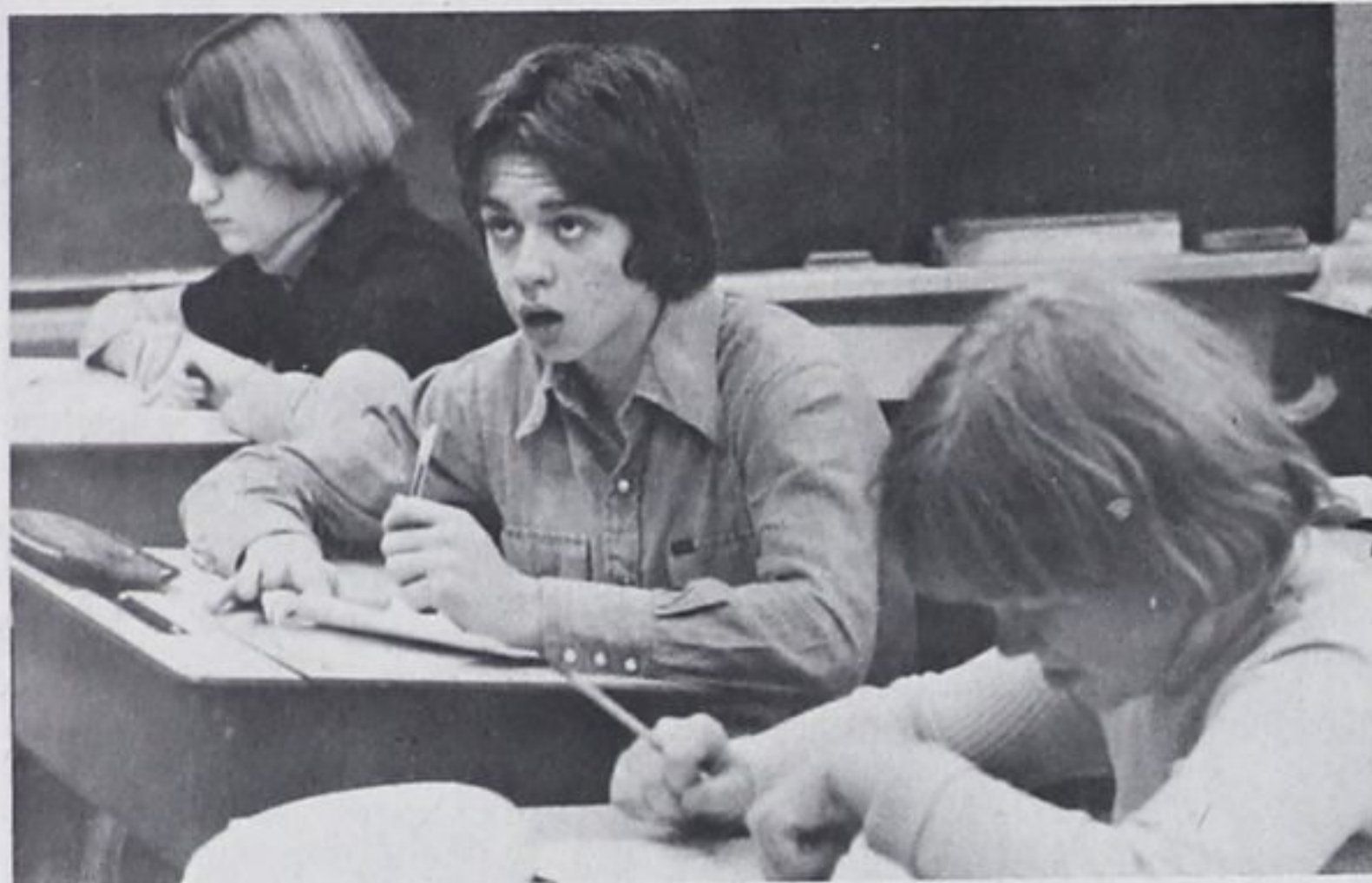
"Most of the questions are over and above the children's heads," said Piotrowski. "Maybe a grade 12 or 13 student wouldn't have any trouble but these children haven't had enough personal

experience." All students in grade seven or above in Penetanguishene and area schools answered the questionnaire. In the case of Burkevale's senior students, Piotrowski found it necessary to read each question to the class and interpret if problems arose.

"It is pretty tricky trying to interpret without influencing their decisions," she admitted.

As an example of a difficult question for young students to answer, Piotrowski pointed to the one that concerns itself with whether a french language high school is needed in the area.

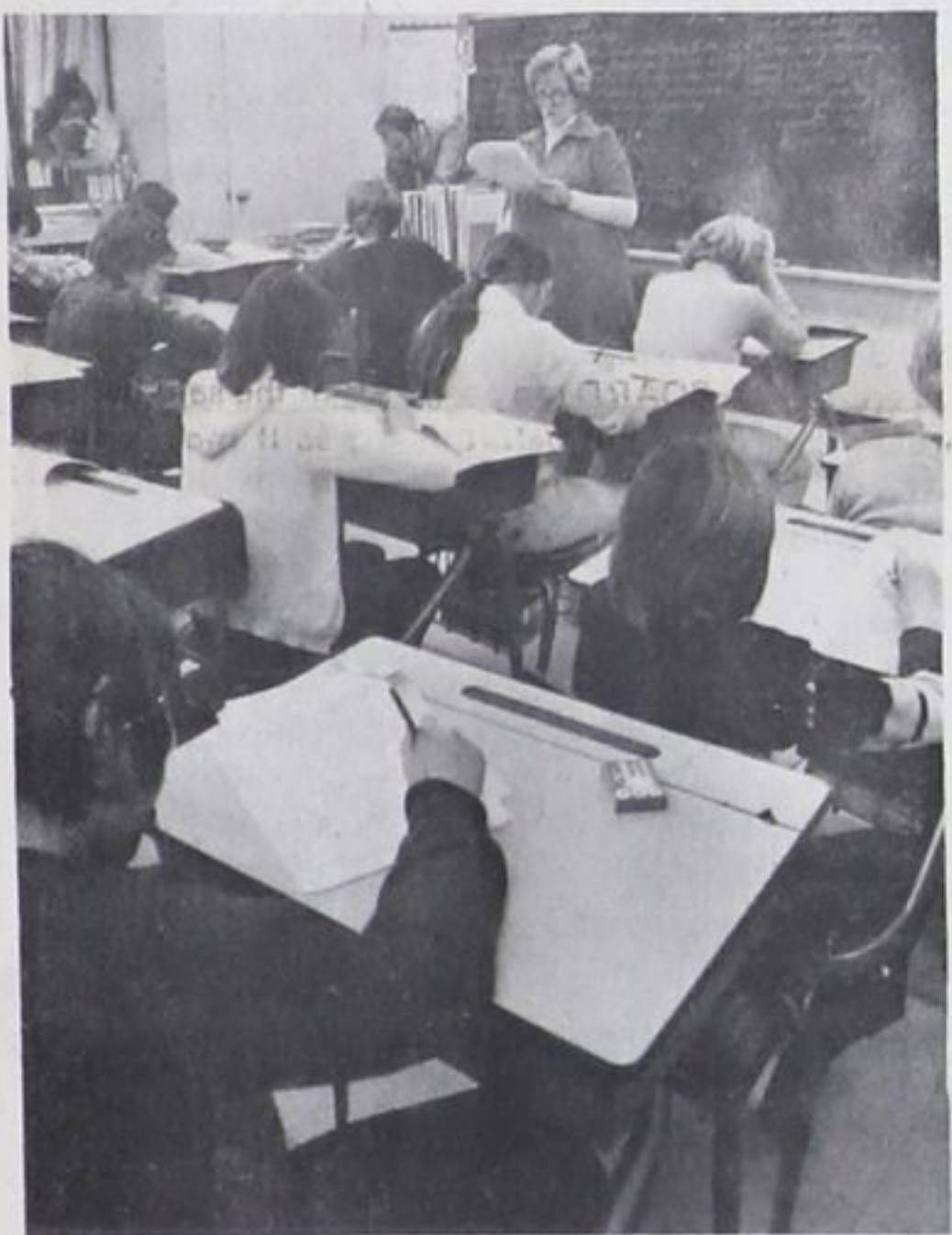
"A lot of children wouldn't understand why the french people feel the re is a need for this," she said.



Just one question

Wayne Stewart appears to be awed at the scope of one of the questions. Karen

Puddicombe and Carla McClinton examine the question more carefully.



Principal's assistance

Burkevale Principal Clara Piotrowski explains one of the questions in the survey to her grade seven-eight class. Staff photo

Co-operative evaluation survey

Turnout slim at questionnaire sessions

Response was slim to the Saturday question and answer sessions sponsored by the Simcoe County Board of Education concerning the co-operative evaluation questionnaire being circulated.

Irving Harris, chairman of the Internal Evaluation Team of the board cited the poor weather conditions on Saturday, as the main

reason for the lack of turnout, although, as he said, the questionnaires may be sufficiently self-explanatory so as not to require any further clarification.

He added that the slim response to Saturday's question and answer session can in no way be interpreted as an indication of how response will be to the questionnaire itself.

Harris said Saturday that another possible reason for the slim turnout may be the recently discovered fact that not all eligible persons in the Penetanguishene area family of schools have received copies of the questionnaire.

He said that since there are no voters lists being

published this year, assessment roles were used in developing the questionnaire mailing lists. However, explained Harris, assessment roles only contain the name and addresses of those who are assessed taxes, resulting in a significant portion of eligible persons have not receiving a copy of the questionnaire.

Harris emphasized the importance of all persons over 18 years in the Penetanguishene school district filling out a questionnaire. He said that a large response is so important in fact, that he is prepared to extend the submission deadline in order to accommodate those who will receive their questionnaires late.

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