

Adult students at MSS gain much from studies

by RON JOHNSON

There are 35 adult students enrolled at Midland Secondary School, and for the most part they are fully enjoying their return to the education system.

Under the guidance of Perrie Rintoul, the group is engaged in full and part time studies at the Hugel Avenue school. The adult students attend classes with the rest of the school's population, but are accorded some privileges beyond those given to the regular students.

Since most of the adult students take part time studies, or have to fit the classes into their home schedule, they are free to come and go from the school whenever they choose. The adults are also allowed to smoke in their home room.

The biggest difficulty faced by these students was the initial adjustments involved in dealing with the homework and daily assignments. Once the individual learns to fit the work load into his or her daily scheme, the system becomes most rewarding.

Motivation is one area in which the adult students may exceed their younger counterparts. These mature students are at the school to further or update their educations, and because they value the time they have available for their schooling, they push themselves to complete assignments, and to attend classes faithfully.

The basic goals of the adult students is to get themselves in a position to go on to a

higher level of education, like community colleges or even universities.

All of the adults involved stressed the fact that they have been accepted by the other students, and that whenever they have solicited help from their younger classmates, it has always been freely given.

To a person, all the adult students agree that the experience of returning to school has been a valuable and rewarding one. By taking advantage of the opportunity to go to school free of charge, many of the adults are fulfilling long time ambitions and dreams.

As an example of the benefits being reaped by the students in the adult education program, Vicky Byczko related her feelings about her return to school.

Byczko is of Polish descent, and has lived in Canada for 13 years, raising a family of three children. She now has the time and opportunity to upgrade her ability with the English language. Without finishing her courses, she already feels she had benefitted from the classes. She states,

"I've gained confidence in myself when dealing with other people, because I am more outgoing and can speak more clearly. Now I am hoping to go on to university to take psychology next year. It's like a dream come true!"

Besides the obvious benefits of completing their high school studies, it is the intangible rewards like those stated by Vicky Byczko, that are the valuable assets of the program.



Back to class

These are some of the students enrolled in the Adult Education program at Midland Secondary School. There are 35 adults taking full or part time courses to upgrade their high school education in order to qualify for some form of higher education.

Seen here are, from the left around the table, Laurie Valade, Charlene York, Vicky Byczko, Nancy Williams, teacher Perrie Rintoul, Glenis Mullings, Lillian Borysek, Erwin Zimmermann, and Christine Frandsen.

Miss, Mr. February Contest

The first annual Miss and Mr. February Contest will be part of the Valentine's Dance for teenagers to be held Feb. 11 in the Normandy

Room of Royal Canadian Legion Branch 68, Penetanguishene. The dance is restricted to teenagers age 13 to 17.

Applications and rules are available at the Hoagie House in Penetanguishene, until Feb. 4. Local merchants will be donating prizes.

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