

MPPs back in business on April 4

MPPs will start earning their keep again on April 4.

That's when Premier Frank Miller has called for the Ontario Legislature to reconvene.

The Legislature rose on Dec. 14. Miller was elected PC Party leader on Jan. 26.

As for rumours Miller may call a snap Spring election, possibly in May, there's still no official word from Miller when voters will be going to the polls in the next provincial election.

If he knows the date, he's keeping it to himself.

RC Board meeting highlights

The newly formed Simcoe County and District Association for Children with Learning Disabilities now has representation on the Special Education Advisory Committee of The Simcoe County Roman Catholic Separate School Board. Minessing resident Mary Haupt's membership was approved by the Board at its March 6 meeting.

The report of the Special Education Advisory Committee included a review of the

Board's plan for Education for Gifted and Education for Developmentally Handicapped.

Identification, Placement, and Review procedures were part of a recent information night sponsored by the Barrie and District Association for the Mentally Retarded. Principal Ada Kallio of Monsignor Clair School in Barrie presented an informative understanding of just how school people determine whether a student

should be identified as a Special Education student. The committee is responsible for suggesting placement of a student in order that the student might receive programming suited to his or her needs. The committee is later responsible for reviewing the child's placement to be sure that desired outcomes are, in fact, occurring.

The Policy, Planning, and Development Committee of Simcoe County Roman Catholic Separate School Board

will shortly review a proposed policy governing administration of oral medication. The proposed policy will provide uniform guidelines for school staff to follow in the administration of medication. The policy notes that medication may be a necessary part of a student's life. The proper administration of medication may well make it possible for some children to attend school at all. The new procedures have already been studied by a committee of principals and teachers who provided practical understandings for incorporation.

The current St. Joseph's School in Barrie is a combination of two ownerships. The private school portion of the building is owned by the Archdiocese of Toronto.

Another portion of the building is owned by The Simcoe County Roman Catholic Separate School Board. The Board has begun discussions with Archdiocesan authorities as to its desires with regard to the disposal of the building. Policy Committee Chairman Glenn Krelove reported at the March 6 Meeting of the Board that the future of the complex was now under active consideration as the new St. Joseph's School is progressing favourably toward completion.

Simcoe County Roman Catholic Separate School Board

has delivered its plan for expansion of its secondary school activities to the provincial Planning and Implementation Commission. The plan was accompanied by the Impact Statement approved by Simcoe County Board of Education, Feb. 13.

The Commission will study the plans with a view to recommending same to the Ministry of Education for extended funding.

In other business at its March 6 meeting Simcoe County Roman Catholic Separate School Board: (a) received a delegation of parents from Alliston concerning location of the Southwest Simcoe High School. (b) received a report from its French Language Instructional Units Committee on enumeration in Penetanguishene. (c) received a report to the effect that the Ministry of Education has not yet released grant regulations or capital allocations for 1985.

SCBE, secondary teachers reach tentative contract agreement

by PETER SPOHN

A tentative agreement has been reached in contract negotiations between the Simcoe County Board of Education (SCBE) and its secondary school teachers, SCBE director of education Dick Boswell said yesterday morning in a telephone interview with this newspaper.

The tentative agreement reached covers the contract period August, 1984 to August, 1985 and, if it is formally ratified by the board and negotiators for the teachers, will result in a retroactive pay increase for the teachers—if there is indeed a pay increase.

No details of the terms of the tentative contract agreement are available yet. The

board is scheduled to meet tonight, and details of the tentative agreement may be known after the meeting. Boswell said information on the tentative agreement will be given to board members tonight. He noted, though, that formal ratification would not come before March 27, when the board is scheduled to meet again.

Boswell said the tentative agreement was reached after a marathon session between board negotiators and secondary teachers' negotiators last Tuesday. Discussions between the two parties lasted until 3 a.m. last Wednesday morning, he said.

Representatives for the secondary teachers are the first group negotiating

with the board to reach a tentative agreement. Still negotiating with the board are representatives for elementary teachers in Simcoe County and negotiators for the association representing francophone teachers. Boswell noted the association representing francophone teachers "traditionally" tends to follow the secondary panel.

Last month, the board reached a contract agreement with its administration and non-union personnel. Boswell said the contract covering the 1985 calendar year allows for a four per cent pay increase for this group. The board is still negotiating for a contract with its Canadian Union of Public Employees employees.

'Daughters' monthly meeting

Daughters of Isabella, Circle 1050 recently held their monthly meeting

at the Knights Haven Hall.

Three new members were installed in a short form conferral.

The new members are: Hortense Gignac, Anne Robitaille and Georgette Pauze. Plans are underway to

celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Daughters of Isabella in the Huronia District.

Once again the Daughters of Isabella and the Knights of Columbus are co-hosting a dance on

March 9, 1985 at the Lafontaine Parish Hall.

The music will be provided by Marcel Maurice and cost is \$8 per couple and a lunch will be served.

Job creation ball served by Ottawa

The federal government "is throwing the ball right at private enterprise" with its summer student employment program, Challenge '85. More than \$200 million is available, more than \$1 million of that in the area including Huronia, Parry Sound and Muskoka.

Employers creating summer jobs for students in the private sector can get half of the wage of the student, up to \$3, from Challenge '85. Municipal jobs will be eligible for a 75 percent of provincial minimum wage subsidy. Non-profit groups hiring students can get a subsidy equal to the provincial minimum wage.

Local MP Douglas Lewis' office has mailed notice of the availability of the wage subsidy to 1,200 businesses in the riding.

March 29 is the deadline for applications.

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