

Thirsting for knowledge

Bright students laughing at math

What does a high school math teacher do with 10 elementary pupils who think they're better at mathematics than he is? Very little.

These students, all from Richmond Hill public schools, don't really know more than their teacher but their level of ability far surpasses that of students their own age, 12 to 14. They were chosen by math teachers Vol Chow and Roger Cote for an enriched program of

mathematics at Richmond Hill High School. Last May, public school students wrote the GAUSS math contest and the high school's "feeder schools" sent the top five performers to the math department.

The schools which feed pupils to RHHS are Crosby Heights Senior, O.M. MacKillop, McConaghly and Pleasantville.

"We took the 20 students and re-tested them during last year's exam week, giving them samples of a Grade 9 diagnostic test," said Mr. Cote. "Out of those, we chose 10 who have studied advanced math this year — some of the work can be found in the Grade 12 courses."

What he has is 10 brains continually thirsting for more knowledge.

Originally all Grade 7 pupils, they have come twice-a-week to a third-floor room at the high school and have learned enough to complete the Grade 9 curriculum.

They have virtually skipped Grade 8 math altogether.

Taking up a test last Friday, their teacher explained some of the questions comprised part of the Grade 11 program. "So what's so tough about them," was the unanimous reply.

The six pupils who have decided to come full-time to RHHS will be added to the Grade 10 enriched mathematics program.

The screening process has already begun for those elementary pupils who wrote the high school's own math contest.

By June 30, a group of "math brains" will be told they've been selected for the high-gear program.

Asked what they liked best about the special class they claimed the small-class atmosphere made things very friendly.

Mr. Cote said he couldn't get them to say "boo" to each other last September.

"Our friends back at public school don't like us because they think we get too many math spares (periods)," said one boy.

They all expressed an interest in other school subjects like music, shop, science and geography. None was enamored with French or English.

Mr. Cote acknowledges there are a few minor behavioral problems within the feeder schools — especially since the advanced students become bored too quickly.

"These are not your normal kids — they're always looking for something harder to do. We found as Grade 7's when they were originally tested, they had as good a background in math as our Grade 9's who began Grade 9 math last September."

One boy, Brian Quance of Crosby Heights missed three periods but asked to write the test the class was taking up on Friday.

He was sent across the hall and given an hour. He came back in 20 minutes and scored 50 out of a possible 62 marks. That's without really studying the material or taking a review class.

"I like to think we can have fun and still learn the math," said Mr. Cote. "That's why I tell them not to laugh after coming out of math class — people will think they're crazy having a good time in math class."

Principal John Buell hopes other program areas can be used to allow students with special ability to take enriched courses.

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TOWN OF VAUGHAN

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO THE ONTARIO MUNICIPAL BOARD BY THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF VAUGHAN

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Vaughan intends to apply to the Ontario Municipal Board pursuant to the provisions of Section 35 of The Planning Act for approval of By-law Number 38-79 passed on the 5th day of February, 1979. A copy of the by-law is furnished herewith and a note giving the explanation of the purpose and effect of the by-law and stating the lands affected thereby is also furnished herewith.

ANY PERSON INTERESTED MAY, within twenty-one (21) days after the date of this notice, send by registered mail or deliver to the Clerk of the Town of Vaughan notice of objection to approval of the said by-law or part thereof giving details of all or the portion of the by-law to which you object and detailed reasons therefor and shall indicate that if a hearing is held the objector or an agent will attend at the hearing to support the objection.

ANY PERSON wishing to support the application for approval of the by-law may within twenty-one (21) days after the date of this notice send by registered mail or deliver to the Clerk of the Town of Vaughan notice of his support of approval of the said by-law together with a request for notice of hearing that may be held giving also the name and address to which such notice should be given.

THE ONTARIO MUNICIPAL BOARD may approve of the said by-law but before doing so it may appoint a time and place when any objection to the by-law will be considered. Notice of any hearing that may be held will be given only to persons who have filed an objection or notice of support and who have left with or delivered to the Clerk undersigned, the address to which notice of hearing is to be sent and similarly to any person who has filed a request for a change in the provisions of the by-law.

THE LAST DATE FOR FILING OBJECTIONS WILL BE JUNE 6th, 1979.

DATED at the Town of Vaughan this 16th day of MAY, 1979.

F.G. Jackman, Clerk, Town of Vaughan, 2141 Major Mackenzie Drive, Maple, Ontario. L0J 1E0

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF VAUGHAN

BY-LAW NUMBER 38-79

A By-law to amend Township of Vaughan By-law Number 2523, as amended.

WHEREAS the land affected by this by-law is now situate in the Municipality of the Town of Vaughan but by virtue of the Regional Municipality of York Act, 1970, remains subject to the provisions of the Township of Vaughan By-law Number 2523;

AND WHEREAS the matters herein set out are in conformity with the Vaughan Official Plan which is approved and in force at this time;

AND WHEREAS there has been no amendment to the Vaughan Official Plan adopted by the Council but not approved at this time with which the matters herein set out are not in conformity;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Vaughan ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

THAT By-law Number 2523 of The Corporation of the Township of Vaughan, as amended, be and it is hereby further amended by deleting Schedule "B" to By-law Number 2523, "Planned Width of Road Allowances", and by substituting therefor the Schedule "A" attached hereto.

READ A FIRST and SECOND time this 5th day of February, 1979.
"G.A. Williams" MAYOR
"F.G. Jackman" CLERK

READ A THIRD time and finally passed this 5th day of February, 1979.
"G.A. WILLIAMS" MAYOR
"F.G. Jackman" CLERK

SUMMARY TO BY-LAW NUMBER 38-79

By-law Number 2523 of the Township of Vaughan is a general zoning by-law which affects all lands in the Town of Vaughan other than those lands which were formerly in the Village of Woodbridge, the Township of King and lands that are in the Industrial Area subject to By-law Number 2961. By-law Number 2523 has a Schedule "B" attached which sets out the planned width of certain road allowances in the Municipality. The by-law states that for calculating the minimum width of a setback from a street that the width of the street should be deemed to be the width shown on Schedule "B".

By-law Number 38-79 has been enacted which substitutes an amended Schedule "B". The only difference in the Schedules is that those portions of Dufferin and Bathurst Streets between Langstaff and Steeles Avenue are shown as arterial roads with a planned minimum width of 150 feet. The planned width of these portions of the streets before the amendment was 120 feet. The only lands affected by the by-law are those lands which abut Bathurst Street and Dufferin Street between Langstaff and Steeles. The amending by-law implements the Roads Plan in Amendment Number 70 to the Official Plan for the Vaughan Planning Area.

NOTICE TO ALL OWNERS OF LAND IN THE CITY OF NORTH YORK WHOSE PROPERTIES ABUT ON THE TOWN OF VAUGHAN, YOUR ATTENTION IS DIRECTED TO THE ABOVE NOTICE OF INTENTION OF THE TOWN OF VAUGHAN TO APPLY TO THE ONTARIO MUNICIPAL BOARD FOR APPROVAL OF ITS BY-LAW NUMBER 38-79 AND TO THE EXPLANATORY NOTE OF THE SAID BY-LAW PUBLISHED HEREWITH.

FIRST PUBLICATION MAY 16th, 1979. F.G. Jackman, Clerk, Town of Vaughan
SECOND PUBLICATION May 23rd, 1979.

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