

Exec will ask teachers to reject board offer

By STEVE PEARLSTEIN and DON BERNARD
The executive of York Region's elementary teachers today will ask the membership to reject a tentative contract that would provide a 6.5 per cent pay increase and 41 new jobs.

Critics of the proposed settlement argue that only 14 new jobs would be created because the school board approved 27 additional positions last spring for the current school year.
A mass meeting of the elementary teachers will be held this afternoon at

Aurora High School. An in-school vote on the tentative settlement is expected to be held one week from today.
Last July, the teachers' negotiating team reached a tentative agreement with the York County Board of Education, but the teachers' federation executive rejected the settlement. In the wake of that dispute, the teachers' negotiating chief, Kirby Brock, resigned.

The board already has ratified the settlement. Federation sources refuse public comment about the settlement, but the executive is known to be seeking more money and more jobs.
Under the existing contract, which expired

Aug. 31, the pupil-teacher ratio (PTR) provided 1,163 teachers for 24,700 students. The tentative agreement would raise the total number of teachers to 1,204 and lower the PTR from 21.23-1 to 20.5-1.

No terminations occur until an Occasional Teacher Pool of one-half per cent of the total membership is established, another new contract provision. Those assigned to the pool would remain on contract and re-assigned as positions become available.
The tentative agreement also would require the board to notify the federation by March 1 if it anticipates redundancies the following school year.

The agreement also provides for a new direction in dealing with the effects of declining enrollment on job security.
Rather than lay off "redundant" teachers based strictly on seniority, the board would set up a committee of trustees, teachers and staff and determine layoffs on the basis of the teacher's contract status, length of service and qualifications.

Let's get business from park, Rowe says

Reacting to an editorial in last week's Liberal, Richmond Hill Councillor Gord Rowe called for council to give every consideration to spinoff business that may be created by the construction of Canada's Wonderland in Maple.
"I'm concerned we're going to be bypassed," he said.

John Brennan, Marketing Director at Canada's Wonderland, two weeks ago told the Richmond Hill Chamber of Commerce that numerous businesses should spring up once the 320-acre theme park opens in 1981.

Councillor Al Duffy said one of the first steps is to have the town's official plan approved. It's now at the provincial level.

But Councillor Mike Burnie said the town could do without some of the spinoff business from the park.

"We don't want it," he said. "The people in

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Oak Ridges house fire guts interior

A house fire at 76 Moray Avenue, Oak Ridges, gutted the interior of the building and caused an estimated \$20,000 damages.
The fire broke out in the kitchen of the Robert Diamond residence about noon on Saturday.
Richmond Hill Fire Department responded to the scene and were able to save the structure, although the interior was ruined.
No one was injured in the blaze.

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