

TO THE CITIZENS OF SCHREIBER AND TERRACE BAY

The question of whether a District High School should have been constructed in Terrace Bay has reached such a stage of confused issues that it was felt a statement of facts by us would help to clarify matters. Mind that we are aware of the dangers involved in trying to explain a situation by making a public statement. Hence, we offer our services to any group, organization or meeting of citizens in Schreiber or Terrace Bay who would like to ask questions concerning this matter. Just contact Mr. Alec Gordon, Chairman of the Schreiber High School Board, Telephone 19, in Schreiber, and he will arrange to have a speaker present.

Before going further we would first like to state our belief that any statements made by the Terrace Bay High School Board were made in good faith. Also, that the 70 - 30 offer on expenses for a District High School was fair.

Here, then, are the facts behind the decision of the Schreiber High School Board and the Schreiber Town Council, representing the Schreiber citizens, to build their own High School in Schreiber.

1. The Dept. of Education and officials of both schools have projected an estimated enrolment in five years of 400 students, with a levelling off at this figure, if the towns had amalgamated. Remaining separate each school can expect approximately 200 students in five years with a levelling off at this figure.
2. The controversy and misunderstanding arises from this potential 400 student body in 5 years, if the two towns had amalgamated.
3. The Dept. of Education, in meetings with both Boards or in letters has never stated that a District School for both towns with 400 students would qualify for the Federal-Provincial plan to provide, (free of cost to local taxpayers) the Vocational facilities.
4. Rather they have emphasized strongly that this Federal-Provincial feature would not be possible for this area because the 400 projected enrolment is not large enough. Also, the population (4,000 approximately for Schreiber and Terrace Bay) is not large enough to produce a greater student body than the projected 400. Also, remember that the Federal-Provincial plan ends early in 1963 and a District School would not reach a student body of 400 until at least 1966.
5. Two examples to prove this (a) Nipigon-Red Rock District High School with a larger population to draw from (approx. 5,000) and a projected enrolment of 450 to 500 in five years, is not able to qualify for the Federal-Provincial Plan. (b) Geraldton High School, with an area of radius 55 miles (as far as Beardmore) to draw from and a student body of 450 this Fall and approximately 800 in five years, is the only small school in this area to qualify for this Federal-Provincial Plan. But obviously Geraldton is no longer a small school.
6. Therefore the Technical and Commercial courses are out of the question for a combined school for Schreiber and Terrace Bay.
7. A District High School then would be exactly the same type of school as we now both have but larger. That is, a school offering the general Academic course.
8. A District High School, however, would be able to offer a Commercial option, or a Home Economics option, or an Industrial Arts option (not courses) sooner than the two schools can be separated.
9. Both separated schools can still, however, offer one of these options of their choice when 175 - 200 student body is reached.
10. A Technical or Commercial course, remember, leads to a diploma after 4 years of study in these fields. A Technical or Commercial option on the other hand is only four or five periods out of forty periods a week and has the same value as a Latin or Geography option to name a few.
11. A District High School would save the Schreiber tax-payer some money. The actual saving would be unknown until a District School was in operation because of unknown costs such as buses and bus drivers to name several.
12. Hence, the Schreiber High School Board and the Schreiber Town Council, having weighed all these facts carefully, came to the decision that their own New School would best serve the needs of students and citizens of Schreiber.
13. The question is now raised why the Terrace Bay News waited until a decision was made on the school question to start a campaign to create discussion, Should this not have been done when the first proposals for a District High School were made? Or will they confess to not being in on the development of things important to the two towns?

The Citizens of Schreiber will be pleased to know that the Dept. of Education has given
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