

Provincial school grant increases 5 1/2% this year

Greg Sorbara, York-North MPP, has hailed Education Minister Sean Conway's November 3, 1986 announcement that the Ontario Government will increase provincial operating grants to school boards by 5.5 per cent in 1987.

Operating grants to the school boards will total \$3,401.9 million, an increase of \$177.7 million over the 1986 figure of \$3,224.2 million. This amount will be enriched by an additional \$13.5 million in grants, specially designated for educational technology, primary/junior science and affirmative action.

In addition, the government has allocated \$163.5 million in operating grants in calendar year 1987 for the continued extension of the separate school system—an increase of \$56.2 million over 1986.

This \$163.5 million for the 1987 calendar year is consistent with the allocations announced in July, 1985, by Mr. Conway for the 1986-87 and 1987-88 school years. For the school years 1986-87 and 1987-88, the cost of separate school extension will be \$137 million and \$171 million respectively. The \$163.5 million represents the

same amount of funding, for the 1987 calendar year.

The combined increases clearly demonstrate the government's commitment to maintain a first-class educational system for Ontario's students," Mr. Conway said.

Mr. Sorbara noted that the Government has also allocated \$147.2 million for capital projects next year, \$39.6 million more than was provided in 1986—an increase of approximately 37 per cent. Approximately \$30 million of the increase will be used for new school construction, the remain-

der for renovations and additions.

"This added capital commitment is particularly important for York Region, where the rapidly increasing population has put considerable strain on classroom capacity," said Mr. Sorbara.

"Since assuming office in June 1985, this Government has more than doubled the annual capital grant allocations," Mr. Conway said. "The capital grants will ensure the provision of new facilities in high-growth areas as well as much-needed renovations and additions to existing schools."

Goodwood news

Birthday party for Flossie

By ELSIE BOLAND
GOODWOOD — Mrs. Flossie Wagg was honored with birthday gifts at a recent meeting of the Goodwood Pot-Luckers. It was held at the home of Polly Noble. The Sr. Citizens' meeting in the Goodwood Hall was well attended. A trip to view the Christmas lights Dec. 19, was discussed, also the upcoming Christmas dinner.

The Anderson Co. banquet was held Saturday in the Goodwood Hall.

In the absence of the minister, members of the congregation took over the service in Goodwood United Church, Sunday.

The next bingo is Thursday evening, Dec. 4 in the Goodwood Hall.

The Couples Club are holding their Christmas banquet on Saturday, Dec. 13.

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