

# Catholic school enrolment up 22.4 %

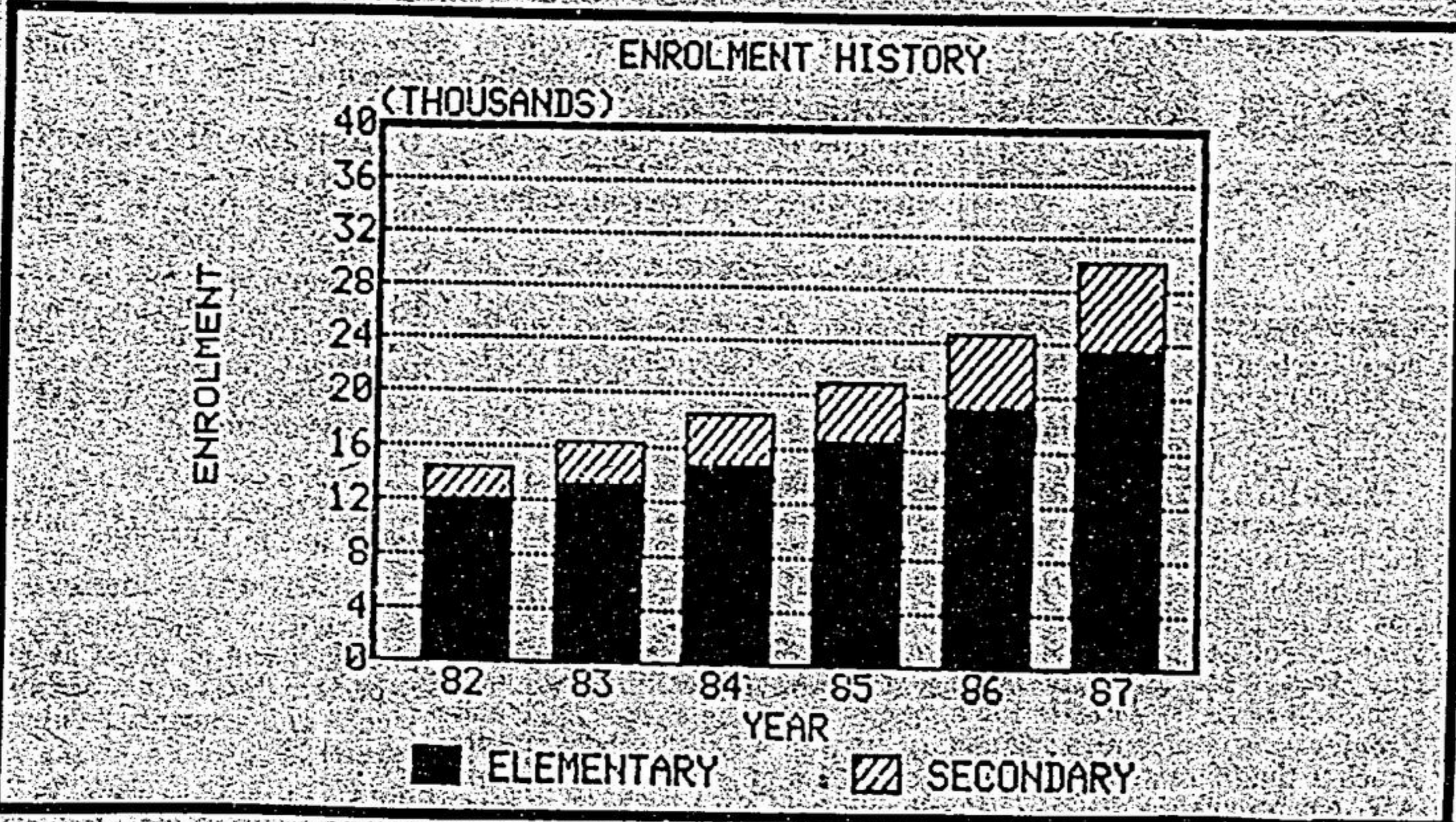
The York Region Roman Catholic Separate School Board expects 4,856 new students to enter its school system this September. In a recent forecast, the Board's planning department estimated elementary and secondary enrolment to climb to 30,377 students by the end of September. The projected enrolment represents a 22.4 per cent jump from

the September enrolment of last year. As the number of students have increased, so too has the number of schools. This month, one secondary and six elementary schools will begin operations for the first time. St. Elizabeth Catholic High School in Thornhill/Vaughan; Our Lady of Peace in Maple; St. Joseph the

Worker in Concord; and San Marco in Woodbridge (for this school year, temporarily located in a leased facility in Kleinburg); St. Francis Xavier and St. Justin Martyr in Milliken Mills; and St. Gabriel the Archangel in Woodbridge. All newly-organized schools will begin operating on the first day of school.

However St. Francis Xavier, St. Justin Martyr and St. Gabriel the Archangel will be temporarily housed in portables and classrooms at existing schools until students can be safely accommodated in their respective new buildings. New permanent facilities for Our Lady of Fatima in Woodbridge and Ecole St. Jean in Aurora were completed during the summer.

The addition to St. Joseph in Richmond Hill is well underway and expected to be completed in December, while the addition to St. Robert Catholic High School is still in its preliminary stages. The projected September enrolment is more than double the Board's 1982 enrolment, and forecasts for future growth indicate that the Board will again double its enrolment in six years.



This graph clearly shows the dramatic increase in the number of York Region school students. A recent school board study shows that Catholic school enrolment has jumped by some 22 per cent

throughout the region, while a more astounding fact is that the entire student population in York has doubled in five years. School officials predict it will double again by 1993.

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