

Co-op program helps students learn about a 'real job'

If it could offer students advice for which courses to take in their senior years, I'd say without thinking twice, "Co-operative Education."

Co-operative Education or co-op offers students an opportunity to leave SDSS and try out a career.

The students accumulate 220 hours by attending their placement for half days, every other day, in order to earn two credits.

Occasionally, there are students who attend for full days every other day and accumulate 440 hours. These students earn 4 credits over the year.

Popular co-op placements are those at elementary schools where the students work as teaching assistants in areas such as phys-ed, art,

**SDSS
SCENE**

cheryl taylor



music or French.

Co-op at a veterinary clinic is also quite popular. The Markham Stouffville Hospital offers several placements. You can find eager co-op students at fire and police stations, in an ambulance, at a florist, travel agency, day care centre, hotels, restaurants, working for the town, at retirement homes; the list is almost endless. Each student selects an area which interests them.

They send a resume, go for an interview and are eventually sent into "the working

world."

In September, the students have co-op in the classroom - consequently, the name "in-school component." During this time, students learn how to prepare proper resumes, letters of application, how to conduct themselves in interviews, safety procedures, etc. Co-op also helps one in finding a "real job."

Once every two months, there is an in-school co-op to get new assignments and to talk with other students about their on-the-job experi-

ences.

Teacher supervision is significant. "Parenting co-op", where students are placed in day cares and at elementary schools, is taught and monitored by Mrs. Robertson. Other courses are supervised by Mr. Croucher and Mr. McKnight. They have the tedious job of marking the paperwork.

Each day students must write a journal and a log. The log has a running tally of the

number of hours on the job and includes the duties the student is responsible for. The journal is a daily commentary, the students write about their day at work.

Co-operative Education is an excellent experience for students to sample different careers. This way students know if they would like to pursue this career after their formal schooling. And most of the time, it is also very enjoyable.

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Kindergarten Registration at Joseph Gould School

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Oliver Drerup, R-2000 Homebuilder

What to look for when buying a new home.

As a builder, people always ask me, "How do I know my new home will be built to the highest standards?"

It's a good question. Because while all homes are built to building code standards, there is only one type of home that's been given a special designation because it exceeds the building code to make it more energy efficient. In fact, it's so energy efficient that Ontario Hydro highly recommends it.

It's called the R-2000 home. Seen from the street it looks like any other home. So what makes it so special?

It's the way it's built. For example, R-2000 homes are constructed with a greater attention to detail. This creates a more comfortable, even temperature in your home that also eliminates drafts and cold spots. And because of extra insulation and good quality doors and

windows, R-2000 homes reduce noise from neighbours and outside traffic.

Is clean, fresh air important to you and your family? The R-2000 home lets you control the ventilation in your home. For example, you don't have to open the window for fresh air, the ventilation system will ensure a continuous supply at all times by exhausting the stale indoor air and replacing it with fresh outdoor air.

But there is one thing you must know. Builders must receive special training to build R-2000 homes. And to ensure your home is built to official R-2000 standards, it is individually inspected and given its own certificate. So look for the R-2000 symbol; it's your way of knowing that the home you buy is a better built home.

For more information about R-2000 homes, call the certified R-2000 builder listed below.



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