



A woman and her baby snuggled warm in the carriage set off against the slate grey skies at the Stouffville Centennial Park Thursday.

Photo by SJOERD WITTEVEEN

# Boards cancel PA days due to strike

**MIKE ADLER**  
Staff Reporter

Both area school boards chopped some exam and professional activity days this week to make more room for classroom instruction.

Pressed to recover the two or three weeks lost locally to teachers' strikes, public and separate educators are being told to have

fewer non-essential activities during school time.

The public board also decided Thursday to convert two PA days at its elementary schools — June 5 and 25 — into regular school days.

Three PA days (yesterday, Feb. 2 and May 1) were cut at the high school level, and the board changed two examination days into regular instructional days.

Trustees also agreed to start the

second semester one week later to balance the classroom days in both semesters.

Earlier this week, York Region's separate board decided to squeeze at least seven more days into its current school year — and nine at the high school level — to recover from both the Ontario walkout and a local teachers' strike.

Five PA days are cancelled for Catholic elementary schools,

including one yesterday, Jan. 30, May 1, June 5 and June 25, the area separate board decided Tuesday night.

Catholic secondary schools have lost five PA days — yesterday, Jan. 30, Feb. 2, May 1 and June 24 — plus one day from first semester exams and two days in the second semester.

Grade 8 graduations will be held between June 23 and 25. Principals

will also meet school councils to find more ways to reclaim school time for lessons, the board said.

"Everyone's working a little bit extra to make sure no one's at a loss," Ihor Baczynsky, head of the local Catholic teachers' union, said recently.

The public board said it would move its Jan. 30 PA day to Feb. 6 for scheduling reasons and to save on transportation costs.

## Back by demand

### Councillors to vote next week on Sunday booze

From page 1 ■ potential for employment opportunity. "It might create full or part time jobs. I don't think it'll turn anybody into an alcoholic," said Dobrich.

While Ward 6 Councillor-elect Sue Sherban said she's leaning in the direction of a "yes" vote, she's not absolute. As well as talking to residents and to her pastor, Sherban said she plans to consult with the liquor and beer store employees.

"I want to find out if people will be forced to work Sundays or if it would cause layoffs one way or the other," said Sherban.

It's a "non issue" said Ward 1 Coun-

illor-elect Steve Pliakes. "I haven't received any calls from people on it," said Pliakes. "The voters know they can call me any time. Since I haven't got a call so I'm treating it as a non issue." Pliakes stressed, however, that he supports the motion as long as it's "not amended," said Pliakes.

Sunday liquor and beer store openings do not impress Ward 2 Councillor-elect Mark Carroll. An 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. opening is ridiculous when most stores open from noon to 5 p.m., said Carroll. "Besides, a year round opening won't swing in this town. It would be a waste of time. If the motion reads an 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., opening, I'll vote against it."

While the party is geared for the entire family, is being hosted by Whitchurch-Stouffville Mayor Wayne Emmerson. It offers horse drawn wagon rides, free hot dogs, hot chocolate, skating, sledding and happy people. While the party is free to the community, donations to offset the cost are accepted. To make a donation call 640-1900.

## Gr. 3 Level 1 below average

Level 1 is considered a below-average score in the provincial assessment of third graders taken last April. It is not an adequate score as an article Tuesday suggested.

Students were expected to perform at either Level 2, considered adequate, or at Level 3, which is considered a good result. Level 4 is an outstanding result.

Overall in reading, eight per cent of York Region Catholic

Grade 3 students scored as Level 1; 28 per cent scored as Level 2; 38 per cent were Level 3, and 20 per cent were Level 4.

In writing, five per cent were Level 1; 38 were level 2; 38 were Level 3 and 12 per cent were Level 4.

In math, 13 per cent were Level 1; 44 were level 2; 33 were Level 3 and six per cent were Level 4. In reading, five per cent of the region's public school third graders scored as

Level 1; 27 per cent were Level 2; 36 were Level 3 and 19 were Level 4. In writing, four per cent scored at Level 1; 36 per cent were Level 2; 35 were Level 3 and 10 were Level 4.

In math, 11 per cent scored as Level 1; 40 were at Level 2; 34 were Level 3 and five were at Level 4.

Some students from both boards were exempted from the test and some were recorded as "missing."

## Council to change meeting night

Whitchurch-Stouffville council night will change from a Tuesday to Monday, if the new council agrees.

On Dec. 1, following coun-

cil's inaugural meeting at 7 p.m., council will be asked to switch its meeting night from Tuesday to Monday.

The plan is to have council

meet on the first and the third Monday of the month.

Meanwhile, council meetings will be held in Latcham Hall.

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