



QUEBEC HOME & SCHOOL

NEWS

"The Voice of the Parent in Education"

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THE WRITING IS ON THE WALL . . .

Quebec wants to destroy Boards' authority with Bill 107

by David Wadsworth, Executive Director, Quebec Association of Protestant School Boards

"If at first you don't succeed, try, try again."

Those words must be written on the wall of the office of the Quebec Minister of Education. For the last 10 years each succeeding Minister has talked about, planned and, in some cases, enacted legislation designed to abolish the confessional school board system in Quebec and replace it with a system of French and English school boards. There have also been attempts to reduce the authority of school boards at the local level and make them purely administrative appendices of the provincial government.

Mr. Claude Ryan, the present

Education Minister, is no different from his predecessors. On December 23, 1988, the Quebec National Assembly adopted Bill 107 — the Education Act, which provides for the establishment of language boards. Probably because of the experience of his predecessor, who saw his attempt at school board reform declared unconstitutional by the Superior Court in Montreal, Mr. Ryan has decided on a different strategy.

The new school board reform is divided into two parts. One part deals with the establishment of language boards and the other with changes in the method of operations of the schools and school boards of the province. The first part — the language boards and the abolition of the present

confessional boards — will not come into effect until the Supreme Court of Canada decides on the constitutionality of the legislation. It goes without saying that the Quebec Association of Protestant School Boards is vehemently opposed to any scheme replacing its constitutionally guaranteed existence with a system of school boards whose future would depend on the goodwill of the provincial legislature. Considering the happenings surrounding the "notwithstanding clause" in this province, one can readily understand this opposition.

The second part of the legislation — the changes in the way the schools and boards are to operate and the apportionment of power between the government, the Min-

ister of Education and the school boards — goes into effect on July 1. Recent history has shown that when one province moves to restrict the autonomy of school boards the other Ministers of Education watch what is happening and, in many cases, introduce similar legislation. Other provincial associations would be well advised to examine this new legislation.

A cursory examination of the legislation suggests an attempt is being made to democratize our schools and provide for greater input by parents, teachers and staff in the day-to-day operation. It is extremely difficult to oppose parent participation; however, too much of a good thing could lead to problems.

Each school must establish what is called an "educational project" containing its specific aims and objectives. This is established by an orientation committee of parents, teachers, non-teaching professionals, support staff, the principal and, in some cases, students. The school board must consult with this body on the possible closing of the school, criteria for selecting the principal, the confessional status of the school, the mode of implementation of the regulations dealing with pedagogical matters, etc., etc. Parents must be in a majority on the orientation committee.

In addition, in each school there must be a school committee made up of parents of children attending the school. It must be consulted on a list of matters similar to those listed for the orientation committee.

The functions of the orientation committee and of the school committee appear similar and this is so. It is impossible, however, to convince the Minister of this fact because there has been a demand at the school level for more participation by staff — thus the orientation committee — and by the parents — thus the school committee — who want to be autonomous and dialogue with staff representatives and so are also on the orientation committee.

The whole idea of committees has arisen because in Quebec's French-Catholic schools there has never been a voluntary organization such as the Home & School or Parent-Teacher Association. To correct this, in typical Quebec fashion, the government imposed the solution: legislate cooperation between the home and the school.

Concern has been expressed about finding sufficient numbers of parents to become involved in

these committees and about the danger that a small group of activist parents could influence disproportionately the way the school operates. In any event, the life of the principal will no doubt be changed.

At the school board level there has been provision for parent representation on the board for many years in Quebec: one representative from the elementary schools of a board and one representative from the secondary schools. These representatives are chosen by the parents' committees and have all of the rights and privileges of the elected commissioners (trustees) save the right to vote. The parent committee is made up of one representative from each school in the board, chosen by the members of each school committee. Like the school committee, the parent committee must be consulted on certain matters by the school board.

A new type of representative has been added. Where there are 200 students receiving education in a language other than that of the majority of students in the board, or when those students represent more than 5% of the student population, their parents are entitled to representation on the school board: one parent from the elementary level and one from the secondary level — again without the right to vote.

There are two new committees established at the level of the board. The first is an advisory committee on management consisting of the Director General (Superintendent) and the principals of each school within the board. Its purpose is to encourage principals to participate in defining the board's policies, devising programs, and in preparing regulations for the implementation of policies in the schools.

The second is an advisory committee on services for handicapped students and students with social maladjustments or learning difficulties. To include representatives of the parents of these children, teachers, professional staff and those bodies providing services to these students, and a school principal appointed by the board, this committee will advise the board on norms for the organization of educational services to the handicapped and learning disabled. While all would admit the need for such a committee, there are fears that its establishment and its advisory capacity on the financial resources supposedly allocated for these students may cause problems

continued on page 4

Western Quebec salutes teachers

Teacher Appreciation Week has really taken hold in Western Quebec schools. It's an innovative idea of the Home and School Association designed to recognize the value of teachers.

During Valentine week, parents, students, administrators and the school board all found interesting and varied ways of saying "thank-you" to teachers throughout the board's schools.

A large sign outside the school board's Aylmer office paid tribute to the teaching staff while coffee mugs, given by the board to each teacher, declared "Our teachers

make the difference!" or "Nos profs sont notre force!"

In most schools, the Board arranged for an extra half-hour at lunch time to allow time for "eating out" or a little extra relaxation time.

Regional board Chairman Basil Howse said the board welcomes this opportunity to honour its teachers. "The key element in the educational enterprise is the dedication of our teachers", Howse said.

Parents and students also found a variety of ways to recognize teachers.

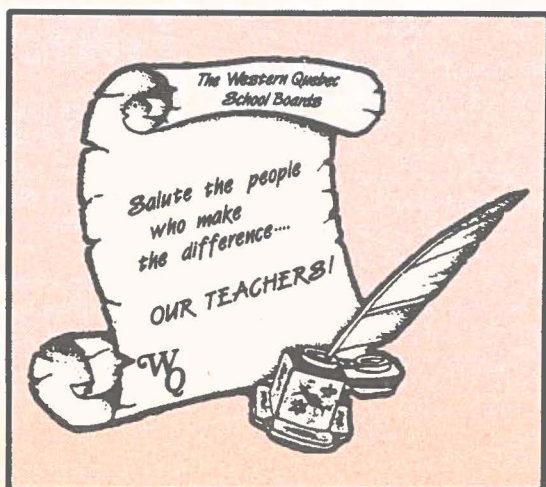
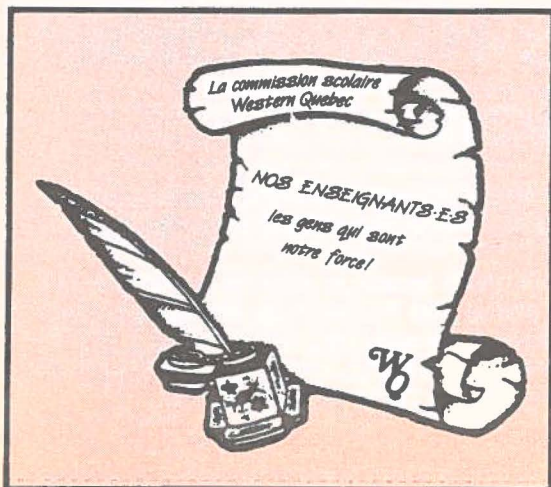
Some students wrote stories and poems about teachers and local newspapers cooperated by publish-

ing these projects.

Other students produced banners, signs and art work — all in praise of their teachers.

Parent groups sent along their thanks; often accompanied by baked goods, flowers, fruit baskets and cards.

Pontiac Board Chairman Jerry Barber feels that the week's activities showed the real depth of support there is for our teachers. "There are times when each of us wonders if anyone cares about what he does," Barber said, "Teacher Appreciation Week gives us all a chance, even if it's only once a year, to let the teachers know about the appreciation that's always there."





Smoke is unhealthy
for all living things

PLEASE DON'T SMOKE!

Smoke-free spaces for kids

The following schools and companies have received plaques in recognition of their smoke-free status. Congratulations.

PLAQUES

Cedar School (Bejoel)
Valois Park (Pointe-Claire)
École Intermédiaire de Namur (Namur)
École Sacré-Coeur (Asbestos)
École Institutionnelle de Ste-Sophie (Ste-Sophie)
École Pakuashipish (St-Augustin)
Polyvalente St-Pamphile (St-Pamphile)
École Notre Dame du Sacré-Coeur (Chapeau)
Polyvalente de Neufchâtel (Neufchâtel)
École Notre-Dame du Sacré-Coeur (Sherbrooke)
Beacon Hill Elementary School (Beaconsfield)
École John Adam Memorial (Delson) 18 décembre 1986
Hôtel Le Président (Sherbrooke) 14 janvier 1987
Académie du Sacré-Coeur de Bromptoville (Bromptoville) 29 septembre 1986
Habitations Air Pur (Sherbrooke) 10 octobre 1986
Air Canada (Montréal) 25 septembre 1987
Commission de Contrôle de l'Énergie Atomique (Laval) 25 septembre 1987
CERTIFICATES were also given to the following:
École de secrétariat Notre-Dame-des-Neiges (Sherbrooke)
Centre d'emploi du Canada (Victoriaville)

Aréna de Lotbinière (Lotbinière)
École de Parisville (St-Jacques de Parisville)
Polyvalente Armand Corbeil (Terrebonne) 27 avril 1987
Pavillon Camille Lavoie (Alma)
Pontiac Protestant High School (Shawville)
Restaurant Pizza-Ville (Richmond)
Boulangerie Moravanha Inc. (Richmond)
Restaurant Villa Marianne (Richmond)
Motel Le Marquis (Richmond)
Restaurant Thérèse (Richmond)
Café Chez André (Richmond)
Cégep de la Pocatière (La Pocatière) 2 décembre 1986
Centre Hospitalier Ste-Marie (Trois-Rivières) 27 octobre 1986
Bouquinerie-Café Mille-Feuille Inc. (Sillery) 4 mars 1987
Église Adventiste du septième jour (St-Léonard) 23 mars 1987
Collège de l'Outaouais (Hull) 3 septembre 1987

The "Smoke-Free Spaces for Kids" is a joint project of the Canadian Heart Foundation and the Canadian Home and School and Parent-Teacher Federation. Children learn to smoke and try smoking when they see their role models smoking — parents, teachers, sport coaches, peers.

If role models set a non-smoking example there would be fewer children commencing to smoke. Children now perceive that most adults smoke in spite of statistics that show only one-third of adults are smokers.

Our congratulations to all of the above for setting a good example for children.

Free Wall Map

The Canadian International Development Agency has prepared a colorful wall map of the world and is making it available free of charge to interested groups.

The map features up-to-date socioeconomic information about

most of the countries that appear on it as well as a graphics section that deals with international development issues.

For a free copy write:

The Canadian International Development Agency, Public Affairs, 200 Promenade du Portage, Hull, Quebec, K1A 0G4



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Alphabet for Parents

When I have a child in school I will...

Always ask him what went well at school today;

Boast about the good things he tells me;

Celebrate his mistakes 'cause everybody learns that way (but never criticize);

Do a diary together, recounting family gatherings, outings, letters and messages;

Encourage him to be himself and expect his very best;

Forget the adult worries and remember that he's just a little boy;

Gather, go, get, experiences galore! — because out of *doing* comes the learning;

Hug him often — at least once every day (even when he's big);

Invoke him to be the greatest, smartest, happiest child in the world. Tell him that and treat him that way;

Join in when he's reading or studying, realizing that my actions speak louder than anything I can say;

Keep on learning myself! — All that I can see, do, and be — living life to its fullest!

Listen to him when he's troubled and laugh with him when he's joyous;

Make the difference in his days by mentioning that we really care;

Notice when his hair is combed (at least when he comes down to breakfast)...when he puts on a clean pair of Levis...doesn't slam the door, or turns the radio down...

Offer him opportunities to decide things for himself, what to wear, when to do his chores, give him power over his life with all the risks that entails!

Pin up his artwork, tests, writings, heroes, photographs for all in the family to enjoy (and call up Grandma sometimes to remind her of his latest accomplishments);

Question his teacher and his coaches often about how he *feels* he's doing at school and on the team;

Relax and enjoy his childhood. Read to him often — remember how fleeting are his childhood years;

Squeeze praise into every day's time slots. Save a private moment for sharing what he chooses to share;

Turn the T.V. off sometimes to talk together: At the dinner table, before he goes to bed, when he comes in from little league...

Use his talents to the fullest — helping out with the garbage, the dishes, the cooking, at church, in the community, so that he realizes that his presence makes the difference to others;

Volunteer when needed! Be that model of helpfulness in school demonstrating that learning is his and my most important business;

Wait patiently for him. He may be a late bloomer — A deep thinker — A slow mover;

Xtra, extra, extra that's what mom's and dad's are all about!

Yes, I'm the one who counts. It is my values and my strengths he will imitate;

Zoom ahead together in life, aware and confident that he is God's unique gift to me.

With My Help He'll Make It!

Nancy Murray
Windsor Separate School Board

FITNESS



MAY 26 TO JUNE 4 has been designated as Canada's Fitweek this year. The Canadian Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation and the Canadian Intramural Recreation Association have worked out programs for schools and also have ideas for special events, theme activity days, phys. ed. classes and intramural school activities. For more information contact Dena Dixon, CIRA, or Diane St-Denis, CAHPER, both at 1600 James Naismith Dr., Gloucester, Ont. K1B 5N4.

T.M.R. High School Reunion

Town of Mount Royal High School Alumni are holding a 25th anniversary reunion on Friday and Saturday, August 4 and 5.

We welcome all 1964 grads to join us — renew old acquaintances, revive old friendships and share fond memories over food, refreshments and dancing.

For more information contact Joan Morrison Smyth at 455-1239 or Francie Walls Gunther at 695-6790.

How you can strengthen organizations

1. Attend meetings regularly — you can't participate unless you are physically present. Be more than a "joiner" or "dues-payer". If you think a group is worth joining, then it deserves your personal, intelligent, active and continuing support.
2. Keep in mind the purpose of your organization. Occasionally review your bylaws.
3. Live up to the duties of membership. A good member willingly fulfills the responsibilities that go along with rights; knows what is done or not done; helps everybody; opens ears to listen.
4. Show a personal interest — be cordial instead of distant or hostile. Blend gentleness with firmness when you must take a stand. Keep lines of communication open. Disagree without becoming disagreeable. Give assurance to those who are frustrated. Respect the feelings and viewpoints of others, no matter how much you may differ. Listen attentively when others have the floor.
5. Think for yourself — it takes effort to be a thinker instead of a perennial "yes" man.
6. Develop your ability to communicate.
7. Promote a spirit of teamwork, any organization can be crippled when the membership splinters into uncooperative or hostile cliques.
8. Stir up listless members. Even if your organization is basically healthy, offer to take reluctant members to meetings.
9. Seek the best interest of everybody ensuring all members, not just a handful, share in the benefits of the group.
10. Do your "homework" for each meeting. Lack of preparation is probably the chief sin of omission in a poorly run meeting.
11. Be a peacemaker. You may not completely succeed, but you can at least reduce tensions and prevent the spread of strife.
12. Don't lose your sense of humor. People who take themselves too seriously and others not seriously enough throw sand into the gears of any organization.
13. Give credit where credit is due. Few persons cause more annoyance than the "credit grabbers" who are first in line when it comes to taking a bow but nowhere to be seen when responsibility must be shared. Don't hesitate to praise a fellow member for a job well done. Your continuing effort to be balanced in evaluating the contributions of others makes organizations work that much smoother.
14. Prevent meetings from bogging down. Meetings that "drag" are a big reason for poor attendance. Furthermore, they paralyze vital work. Help to keep things moving by making a clear distinction between essentials and non-essentials.
15. Maintain democracy in actions and activities.
16. Discuss issues not personalities.

Hosting Programs

Inviting a foreign student into your home gives you a chance to learn about another culture through that person's history, language and customs.

It is also an opportunity to share your own culture as you help the student adapt to a new family and school environment.

The most important criteria for hosting are generosity, understanding, and open mindedness.

For those interested in hosting a participant you can host a teenager for one year, while he or she attends a local school and takes part in your daily activities. You can also host for shorter periods.

If you are interested in finding out more about this pro-

gram, either as a family willing to accept a student or, perhaps you have a teenager interested in visiting another country, write:

Interculture Canada, 59 St. Jacques, Suite 700, Montreal, H2Y 1K9
(514) 288-3282

* Or phone Eleanor McMahon, an Interculture Canada volunteer at (514) 694-9910.

THE CANADIAN Bankers' Association publishes a number of information booklets and pamphlets that may be of interest to teachers. Contact: Consumer Education Adviser, The Canadian Bankers' Association, Box 348, 2 First Canadian Place, Toronto, Ontario, M5X 1E1.

Ed. note: Their magazine "**\$ and Sense**" is excellent for readable information on the Canadian banking system.



President's Message

Helen Koeppé

Parents deserve a pat on the back

Parents, pat yourselves on the back! You have chosen the most difficult vocation possible, and using your own good common sense, along with a bit of luck, are doing a fine job for the most part. Raising children is not easy as you all well know. There are surprises and challenges at every turn. You all work hard with only the occasional hint of a reward by way of recognition for your efforts.

Those of you who take the time and the necessary effort to pass on your parenting skills and experience to others deserve special congratulations. Whether you are active with your local Home & School association, school committee or are a parent volunteer doing any number of necessary and otherwise unavailable extras at your local school, you deserve an extra pat. Consider it given. You are the good, selfless people who take the time (and it is not always easy or convenient) to enable all the children in your school community to benefit through your efforts, because you want to ensure that YOUR children are receiving the best possible education in YOUR local school.

There are other benefits of course. Studies show that students whose parents are actively involved in their child's school, do better over all than those children whose parents show no interest. Casual interaction between the parents, the staff and the administration in a school, during everyday

and after-school activities, leads inevitably to an enriched school environment and an excellent setting for scholarship. Our children deserve no less.

A benefit not always realized at first, is that being involved, taking part, enables parents to learn firsthand about our education system, how it works and how our tax dollars are used (or abused).

Now, more than ever in Quebec, during the transition period when parts of the new education act are being implemented, some as early as July 1989, ALL parents need to keep themselves informed and up-to-date to make sure that the proposed changes to our school system benefit the children. These changes should also improve our system and improve the quality of the education to which our children have an undisputed right.

In fact, all members of society as well as all parents have the right and the obligation to monitor the education system and to suggest changes, not only because we are all taxpayers, but because children and their education is society's number one priority.

In closing, I look forward to seeing many of you at the Spring Annual General Meeting. Remember the conference is open to all. The program and workshops planned should enable us all to become better parents and to return to the tasks ahead with renewed vigour.

OTHER PEOPLES OPINIONS

HOMework HELPS

As a primary grade teacher I couldn't agree more with most of the comments of Nancy Bethge's in her article — **Homework — Do We Need It?**

For years, I fought against assigning homework for many of the reasons that were cited. However, my opinion has changed over the last few years and I must admit homework is now an integral part of our day.

Initially, I was more or less pressured by parents who requested some homework. There seemed to be a genuine wish to help and to feel a part of their child's education.

Homework is something that can be shared and can act as a vehicle in helping the parent learn about what is going on in the classroom. It also helps the parent

see the growth and development that occurs as the year progresses.

All home work should reflect what is taking place at school. Thus assigning homework can be an introduction or extension to any lesson. The real fun comes the next day in the sharing with each other.

Children enjoy sharing their

thoughts, feeling, ideas, and experiences. Most activities are open-ended enough so that responses are expressive and infinite.

Most amazing to me has been the overall response. It is the rare occasion that the completed homework bag is not dropped in the bin each morning.

A sorrowful face and a legitimate excuse usually explain a missing bag!

My sincere and heartfelt thanks go to all the parents. I know it is an extra chore at the end of a busy day. But they are helping to promote positive attitudes and a love of learning. They are helping to make my job a lot easier too! And to 'homework' I say — thanks!

*Teacher
Valois Park School*

Explorations '89

McGILL'S Explorations '89, a Gifted Summer School program, will be held July 4-28, 1989.

Junior Explorations will be at Willingdon School, 5870 Terrebonne Avenue, N.D.G., and will serve children entering Kindergarten to Grade 6 in English and Grades 1 to 8 in French.

University Explorations will be held at the McGill Campus, Faculty of Education, 3700 McTavish

Street, and will serve children who have completed Grade 6 in English, ages 12 and up, with special Art Option.

The programme consists of a demonstration programme especially designed for children who require a more challenging, engaging school environment.

For further information, please call 398-4252 between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Computer-ease

In the March/89 issue of **NEWS**, I suggested some educational software titles that were high on my shopping list as an elementary school teacher.

Shopping locally, the software ranged from \$39 to \$95 and up. This month, I would like to suggest some low priced software that I feel has good educational value, and tell you where it can be purchased.

In a day and age where most of us are counting every penny we spend, it is almost unheard of to find a computer software supplier that sells programs for under \$10. I have found one that I feel I can

recommend. Along with their regular priced software, SOFTWARE DISCOUNTERS OF AMERICA (SDA) offer a full catalog page of programs that sell for under \$10 (U.S. funds). Most of the programs found on this list have been on the market for some time but good educational software can be useful regardless of age. With this in mind, I'd like to suggest some of the titles from SDA's under \$10 list. *As my children use a COMMODORE 64 at home, prices quoted are for that line of computer in U.S. funds.* SDA also has Apple software although prices may vary.

For the preschooler, Sesame Street's Letter-Go-Round, a pro-

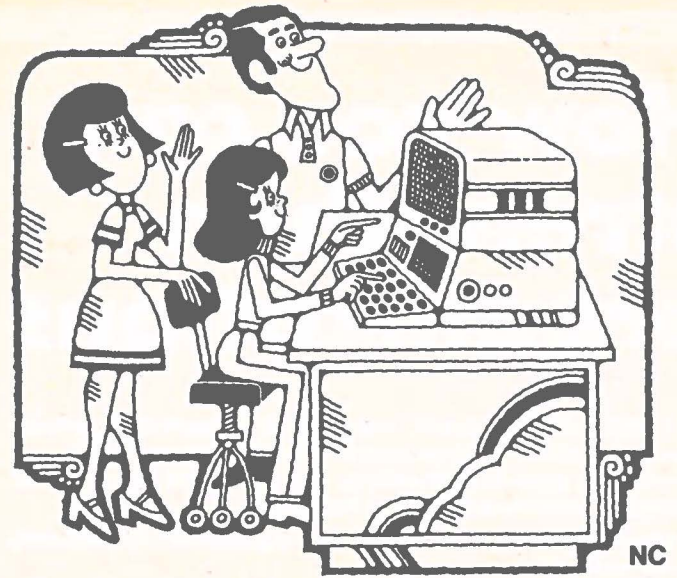
gram for letter recognition, is \$6.88.

Programs for teens to adult are also available on the under \$10 list. From HES comes Microsoft Multiplan, a very nice spreadsheet program for \$9.88.

Advantage's Project Space Station, a simulation of a space program from research and development to the after-mission landing of a space shuttle is \$9.88.

Problem solving and deductive reasoning are found in Thunder Mountain's Felony for \$9.88. The list goes on and on.

To make ordering simple, SDA has a 1-800 number Canadians can use. There is no surcharge for Mastercard or Visa and your order should reach you within two to three weeks. There is a shipping



NC

charge of \$7.50 added to all Canadian orders. A duty charge for large orders will be attached to your delivery and can be paid by mail.

The Order Toll Free number is 1-800-225-7638 and four page catalog is sent with your order. SDA has single and dual page ads in

many computer magazines. These ads list other games and productivity software available from SDA. Their ads list other games and productivity software available from SDA. Their prices, and fast, friendly service have won me over as a loyal customer.

Bob Steele

Canadian youth take risk with sexual behaviour

Risky behaviour and plenty of gaps in youth education on sex, AIDS & STD's are revealed in the Canada Youth and AIDS Study recently released by the Social Program Evaluation Group of Queen's University.

This is landmark research that puts Canada in a much stronger position to understand the sexual behaviour of youth and what educational approaches are going to appeal most effectively.

QFHSA is obtaining copies of the Quebec portion of this study and will send one out to each local Home & School Association.

The Study looked at the most important factors for education in adolescent life. Here we see that the role of parents is ineffective or absent for a significant number of

kids. With over 20 percent not having a two parent home, with 25-35 percent saying they do not have a happy home and a lot of arguments with parents, with only 45 percent of boys saying they can consult their parents for advice on important matters we portray a critical deficit in the environment that shapes behaviour for one-third to one-half of students.

For many kids this will mean that they are at risk by an early age simply by accident of not being blessed with a conscientious and understanding home environment.

Surely we understand from the study that the roots of sexually transmitted diseases as for other killers, smoking and drugs, go back, for many kids, to ineffective parenting and often the darker side of neglect and abuse.

Where do kids get their knowl-

edge about sex, AIDS, STDs and protection? AIDS has become the media star of the health field and this explains why most kids indicate TV as their primary source of information on AIDS.

Other STDs are learned in school or from reading material. Sexuality information apparently comes from parents most often although kids would like to see more.

In general, schools and health professionals and parents could do much more in AIDS, STDs and birth control education according to our youth.

Why is this necessary? A very telling result in the study is that 75 percent of students in Grade 11 believe that pre-marital sex is acceptable, nearly 50 percent have had intercourse, but unfortunately the vast majority, even at the college level do not use condom pro-

tection regularly. This is the bottom line.

Our objective must clearly be to establish protection as the norm rather than the afterthought in the vast majority of youth sexual encounters.

Most people now accomplish the simple hygienic measure of brushing teeth twice a day to prevent the horrors of odour and decay with dental products that are available on the same shelves and at similar cost to condoms.

Healthy sexual behaviour must similarly be reinforced with consistent and universal educational pressures by media programs, health professionals, schools and parents but with an urgency to match the obvious high degree of danger posed by AIDS and STDs.

We look forward to the development and maintenance of powerful programming in this area across all

age groups and segments of Canadian youth. A high priority must be given to agencies for community health to support education in all these sectors.

The **New Facts of Life** is produced by the CPHA AIDS Education and Awareness Program. Material may be reproduced provided that proper credit is given. The editors would appreciate receiving a copy of any publication where material from **The New Facts of Life** is used.

For a regular copy of this newsletter, write:

"The New Facts of Life"
CPHA AIDS Education
and Awareness Program,
1565 Carling Ave, Suite 400,
Ottawa, Ontario
K1Z 8R1
(613) 725-3769

Reprinted from the *New Facts of Life*

Bill 107 hampers the Boards' work

continued from page 1

for some boards.

Probably the most major change consists of the obligation to adopt by way of by-law, policies and procedures which used to be established by resolution. The operation of boards will thus be hampered as by-laws require 30 days notice before enactment or amendment and before any by-law can be enacted or amended, there is a long list of those committees to be consulted. Again, the legislature has made the work of the board more difficult and time-consuming.

While there are numerous powers and functions given to the board in matters concerning employees, educational services, property and finance, these are for the most part illusory. The real power rests purely and simply with the Minister of Education. His

approval must be sought and obtained in practically every aspect of school board operation.

It is here that there will be a contest between our Association and the government. We contend that not only do we enjoy the protection afforded to us under Article 93 of the Constitution Act of 1867, but also that among those protected rights is the full right of management and control of our schools over what is taught and how it is taught as well as the finances and our employees — in other words, the exact antithesis of what is contained in Bill 107.

While there have been discussions between our lawyers and those of the government concerning the questions that will be put to the Court of Appeal in the reference case to determine the constitutionality of the establishment of language boards, there has not

been agreement reached on the fundamental question of management and control. What use will it be for us to win the constitutional case, which says that our present system of boards cannot be abolished, only to find that having won we would be forced to give up the true powers of management and control we maintain are ours?

Our system of locally elected school boards has existed since 1841 and is guaranteed in the federal statute. While change has been necessary over the years, we in the Quebec Association of Protestant School Boards will never agree to surrendering our rights just to satisfy the alleged needs of Quebec in the 1990's. Language boards without a federal guarantee for their future existence are like a house built upon sand — without a foundation that can be guaranteed to withstand the passage of time.

Birth control clinics needed in schools

BIRTH CONTROL clinics should open in schools and students should be able to obtain free contraceptives, an Ottawa Board of Education committee has been told.

"It's very clear. The students want somewhere to get birth control without anyone finding out," Dr. John Spence, chief of gynecology at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, told the board's Community Liaison Advisory Committee.

About one out of every five

abortions involves teenagers, says Statistics Canada. Twenty-seven percent of sexually active teenagers never use contraceptives, and 40 percent use them only sporadically, said Spence.

Although sex education is being taught in schools, the number of pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases among teenagers is increasing, he said.

Board officials agreed that birth control is a sensitive subject but said the primary responsibility for such education rests with parents.

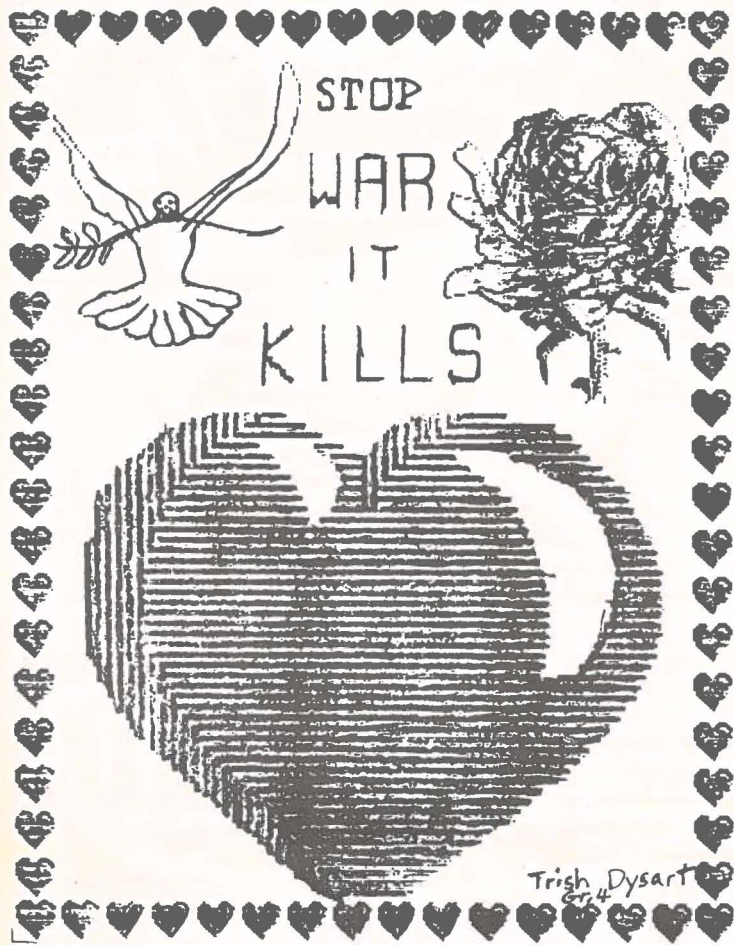
THE STUDENT population of the Island of Montreal is divided as follows among the eight school boards:

	1988	1987	Variation
Jérôme-Le Royer	19 246	19 782	-2,7%
CECM	92 435	94 840	-2,5%
Sainte-Croix	8 394	8 765	-4,2%
Verdun	5 002	5 244	-4,6%
Sault-Saint-Louis	11 248	11 377	-1,1%
Baldwin-Cartier	17 513	17 281	+1,3%
PSBGM	31 920	31 464	+1,5%
Lakeshore	12 886	12 315	+4,6%
TOTAL	198 644	201 068	-1,2%

from: Mtl. Island School Council Dec.19/88



Nuclear War scary



to talk about

Most of my friends have not talked to their children about the possibility of nuclear war or the arms build-up.

Yet, most of my friends' children have an opinion on these issues and can express their fears and hopes for the future quite fervently.

In some respects, the discussion of the "world today" has become as difficult to bring up as sex-education. It is not always ambivalence that causes the exclusion of such discussion between parents and children, but a genuine fear of the issues and lack of priority in dealing with them in one's life.

It is an awesome undertaking to admit to yourself that the environment, the music, the laughter, is in danger. If we adults cannot face this possibility, how can we explain it to our children?

Just a mere decade ago no one really discussed child abuse, or abduction with their children — until the threat of its possibility became apparent.

When it touched our own hearts to hear of abducted children, or a case of abuse appeared down the street, we lined up at the shopping centres and schools to finger print our children, we cut locks of hair, and up-dated photos, we spoke to our children about family code words.

Most children today enter pre-school & kindergarten knowing their phone numbers and addresses. We have a Block Parent system and streets are dotted with red signs prominently displayed in windows.

It became a priority in our lives to prepare our children for the unthinkable. We had to acknowledge that the world was changing.

Nuclear war is the most unthinkable and frightening reality to accept. It threatens the very fiber of our existence.

Can we not, then, prepare our children to also say "NO" to living under the nuclear shadow? Is this not unacceptable behavior for a planet?

We owe it to our children to teach them tolerance and trust, and to encourage them to find alternatives to violence.

There is a bigger picture to the world. Our own little community is after all a microcosm of the larger community that we live in.

Our hope is our children will embrace this world and their future rather than be indifferent to it.

Censorship — all or nothing

AN INTERESTING article on this controversial topic appeared in the February 1989 issue of Newsletter, the publication of the Canadian Education Association.

The article in question, "Morals and Mammals: Some Thoughts on Censorship", was written by Jim McMurtry, a teacher at Trinity College in Port Hope, Ontario.

His final point was, "every literary work offends some individual or group, and thus every literary work is vulnerable to censorship. "Either we realize that literature

is valuable for providing more than comfort or prepare ourselves for schools without literature."

To show to just what extents our perceived indignations can take us, Mr. McMurtry mentioned the withdrawal of Beatrix Potter's *Peter Rabbit* from London, England, schools because of the book's undue concern for 'middle-class rabbits'!

A publishing house rejected an essay on the Fathers of Confederation because **no women were present** at the Charlottetown meetings in 1864. Gage Educational Publishing Company has stopped printing *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* because Mamma Bear wears an apron.

Closer to home, the Anglican Synod for the Diocese of Montreal in 1988 expressed concern over words like 'brethren' and the many masculine references which abound in the prayers.

We are now busy worrying over phrases like, "let your light so shine before *men* that they may see your good works..."

My own personal concern is: what will they do to words like 'human' and the *Lord's Prayer* which starts "Our *Father* which art in Heaven..."? When you try to please everyone you end up pleasing no one.

Peace is like a flower,
From time to time,
Always blooming,
And growing wide.

Peace is like a flower,
Colourful and bright.
Peace is like a flower;
It makes you feel nice.

Tara Macdonald
Grade 4

Bits 'n' Peaces

- West Islanders for Nuclear Disarmament** will begin their annual peace walk on **Saturday, May 13, at 1:00 p.m.** from the **Beaconsfield Recreation Centre**.
This walk will commemorate Julia Ward Howe who issued a Mother's Day Proclamation in 1870 to call for the end of all war. It is an excellent opportunity to show active appreciation of Mother's Day, have a family outing and meet others from the community. Refreshments, balloons, buttons, music and the outdoors make this event fun for all.
- The World Federalist Foundation** is collecting student writings in response to the following question:
"What would you say to the people of the Earth if you had the opportunity to broadcast a message from space?"
Chosen submissions will be published in an upcoming Newsletter "Our Planet in Every Classroom". Write to: Anne McTaggart, Coordinator, Our Planet in Every Classroom, World Federalist Foundation, 21 Inglewood Drive, Toronto, Ontario, M4G 1G7.
- CONFERENCE: Educating for a Peaceful World, May 4-6, 1989, Dalhousie University, Halifax, N.S.** This conference will examine practical ways of implementing peace education in the classroom and community.
Open to teachers, community educators, and students. Contact: Educating for a Peaceful World, Henson College, Dalhousie University, Halifax, N.S. B3H 3J5
- CONFERENCE: People, Power, and Participation, May 28-31, 1989, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C.** Presented by the Canadian Association for Adult Education, and the Pacific Association of Continuing Education.
A look at the environment, economic development, learning and culture, peace education, and other related topics.
Contact: Jennifer Crawford, UBC Centre for Continuing Ed. 5997 Iowa Drive, Vancouver, BC V6T 2A4
- In the encouraging news department, **The Bulletin of Atomic Scientists**, who publish and establish the positioning of the doomsday clock have moved it backwards.
It has been at three minutes to midnight since 1984. It now stands at six minutes to midnight due to the INF treaty and improved relations between the U.S. and the USSR.

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Period two: July 16-29

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July 30-August 12

BOYS' CAMP ages 12-16
August 13-26

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FOCUS on MEMBERSHIP



Award of Merit

1988/89 MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

On Island Elementary Schools

École Primaire Beaconsfield	59%	Membership Chairman - Marilyn Tooley
École Primaire Harwood	52%	Membership Chairman - Lynda Mathieson & Sue Spall
Beacon Hill	51%	Membership Chairman - Joan Farrell
Courtland Park (Dorval)	50%	Membership Chairman - Judy Stanway
Dunrae Gardens	50%	Membership Chairman - Jeannette Tabah

On Island Secondary Schools

Lindsay Place High School	24%	Membership Chairman - Roslyn Karpman
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Off Island Schools

New Richmond High School	41%	Membership Chairman - Elaine Cochrane
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Special Mention

Elizabeth Ballantyne	Membership Chairman - Carol Porteous
Christmas Park	Membership Chairman - Pamela Ann Doherty
Dorset	Membership Chairman - Cathy Watson
Valois Park	Membership Chairman - Sandy Gordon-Loiello
New Carlisle High	Membership Chairman - Patsy MacDonald
Baie Comeau	Membership Chairman - Barbara Rioux

MEMBERSHIP FIGURES ARE BASED ON STUDENT ENROLLMENT.

Congratulations to these schools and their membership committees for these excellent achievements. Membership Awards will be presented at the AGM.

1988/1989 GROUP AFFILIATE MEMBERS

School/Parents' Committees

(as of Mar. 16, 1989)

Allancroft School
Asbestos-Danville-Shipton School
Aylmer Sound School
Beechwood School
Buckingham Consolidated School
Bury School (and Pope Mem'l School)
Butler School
Campbell's Bay and District School
Cecil Newman School
Cedar Street School
Centennial Regional High School
C.E. Pouliot Polyvalent
Chateauguay Valley Regional High School
Chomedey Polyvalent High School
Dr. S.E. McDowell School
Dorset School
Ecole les Rapides de Lachine
Ecole Primaire Beaconsfield
Ecole Primaire Pointe Claire
Edgewater School
Franklin School
Gault Institute
Hampstead School
Harold Sheppard School
Hemmingford School
Hudson Elementary & High School
John F. Kennedy School
John Rennie High School
Jubilee School
Knowlton Academy
Lasalle High School
LeMoynes d'Iberville High School
Lennoxville Elementary School
Lindsay Place High School
Macdonald High School
Mansonville School
Margaret Pendlebury School
McCaig School
Mountainview School

Mount Royal Academy
Murdochville School
North Hatley School
Northview School
Onslow School
Ormstown School
Parkview School
Philemon Wright High School
Princess Elizabeth (Magog) School
Quebec High School
Queen Elizabeth School
Richelieu Valley Regional High School
Riverdale High School
Riverview School
Roslyn School
Royal Charles School
St. Agathe Academy
St. Augustine School
St. Foy School
St. Johns School
St. Joseph School
St. Patrick School
St. Paul Junior High School
St. Veronica School
Souvenir School
Spring Garden School
Sunnydale Park School
Sunnyside School
Three Rivers High School
Valois Park School
Verdun Catholic High School
Wakefield School
Western Laval High School
Westpark School
Wilder Penfield School
William Latter School
Woodland School

Teachers

Aylmer Elementary School
Edinburgh Elementary School
Gaspésia Teachers' Association
Lakeshore Teachers Association
South Hull School Staff

School Boards

Eastern Townships School Board
Greater Hull School Board
Greater Quebec School Board
Greater Seven Islands School Board
Lakeshore School Board
Ormstown School Board
Peterborough County Board of Education
Pontiac Protestant School Board
Protestant Regional School Board, District of Bedford
Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal
Protestant School Board of Northwestern Quebec
Protestant Regional School Board of Western Quebec
Quebec Association of Protestant School Boards
Richelieu Valley School Board
School Board of Bonaventure
South Central Protestant School Board
South Shore Protestant Reg'l School Board
St. Lawrence Protestant School Board
St. Maurice Protestant School Board

Others

Association for the Advancement of Jewish Education
First Nations Education Council
École Primaire Pierrefonds
Kahnawake Education Center
Loyola High School
Quebec Association of Children with Learning Disabilities (QACLD)
Youtheatre Inc.
Six Nations Traditional Hereditary Chiefs (Kanesatake)

Home & School

MEMBERSHIP LEDGER

School	M'ship Chrm.	M'ship as of MAR. 89
ALLANCROFT	Jean Touchie	149
ANDREW S. JOHNSON MEMORIAL	Gerald Bennett	45
AYER'S CLIFF	Nancy Loadenthal	16
AYLMER	Sheila Glandon	47
BAIE COMEAU	Barbara Rioux	28
BEACON HILL	Joan Farrell	147
BEACONSFIELD HIGH	Diane Spencer	116
	Kathy Rennick	
CARLYLE	Effie Giannakis	16
CEDAR PARK	Isabella Hewitt	114
CHELSEA	Jackie Dare	9
CHRISTMAS PARK	Pamela Ann Doherty	172
COURTLAND PARK	Judy Stanway	141
DORSET	Cathy Watson	145
DUNRAE GARDENS	Jeannette Tabah	199
ECOLE PRIMAIRE BEACONSFIELD	Marilyn Tooley	231
ECOLE PRIMAIRE HARWOOD	Lynda Mathieson	
	Sue Spall	142
ECOLE PRIMAIRE POINTE CLAIRE	Lydia Leckman	
	Anne-Marie Jorgenson	184
EDGEWATER	Arlene Whiting	184
EDINBURGH	Ingrid Poupart	184
ELIZABETH BALLANTYNE	Carol Porteous	167
EMMANUEL CHRISTIAN	Rose Thibodeau	23
GREENDALE	Donna Rosenblum	138
HAMPSTEAD	Helen Loterman	50
HOPETOWN-SHIGAWAKE		
PORT DANIEL	Elsie McGie	23
HOWICK	Carol Cresswell	18
HUDSON/MT. PLEASANT (includes high school)		
JOHN RENNIE HIGH	Diane Williamson	192
	Liz Parker	
	Ursula Morris	107
KEITH	Jean MacDonald	38
LACHINE HIGH	Bonnie Hasan	38
LINDSAY PLACE HIGH	Roslyn Karpman	307
MACDONALD HIGH	Susan Tweddell	113
MARY GARDNER	Josie Cool	3
MEADOWBROOK	Debbie Armstrong	132
NEW CARLISLE HIGH	Patsy MacDonald	49
NEW RICHMOND HIGH	Elaine Cochrane	62
NORTHVIEW	Jan Inns	116
ROYAL WEST ACADEMY	Brenda Major	95
SEIGNIORY	Ellen Arnold	110
SOUTH HULL	Faye Ingrey	21
SUNNYDALE	Barbara Kling	
	Mary Yadguard	161
THORNDALE	Patricia Scott	122
VALOIS PARK	Sandy Gordon-Loiello	128
WAGAR HIGH	Shirley Shapiro	11
WESTPARK	Janet Goldstein	177
WILLINGDON	Francine Jones-Doyle	94
WINDERMERE	Barbara Johansen	154

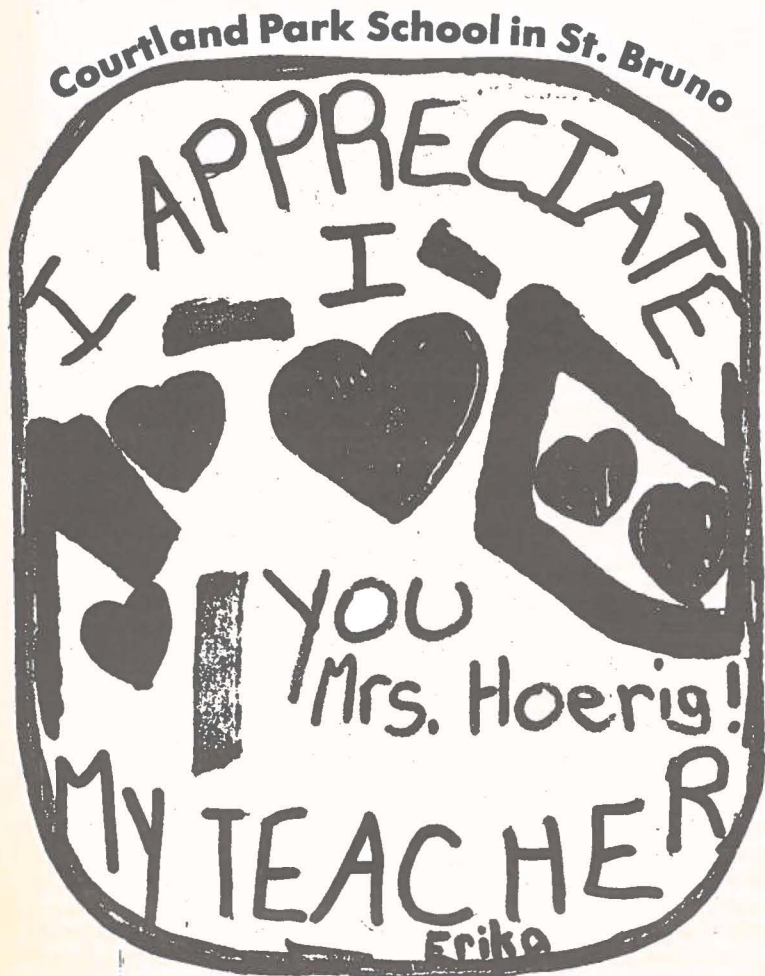
Above membership figures include Associate Members at local Home & Schools, i.e. families who have joined more than one school.

When One Person Speaks Alone

When one person speaks alone, it's an opinion.
When 10 of us speak together, it's a concern.
When 50 of us speak together, it's a strong suggestion.
When 200 of us speak together, it's a movement.
But when the 5000 families and 100 group affiliates speak together, it's a victory for children!

FOCUS on the LOCALS

H&S celebrates teachers



Seignory says it with cookies

"TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK" got off to a great start with the delivery of two "Cookie Bouquets". Each teacher was presented with a long stem cookie and enjoyed every bite!

Several classes held surprise parties. One of the Family Grouping classes enthusiastically decorated placemats for the Tuesday Buffet Luncheon, given by H&S. "Parents + Teachers = Action" buttons were distributed on Thursday.

The open house featured displays of projects from Kaleido-

Thorndale

Thorndale kicked off Teacher Appreciation Week with carnations for all the teachers and staff as well as two large baskets of fruit put in the staff lounge for all to enjoy.

Then on Tuesday, School Committee members cooked breakfast for the teachers.

Wednesday, H&S hosted a tea with a large "We Love Our Teachers" cake and mini pastries. Parents took over classes for 45 minutes while all the teachers came to the tea. It proved to be a very enjoyable time for parents and teachers alike.

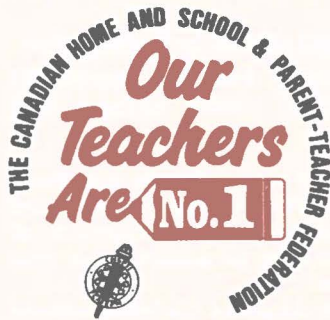
Parents contributed to a luncheon (postponed until March 20) with sandwiches, salads, sweets and more. We were very pleased to have our commissioners, Brian Lane and Grace Hone attend the luncheon.

Since the luncheon fell on the

scope, a program held on four Friday afternoons which draws on volunteers from the community and staff who offer projects of special interest to the students from biology to skiing to calligraphy.

We also held a bake sale and raffled off an ALF cake.

L.A. Monk



Monday of Thorndale's "Celebration of Learning Week" we were able to include a special guest, Chief Topleaf, who was at Thorndale that day teaching our children about being an Iroquois Indian 500 years ago.

Thorndale school began a "Wish Foundation" for one of the children in our kindergarten class who has leukemia and whose wish is to go to Florida.

The community has been very generous as well as the students who got involved with their nickels, dimes and quarters.

In the interest of fitness H&S has donated 22 pairs of cross country skis to the school. Students and teachers have already begun to enjoy them. Also there is now aerobics class after school two days per week.

NEW CARLISLE

THIS WINTER the high school students participated in a very successful World Book Encyclopedia Read-A-Thon. It was an eight week program in which the students were sponsored for reading books.

This raised \$3,206, and provided the school with four sets of World Book Encyclopedias, three sets of Childcraft, two sets of Science Encyclopedias, one dictionary and one atlas.

As part of "Teacher Appreciation Week" large hearts were put on each teacher's door with Gr. ___ loves you, Mrs. _____. At the entrance to the school a banner was put up reading, "We Love Our Teachers at NCHS".

Throughout the week many exciting events took place. Teachers received roses on Monday and heart-shaped invitations to Wednesday's luncheon, where they were given notes written by the students.

Teacher Appreciation Certificates were handed out. The teacher voted "Teacher of the Week" by the students, was presented with a bouquet of flowers, a paper crown

with hearts, and a "#1 Teacher" mug filled with cinnamon hearts.

A beautiful Valentine cake was given to the winning teacher in an "Identify the Teacher from the Baby Picture" contest. To top off the week, a "Happy Teacher Appreciation Week" message in the local newspaper, *Spec*, let the whole community know how the parents and students feel about their teachers.

HAMPSTEAD

FIVE STUDENTS participated in a Math Competition that took place at Wagar High.

A group called "Science Frontiers" staged a Science Fair the week of February 13, to help stimulate an interest in science. The students were very enthusiastic.

We had a puppet show called "Kids on the Block". Its aim was to help sensitize children to the needs of the handicapped.

Since the Annual Chocolate Bar fund-raiser was taking place around Valentine's Day, we celebrated "Teachers Week" March 6-10. Letters, posters and poems were given and displayed by the children.

Lise Axelrod

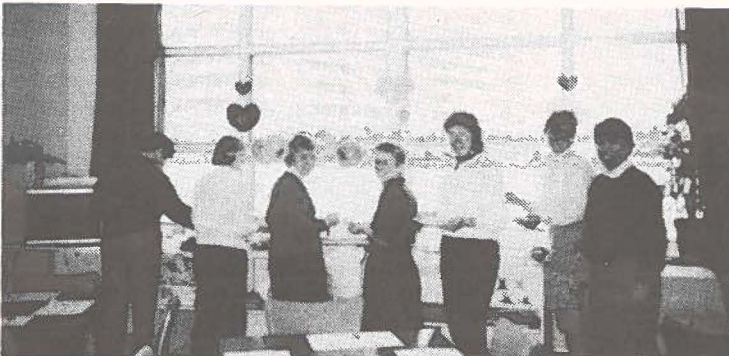
HOWICK



TEACHERS PLAY a vital role in the lives of our children and by taking part in "Teacher Appreciation Week" we had an opportunity to say "thank-you".

On Monday each teacher received a potted plant and each child was given a "We Love Our Teachers" button. On Wednesday, H&S invited the staff to a buffet luncheon. On Friday teachers were presented with scrapbooks consisting of pictures, stories and poems produced by the children and compiled by parents.

While all this excitement was going on the school also took part in the "Jump Rope For Heart" campaign. Candid photos were taken throughout the week to capture memorable moments for everyone to enjoy.



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The Registered Education Savings Plan (R.E.S.P.) is one of today's most important and most needed financial tax-shelters. Parents who have enrolled their children in the University Scholarships of Canada savings plan have assured them the option of obtaining one of life's greatest advantages — an education.

This job is not for everyone. It would appeal most to an entrepreneur who requires a truly unlimited income, as well as tremendous job satisfaction, and the business acumen required to run your own show.

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Congrats, Allyson!

ALLYSON SMITH, a Grade 3 student at Three Rivers Elementary School, took her family to Montreal recently to see a play. What's so special about that? She wrote part of the play!

Geordie Productions, the travelling theatre company that tours Quebec presenting drama to schools and communities, invited students to write stories that might be included in their next play.

Allyson put pen to paper, and wrote a short story entitled "What is Tomorrow Anyway?" Geordie Productions put Allyson's and other students' "writings" together and created a revue that was presented to the winners and their families and friends, and is about to tour the Province. The title of the revue is called "Troubles, Triumphs and Tomorrow." Don't miss it!



MORE FOCUS

J.F. Kennedy

We have started a newsletter called "JFK NEWS". This newsletter is sent out to our parents every second month.

And we are also very proud of our newly formed choir, directed by Ms. Angela Minicucci, which is working out very well.

For Teacher Appreciation Week we dedicated the first page of our newsletter to our teachers and educators and the school was decorated with balloons and posters. The children were asked to write out poems and/or letters saying why they liked their teachers.

A few were chosen and printed in our newsletter: all the others were posted in the school for the teachers to read.

Each teacher was presented with a corsage and a shiny red apple in a little ceremony put on in cooperation with the kindergarten kids.

We also participated in the Montreal St. Patrick's Day Parade with a float which was made up to promote the English Catholic Schools of Laval (Réseau Scolaire Chomedey de Laval).

Diane Battista

SUNNYDALE

Volunteers have been especially active helping when needed. This year at Kindergarten Registration volunteers met the new parents, introduced a number system, offered information about H&S, coffee and juice for the children, tours of the school and a friendly face. Volunteers also headed a Lice Patrol and again were there for the inoculation clinic doing whatever was needed. The school couldn't have gotten along without them.

"Teacher Appreciation Week" was a big success. A scrap book was secretly written by the students, and put together by the parents, for the teachers and was presented on Valentine's Day, Tuesday Feb. 14th. On Monday the teachers came into school to find it decorated with "We Love Our Teachers" balloons and streamers. On Wednesday the teachers were presented with "Teachers are #1" buttons; Thursday at lunchtime a Sweet Table was offered; and Friday teachers received Certificates of Appreciation.

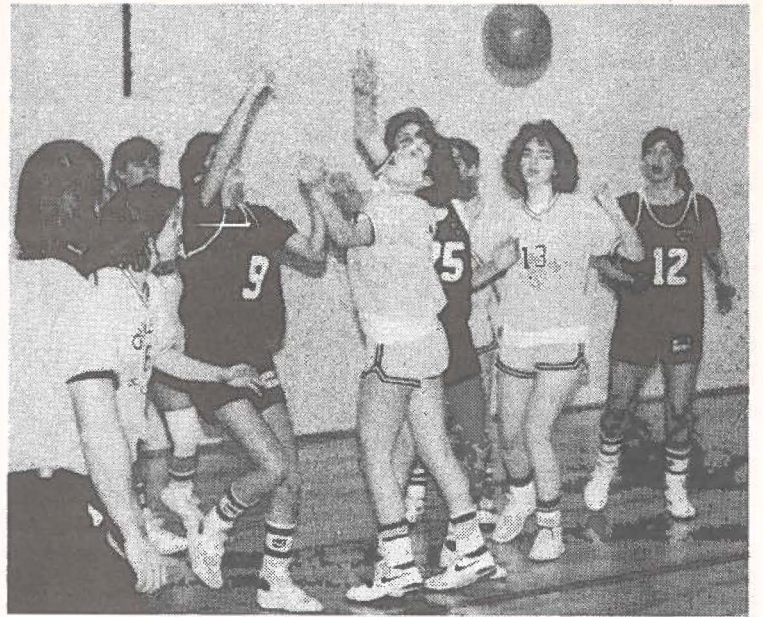
An enterprising group of students from Mrs. Chartrand's grade

6 class put together a newspaper called **Sunnydale Post** to raise money for Cancer Research. The editors were Steven Hirsh and Leigh Davis, the writers were Audra Moore, Adele Marglis, Jennifer Larry, Ashok Kirshnamurthy, Daniel Lieberman, Cory Szwarcok, Noah Chess, Leigh Davis, Steven Hirsh and Jennifer Lapkovsky. Managing editor was Mrs. C. Chartrand. They presented a cheque for \$60 to Cancer Research.

H&S sponsored the Nomad Scientist's hands-on workshop for the students; Recorder Lessons started Jan. 26th and are taught by Christie West; previously featured programs, Mad Science, Chess, and Kids Kraft Korner, started again — all with help from the H&S.

Carol Magurn

THREE RIVERS TOURNAMENT Basketballmania



Quebec vs. Thetford, played at Andrew S. Johnson Memorial High School.

Elizabeth Ballantyne

The past few months have been a time of change and of exciting events for Elizabeth Ballantyne School.

At the end of February, students, staff and parents were saddened to bid farewell to our principal of 14 years, Mrs. Elizabeth Kremell. We wish her every success as she settles into her new position as principal of Royal West Academy.

Miss Barbara McKnight was appointed as interim principal for the balance of the school year and is doing a tremendous job.

Our students participated in the annual Halo Road Race with great enthusiasm and posted truly excellent results.

A Science Fair was held at the end of April with all grades from K to 6 exhibiting various projects on many topics. The quality of each and every display was outstanding

and we hope to have this become an annual affair.

Four grade 5 students enrolled in one of our H&S Extra-Curricular programs, "Advanced Math", visited Dawson College and demonstrated to students twice their age their amazing grasp of advanced mathematical concepts.

At the beginning of May, EBS was proud to host the finals in the Public Speaking competition in Region 4. All competitors were very well prepared and presented their material in a most professional manner. Two of our own students were medal winners.

Last but not least, two of our own H&S members are very busy these days organising an Extended Kindergarten to open in September 1989 — an exciting and integral addition to an already well-rounded school.

Sue Pam

Ste. Agathe Academy

French program is tailor made

Ste. Agathe Academy is a thriving rural school with a tailor-made French studies program.

Ste. Agathe Academy Kindergarten has a happy attendance three full days a week. Morning classes are conducted in English. A bilingual teacher moves comfortably into French-only in the afternoon.

As yet, primary grades 2 and 3 are studying French as a second language. Grades 3, 4, 5, and 6, however, have streamed into two groups and 34 of 60 students (approximately 55 percent) are truly bilingual.

They are now participating in a creative program in French as the mother tongue. Time is given to story writing and dramatic arts as well as reading and grammar. Teachers and students alike are enjoying the challenge and diversity.

The high school has participated for some years in an enriched French studies program. Secondary students study geography and ecology in French and Secondary II has a French language history program.

This year a small group of bilingual students in each of Secondary I, II, and III have moved ahead to join the class above theirs in French studies.

These students look forward to the advantage of joining the new "Cours d'Option" now offered at the Secondary V level.

This exciting course is a pilot project for us and only 2 or 3 other Quebec English language schools.

The course is designed to bridge the gap between French as a second language and French as the mother tongue. It offers literary appreciation and expands communication

skills at a sophisticated level.

Graduates will assuredly be able to work comfortably in French where communication skills are of primary importance.

Principal Grant Hawley juggled schedules miraculously to allow for double French programs where necessary.

We are proud to provide the chance to strengthen our bilingual roots. With dedication and creativity the "two solitudes" can harmoniously unite through our system of education.

Louise E. Spunt



E.P. BEACONSFIELD

WELCOME SPRING

WELCOME to Spring! The school had an especially active winter season this year.

The annual Brunch with Santa was tremendously successful and thoroughly enjoyed thanks to all who gave so generously of their time.

A delightful Christmas concert combined with a slide show was presented to parents by students and teachers. Of particular note was the impressive debut of our new school choir.

Congratulations to Kelly Cameron who won the Expo Habitant Contest for her drawing of a "perfect home". A trophy case will

soon be in place to display this and other awards won by the school community.

The Grade 1 classes recently benefitted from a full day computer workshop, as did the teachers who attended a two-day science workshop held at the school.

Teachers were spoiled on a daily basis, all through "Teacher Appreciation Week."

Once again the H&S has been donating significantly to school life. Another large number of books were ordered for the library along with six cassette tape machines and equipment for the P.E. and music departments was also ordered.

Carol Consolante

FLASHES FROM THE LOCALS

A profit of \$739.25 was made on the Poinsettia Sale at Ecole Primaire Pierrefonds, giving a boost to their Playground Fund.

Dr. S.E. McDowell H&S held a St. Patrick's Dinner and Dance on March 11. The proceeds went toward the purchase of playground equipment.

The \$800 profit from a February talent show at Onslow Elementary will help swell the committee's playground fund.

A successful "sea-pie" dinner, organized and served by the Campbell Bay H&S, in conjunction with the winter carnival, resulted in \$175 for school equipment. (more for a playground?)

WORKSHOP ALERT!

Do you want to find out how to increase your H&S membership? How to turn out newsletters and publicity that no member can ignore?

Then come to the H&S office at 3285 Cavendish Blvd, on June 8 at 7:30 p.m. for the Membership/Publicity/Newsletter workshop.

Here you'll learn the secret of — **success**.

You'll learn how to:

- Layout a newsletter so it leaps from your child's knapsack, instead of slowly fading away under dirty sneakers.
- Produce publicity that rivals the Canadian Government's convincing messages about the deficit.
- Get every parent to join H&S, even the wily one who hides behind the stage curtain when he/she sees you approaching.

The workshop will be a chance to exchange ideas on publicity for local associations, on posters, newspaper items, photos, newsletters.

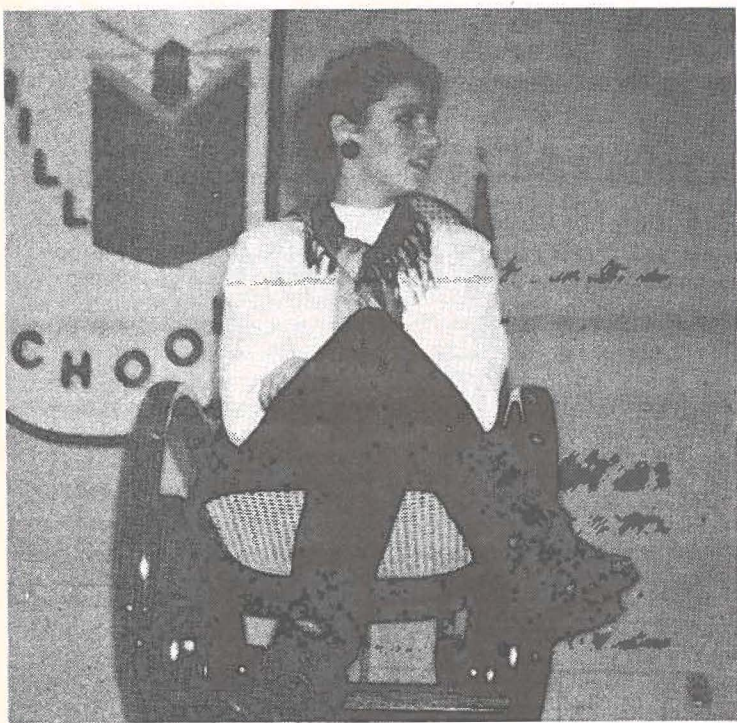
WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Anyone interested in making their H&S strong and viable.

Everyone is welcome.

Please RSVP by June 5 by calling the QFHSA office at 481-5619. We'll see you there.

BEACON HILL



Carolyn Waldo, Olympic Gold Medalist, and former student at Beacon Hill Elementary School, is present as the gymnasium is renamed in honour of her achievements.

EDGEWATER

OUR PRE-CHRISTMAS Read-A-Thon was a great success.

The students worked hard to raise \$6700 and after World Book Encyclopedia augmented this total we were able to order over \$10,000 worth of reference materials.

Each one of our junior classes now has a set of ChildCraft and the senior classes a set of World Book Encyclopedia. The library has both.

In addition we were able to get dictionaries and a good supply of science reference material. The kids were rewarded for their efforts at an assembly where they received medals and certificates.

February 17 was Winter Carnival Day. The H&S supplied hot chocolate to warm the younger kids after their outdoor activities.

For the senior kids the school requested awards, which the H&S supplied in the form of engraved medals.

To kick off 'Teacher Appreciation Week' every teacher received an apple with a special message.

H&S placed a bouquet of flowers in the teachers' room.

Moms put fresh baking in the staff room every day as a morning recess treat.

H&S also put up 3 graffiti walls where the kids personally expressed their appreciation.

Mary-Anne Tower

WINDERMERE

A NUMBER of events were organized for "Teacher Appreciation Week".

Posters and banners decorated the library; clowns visited to distribute flowers and thank-you cards; a chili lunch was held for the staff, and teachers received "treats" at recess.

The Safety Patrollers organized an entertaining after-school Valentine's Party. There was a lively dance contest and excellent decorations, particularly the outstanding poster created by Valerie Cox.

On May 27 in Ottawa, the patrollers will be joining thousands of others from across Canada at the "National Safety Patrollers' Jamboree '89".

They will enjoy marching bands, entertainment, lunch at the Ottawa Civic Auditorium and take a salute from dignitaries in front of the Parliament Buildings.

MORE FOCUS

McCaig Celebrates Its Staff

The McCaig School Committee chose to expand a bit on the idea of National Teacher Appreciation Week.

We felt we wanted to include very supportive yet relatively unrecognized staff so we extended our circle to such people as our beloved caretaker, our dedicated librarian, our loving parent-aides, the nurse, social worker, respondent, and our always-there-when-you-need-her secretary.

Thus, it became known in our community as STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK.

Each day we had a surprise. Monday morning when they arrived they were greeted with a banner in the foyer of the school and asked to check their mailboxes.

There, awaiting them was a note with instructions to add their piece to the apple puzzle which was hung near the main office. The puzzle contained a message inviting them to a luncheon on Friday.

Tuesday was Valentine's Day and every staff member received a heart valentine personally written by all school committee members.

Wednesday was great. We offered each one room service for muffins and coffee. McCaig teachers were also fortunate enough to be the winners of a Celebration Bouquet of flowers from CFCF 60 Radio that day. (Thank you Aaron Rand)

On Thursday, the staff were given the traditional apple but with a new twist. Allowing for individual tastes, we had them choose from three varieties of apples. Each had attached to it a greeting for the day.

Friday was an Italian luncheon with salad, lasagna made from homemade pasta, and chocolate pie for dessert.

The staff room was transformed into a colorful display of red, white and green. A festive ending to a great week.

We involved the children by having a special mailbox available throughout the week for messages and pictures telling the teachers how or why they were appreciated.

Selected students assisted in serving the lasagna, and the entire school's pride could not help but swell at the prospect of having the CBC SWITCHBACK television crew on sight to record the event.

As parents we had fun. As teachers they really enjoyed being the focus of the "little extras" we showered them upon.

We appreciate the work of the team for no school would be healthy without it, but we must also recognize our principal for his participation and spirit from the onset of the planning. Thank you Mr. Shapiro.

Francine Fink

WILLINGDON

The death of Sylvie Assathiany in January was a sad event for many at Willingdon — former students, parents and colleagues at Willingdon.

Sylvie, the author of several children's books, was a teacher at Willingdon for 15 years before succumbing to cancer.

Knowing the importance Sylvie placed on teaching, her colleagues arranged for a souvenir album to be presented to her which included class and individual photos of Sylvie's former students.

The album was cherished by Sylvie and is now a lasting memento for her family.

ALLANCROFT

AN INFORMATION evening on Parenting and Communication was held March 28 with speakers Rev. Gerry Turpin and Mrs. Sharon Nield from Family Life Centre.

The information evenings have been organized, throughout the year, by Linda Chebab, chairperson of the H&S's Education Committee.

The Cross Age Tutoring programme has enabled the Grade 2&3 (and even some Grade 1) students to acquire numerous skills in

Gymnastics and Cross Country Skiing at an accelerated rate of learning.

Students are participating, learning, having fun, and developing important social and physical skills, and positive attitudes that will hopefully remain with them forever.

The Library Fund Raiser made the library richer by \$2,000. The money will be used to buy French fiction books and non-fiction material.

The second Annual Wheels Sale was held April 1st, just in time for spring riding. 25% of each sale went to the school.

PARKSIDE RANCH

C.P. - BOX 386,
MAGOG, QUEBEC
J1X 3W9



A CHRISTIAN YOUTH CAMP
320 ACRES BORDERING
ORFORD PROVINCIAL PARK

a member of
Christian Camping International

Supervised activities include
RIDING • SPORTS • ARCHERY
CAMPFIRES • HANDICRAFTS
RIFLERY • and many others

Co-educational,
ages 10-16 years

English Camp

June 25 to July 8

July 23 to August 5

August 6 to August 19

Parkside Round-up

Coeducational, ages 16 up
September 1 to September 4

French Camp

July 9 to July 22

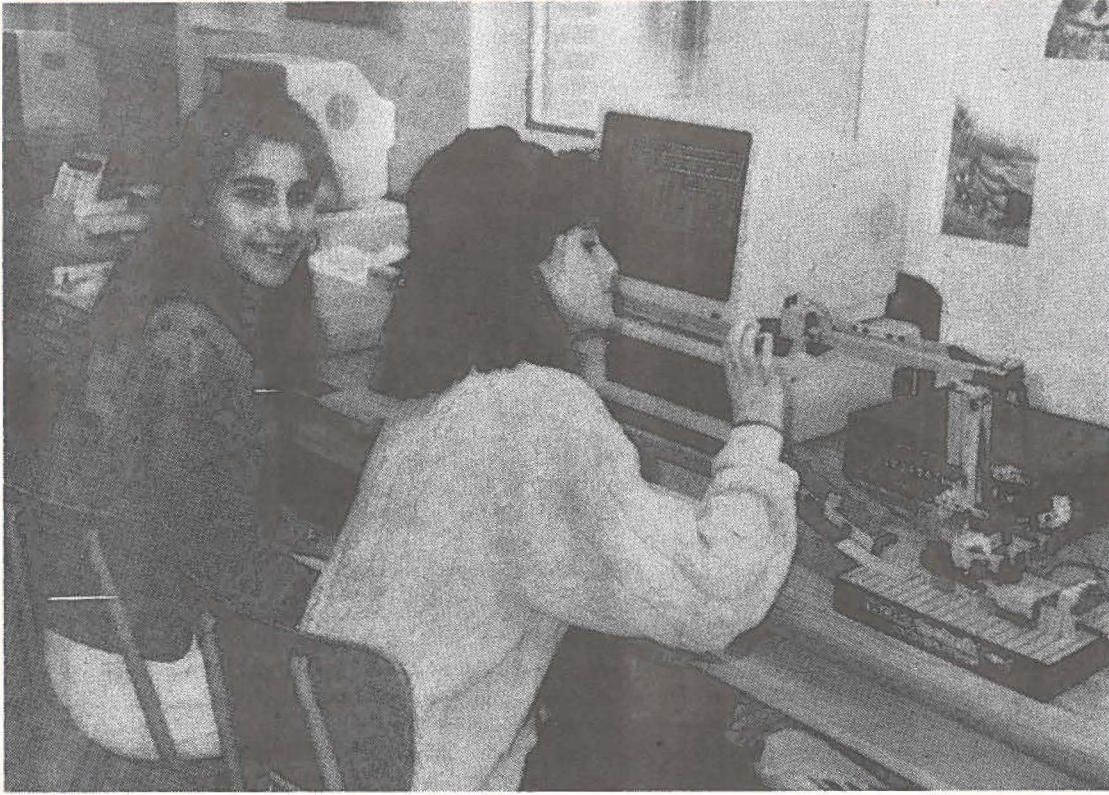
For information about French camp, call

(514) 388-8510

For information about English camp, call

Magog (819) 843-6748

Montreal (514) 676-5923



ST. PAUL JR. HIGH SCHOOL

New Carlisle

The annual book fair was held Feb. 22 in conjunction with "I Love to Read" week. It was once again sponsored by H&S and organized by teachers and parents.

A poster contest was held and the winners were: Andrew Gilker, Natasha Beebe, Alisa Prince, Chester Chisholm, Mark Powers, Jason Renouf, Lizzie Fitzgerald, Tammy Chatterton and Arden Court

These students received a free book of their choice from the book fair.

Because we sold \$1900.00 worth of books, we receive \$950.00 worth of free books for the library.

Thank you to those who worked at the book fair and to those who purchased books — NCHS, SPDS and Hopetown students. See you next February.

Anne MacWhirter

MORE FOCUS

COMMITTEE REPORT: Social Affairs/Support Services

By PAT LEWIS

The Quebec Heart Foundation declared February as "Heart Month." Which fits in with January as "Non-Smoking" month, since healthy hearts are directly related to non-smoking.

A presidential board in the U.S. conducted public hearings on controlling cancer and recommended that tobacco be classified as a drug and subject to federal regulation.

The aim of the board is to create a tobacco-free society by the year 2000. The Canadian government, along with the Quebec government, has made laws to ban advertising of tobacco. There is one exception — tobacco companies may continue to sponsor sports and cultural events, but only if the tobacco company name is used and not the product's name.

Imperial Tobacco Company of Montreal has already taken steps to dodge the law. They have now incorporated four new companies, including Player's Ltd., du Maurier Ltd., and Matinée Ltd. The result is the tobacco company still advertises sports events, for example, by the names of its products! A recent study has found pollution from parents' smoking is much more dangerous to children than any other pollution likely to be found in the air.

Day Care The Quebec govern-

ment has proposed drastic changes in day care policies in the province, and these changes have come under fire from parents, teachers and even from the CNTU.

Criticism centers on the proposed funding system. Many parents believe that the changes would create two parallel systems of day care — one for the rich and one for the poor.

Critics of the new policy also think the government should:

Stop increases to day-care centre fees except to allow for the rate of inflation;

Eliminate all profit-making centres and, where possible, turn them into non-profit centres;

Increase wages paid to day-care workers and;

Reduce the number of children per teacher ratio in the centres.

Though the new policy has some good points, most people think it doesn't meet the needs of parents and children.

Since Quebec has 282,433 children under age 11 who need day care, it would appear this is a most important issue.

CLSC: A new Family and Child Care Centre has opened on Sources Blvd. in Dollard des Ormeaux. Staff includes 15 nurses, a doctor, a child psychologist, a counsellor and one dental hygienist. Because of the large number of young families on the West Island, these child and family-care services are important.

VALOIS PARK

THE KINDERGARTEN class celebrated "I Love to Read Week" by living in the land of fairy tales.

The room was divided into displays of many favourite fairy tales. *Rapunzel* seemed to be the biggest hit with her big tower and long, long hair.

In the past months H&S has provided hospitality at the kindergarten registration and has cooked hotdogs at the winter carnival.

Members also reminded teachers daily, during "We Love Our Teachers" week, that they appreciate all the time, work and care that they put into teaching.

Teachers were treated to a buffet lunch, recess snacks and care letters from parents and children.

The children made autobiographical posters of their teachers and enjoyed doing a teacher quiz. Lunch Program students made fridge magnets for the staff and the drama groups presented sketches for their enjoyment.

In February QFHSA arranged the speaker for a joint H&S and School Committee, Parent Education evening. Margaret Mitchell, a MRE consultant, led an interesting discussion on Children and Stress.

Joan Baker, Norma Stirling

St. John's School

The Parent Committee held a spaghetti supper on January 28 to raise funds for a play ground facility.

The children in the school helped a great deal by making center pieces and pictures. We had many volunteers to assist in planning and running of the supper and many of the local businesses donated door prizes.

E.P. PTE. CLAIRE

Students and parents were out in force to show their thanks during "Teacher Appreciation Week". A banner reading "nos profs on les ♥" was signed by every student and hung in the school entrance.

A baby photo contest was held. A poster of all the teacher's baby pictures was displayed for the week and students entered their guesses in a ballot box. The winner won an instant camera and a photo album.

The grade 6 students put on a play for and about their teachers and the H&S helped the students with their production.

Posters of appreciation made by the children were displayed throughout the school. H&S made up corsages for every teacher including the secretary and principals which were presented on Valentine's Day.

On Pizza Day teachers were treated to pizza and lunch-time supervisors were also invited to take part. On Friday, coffee and cokes were offered.

The School Committee composed a letter of appreciation and included students comments about each teacher then put these letters in each teacher's mailbox.

The turnout was fantastic.

Towards the same goal, on February 14 we raffled a trip for two to Hollywood, Florida, donated by Johanne Rauzon Travel. The surprised winner was Chantale Baribeau of Napierville.

These two fund raising events will help us purchase a safe and sturdy play ground facility for the children.

Thanks to all who helped support our effort!



WESTPARK

IMAGINE the surprise when the school was informed that they had collected the most money in Quebec for the Society for Disabled Children.

Last fall everyone knew the grades 2 to 6 would do their best in canvassing for loose change, but to have collected a total sum of \$2,588.03 deserved recognition.

H&S President, Karey Garoufalis and Vice-President Lesia Freeman took great pride in presenting the grand prize to Katie Franzlos, Grade 2, for collecting the most money. The association sent a Cabbage Patch Kid, 10 McDonald's gift certificates and 30 folders for the top collectors.

Each child who made an effort to collect something received a

certificate of participation with their name written on it.

The school has a certificate of merit displayed on the H&S bulletin board and will be sent a trophy to be kept for the rest of the school year.

The school's other success story is the expansion of extra-curricular programmes. These have been running for a number of years but this academic year sees 179 families enrolled.

Besides courses in crafts, cooking, recorder, drawing and karate, all taught by the same teachers for a number of years, new courses included senior aerobics, Mad science and chess. These proved popular, especially Mad science, where the children were split into three classes according to grade.

Penny Lavoie, the coordinator,

has been very resourceful in finding out what types of activities the children want.

H&S is working on new and different courses for September since there is such a demand for after-school programmes. Who says children prefer to go home to play Nintendo or watch soap operas?

Lesia Freeman

Royal Charles

On April 29 we held our third annual "FUN FAIR".

Starting at 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. the "FUN FAIR" offered something for the whole family.

For a breath of Spring in a flowery setting the FUN FAIR was the place to be.

Janet Parker

Books on Review

By KENNETH RADU

Breakwater Books of St. John's, Newfoundland has published some remarkable books for children. One that immediately comes to mind is **Down by Jim Long's Stage** (1981), written by Al Pittman and illustrated by Pam Hall, a book of rhymes that won a Governor General's Award.

Among their most recent offerings are **Borrowed Black: A Labrador Fantasy**, written by Ellen Bryan Obed and illustrated by Jan Mogensen, and **Sooshevan: Child of the Beothuk**, written by Donald Gale and illustrated by Shawn Steffler.

Both books are published in handsome, large format with hard cover, further examples of Breakwater's excellent production values.

Borrowed Black is an original fantasy in rhyming couplets describing the nature and antics of a half-legendary, half-mythic creature of the Labrador, the eponymous "villain", if you will, of the poem.

He lives in a shack "built for the ugliest weather" with "200 creatures to hold it together." Not quite human, not quite animal, Borrowed Black had "hands from the claws of a bear" and "brown seaweed he borrowed for hair."

In compelling rhythm and lines that end on strong rhymes, this narrative poem tells the imaginative, unforgettable story of a strange being who "borrowed" the moon which he then dropped, broke, and buried the "pieces — a billion and four ... deep off the Labrador".

As a result of his "nefarious" activity, the world at night was "thick and dark and chilly"; but help comes in the form of a boat built "in the back of a whale," with its curious and delightfully realized crew. Striking details and vivid but economical descriptions are carried along in a gripping poetic rhythm that keeps interest alive and words singing.

The pictures are as memorable as the poem. Jan Mogensen manages to create scenes that are humorous and eerie at the same time. With the subtle use of blue, white, brown and green watercolours, and the sparing but striking use of yellow for Borrowed Black's eyes, Mogensen's illustrations work beautifully with Obed's words.

The ideal picture book does not sacrifice story for the sake of painting, nor should the illustrations deflect from the quality of the narrative. In **Borrowed Black: A Labrador Fantasy** we have a happy union between picture and text creating a thoroughly enjoyable feast for the eye and the imagination.

Of a different nature but of equal merit is **Sooshevan: Child of the Beothuk**. This is a moving story of a young Beothuk girl, Sooshevan, on the verge of adulthood, who courageously searches for her father in face of tremendous obstacles.

The history of the Beothuk is not as well known as it should be although many of use may know that the last Beothuk died in Newfoundland in the first half of the nineteenth century. **Sooshevan: Child of the Beothuk** however, is not about extinction, it's about survival.

Donald Gale places his story in an earlier period of time when the people still and their own culture, practices, beliefs, and still had to manage their lives during difficult winters when food was scarce.

Such is the situation here. With her people Sooshevan endures the hardships of winter and, in fact, is facing starvation. Her father goes out on a hunt though a snowstorm threatens.

Sooshevan's dying grandmother dreams that he is in trouble and tells her granddaughter who in turn tells her people. Because she is still young and not quite adult, a "woaseesk" (little girl) and not a "woas-sut" (woman) and because the message came from the visions of a dying old woman, no one believes Sooshevan.

Convinced of the truth and desperate to help her father, Sooshevan undertakes the arduous journey alone to search for her father whom she eventually finds semi-conscious and wounded in a rough bough shelter in the woods.

This is a story of a young girl's courage and of her movement from the last stages of childhood into the first stages of complex adulthood. In that sense, **Sooshevan: Child of the Beothuk** is as much a "spiritual" biography as it is an illustrated adventure story. It is also a narrative that depicts the integrity and humanity of a tragic people.

Donald Gale's writing is restrained and precise. Sometimes it lacks colour and energy, but for the most part Gale's style is clean and concrete, ideal for conveying emotion without sinking to sensationalism or bathos. He also has a superb sense of cultural details, for choosing those aspects of Beothuk practices and beliefs that fit in naturally with his story.

We never have the sense of being given an anthropological lesson. For example, there is a scene describing the work being done on a birchbark canoe. We are given the details of the work but they are quickly connected to Sooshevan's desire to be taken seriously, to be considered grown up.

The illustrations by Shawn Steffler, nominated for a Governor General's Award for her work in **Flights of Magic**, are strong, vivid, and appropriate to the text. She uses rich browns, deep greens, orange, white — colours of the landscape, colours of the Beothuk people. Throughout the text she has painted blue and red stylized birds, clearly symbols of the Indian spirit. Once again text and picture work together to create a beautiful book.

LSB to host student convo

The Annual Canadian Student Leadership Conference with Secretary of State Gerry Weiner as a keynote speaker, will be hosted in October 1989 by the Lakeshore School Board, at John Rennie High School in Pointe Claire.

Between 500 and 600 are expected to attend, and the federal government has supplied a travel grant of \$40,000 to help cover transportation costs of delegates from distant parts of the country.

Delegates, attending previous conferences have been impressed by their high quality and by the calibre of the participants, many

of whom have already been identified as the future leaders of their communities and indeed of the

nation. Together with their adult advisors, these students are dedicated to making Canada's high schools productive and wholesome environments.

To make this a first-class event, conference organizers under the leadership of LSB Student Life Consultant Patricia Jared are seeking support from both public and private sources.

Farm Experience For Teenagers

Would you like your teenager to spend the summer on an operating tourist farm where they will acquire a practical education and experiences to last a lifetime?

Old McDonald's Farm in Rawdon, Qué. will accept two (2) teenage students during the 1989 summer period of June, July and August. These students will be subjected to a daily routine of light farm duties in exchange for room and board.

The applicants will be extensively screened and only NON smoking, alcohol and drug users will not be considered.

Applicants should contact:

Susan Irving
Old McDonald's Farm reg'd
5766, Morgan Rd.
Rawdon, Québec J0K 1S0
(514) 834-3458

Join Us For A Day At

"Old McDonald's Farm" 1866's



NOW!

OPEN 7 DAYS/WEEK, MAY TO LABOUR DAY

A day at "Old McDonald's Farm" is an educational and memorable tour for "children of all ages" from 1 to 99. Our basic concept is to allow the city oriented child to physically come in contact with the farm animals and equipment, so as to see first hand where and how various agricultural products are developed, or for you "older children" just to renew old memories.

Drop by any day from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., May to Labour Day and enjoy a self guided "Day at the Farm".

The Farm also offers pre-reserved guided tours. The fully bilingual staff and group guides are trained and extremely motivated to ensure that each and every person visiting the farm leaves with a fond memory, but more importantly, a better understanding of the down to earth day to day functioning of the agricultural world.

The response this year has exceeded our expectations and many dates have already been reserved. Please call at your earliest convenience to reserve your preferred date. The itinerary of a typical "Day At The Farm" is listed below.

Yours truly, *Susan Irving* Susan Irving, Manager.

ITINERARY

ARRIVAL

- Introduction to farm personnel and farm rules.
- Use of washroom facilities.
- Picnic supplies available at Snack Bar

FARM ANIMALS

— Organised tour in sequence, with full explanation of each animal's function and relationship to daily life on and off the farm. (During this time you will be able to touch and pet the animals).

CHICKENS	SHEEP	HORSES	HENS	GOATS	RABBITS
PIGS	GEESE	TURKEYS	COWS	DUCKS	CATS

- Feed mother horse and her foal.

FARM MACHINERY

— Viewing of farm machinery and discussion of it's uses.

TRACTOR	HARROW	SLEIGHS	PLOW	HAY BAILER	MOWING MACHINE
GRUBBER	HAY RAKE	WAGONS	SEEDER	ROLLER	THRASHING MILL

WAGON RIDE

— To sugar cabin, pic-nic area and nature center. (1 Km. away at foot of Maple Sugar Bush Mountain).

LUNCH

— Free play or just relax and enjoy nature. (play area eg: tire swings, rope ladders, balls, etc.)

NATURE STUDY

— See new method of maple syrup production, sap collection through plastic pipe system, boiling equipment and explanation of difference between old and new methods or hike up Maple Sugar Bush Mountain to admire Mother Nature.

— OLD McDONALD'S Famous "Secret" Treasure Hunt.

— Collection of toads, grasshoppers, insects, leaves, plants, etc. (Bring your own containers)

— Scenic nature walk via "Marsh Lake" to feed ducks and onto Barnyard.

FARM MUSEUM "Opening in 1989"

— Stroll through Old McDonald's Farm museum of equipment and machinery of yesteryear.

DEPARTURE

- Souvenirs available at Snack Bar.
- Traditional send off from "OLD McDONALD'S FARM" personnel.

5766 Morgan Road, Rawdon, Québec J0K 1S0 (514) 834-3458
Only 35 miles from Montreal, adjacent to Canadiana Village

A DAY AT OLD McDONALD'S FARM - RAWDON

The ever popular fulfilled and educational DAY AT OLD McDONALD'S FARM, RAWDON, QUE. will be open: FROM May 1st to Labour Day to accommodate elementary schools, pre-schools, day care centers and all large or small groups (by reservation only) and FROM June 24th to Labour Day for families and individuals to drop by any day 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (last admittance) and enjoy a "Self Guided Day at the Farm".

If you would like more information or pamphlets call Susan Irving at (514) 834-3458. * MAKE SURE THE CHILDREN DON'T MISS THIS EXCITING EXPERIENCE *

Read with a child today.



150 FARM ANIMALS, BIRDS AND EQUIPMENT

▲ SAFETY SCENE ▲ SAFETY SCENE ▲

Helping children survive THE GANG THREAT!

Children join gangs and commit vandalism or violent acts due to a need to belong to someone or something.

Children join gangs at age 14, sometimes younger. Gang membership, especially among "hard-core" members, is strongly tied to drug use, sexual activity, violence and crime. It's a difficult cycle to break.

Parents can protect their children from a gang's influence by:

- ▶ Spending time alone with each of your children to help convince them they are an important part of the family.
- ▶ Supervising your children's activities. Make sure a reliable adult is present at all functions.
- ▶ Helping your children get involved in athletics or other group activities that interest them so they can feel they belong.
- ▶ Talking with your children about your values. Let them know why you think gangs are dangerous.
- ▶ You could mention: constant threat of violence, either to gang members or to innocent bystanders; hatred of other groups for no reason; drug use, which leads to its own problems and an increased chance of being arrested.
- ▶ Teaching your children what to do if gang members approach them. The best response is to WALK AWAY.

Warn children **not** to respond with the same gesture — the gang members may be "false flagging," using the sign of a rival gang. The result could be violence.

It's possible, if there is gang activity in your area, that your child may become involved. Often parents don't realize their children's gang activity until they have become "hard-core," when it is too late. How can you tell whether your child is involved?

Be on the lookout for signs of a child's possible involvement in a gang: changes in the child's selection of friends; changing pattern in

dress such as wearing the same color combination all the time or purchasing a gang sweater or jacket; secretiveness about activities; new-found affluence from unknown sources, and changes in behavior and diminishing interest in the family and school. An even more reliable but often ignored sign is being arrested.

If you notice these patterns, you can get help. Contact the gang crimes unit of your police department. They may be able to help you find counseling and tell you how to help your child.

What H&S Can Do To Help Parents

Plan a H&S information night on gangs. Invite speakers from the police department or the local gang prevention task force. Provide parents with resources, information and encouragement to help them prevent their children from joining gangs.

H&S Can Help At School

If it has been established that gangs are in your area, make sure **teachers are well-informed** about gangs, gang recruitment, activities, signs and colors.

They can be very helpful in planning effective prevention and information programs.

Suggest effective **Strategies to fight truancy**. Work to have your school made a closed campus so students cannot leave in the middle of the day.

This will also keep gang members from entering the campus.

Urge schools to develop a **core of student leaders** to help keep problems from developing.

Use all student leaders, both those within and outside the mainstream — whoever is a leader of any sort.

Involve them in decisions made about the school and the students. Keep communication lines open.

Work with school officials to develop a school program to teach **non-violent methods of dispute resolution**.

A gang is only as strong as the community allows it to be. Take

steps to eliminate gang problems in your community.

Give youths a chance to be involved in a group with positive motivation. Start **alternative activities**. Set up teams in any sport.

Identify **youth-service agencies** within your community who are effectively dealing with gangs.

They may need your help. Many agencies need board members to act as liaisons to the community.

Learn about gangs and community efforts to control them. Appoint a H&S member such as the juvenile protection chairman to seek **information about gangs**. Contact the police department, or local newspaper for help.

Make this information available to parents, teachers and other community members.

If your police department has a Gang Crimes Unit, ask how you

can help with their work. They may want you to organize a **Neighborhood Crime Watch program**.

Often they can help you. They can talk to parents in a community about the gangs that are active there, what colors, graffiti or signs to watch for as well as what the community can do.

Work with parents and community members to develop a **parent/community network** where parents can find support and exchange experiences. The network could meet in people's homes to make the atmosphere more informal.

If your community doesn't have one, work with other community groups to set up a **Gang Task Force**.

Involve police, community leaders and students in working on the simpler problems related to gangs and working toward developing a

negative attitude about gangs.

Involve the business and political leaders in your community, too. convince them that since they have a financial stake in the community and since gangs can adversely affect the wealth of a community, it is in their best interest to contribute time and money to the gang prevention effort.

Talk with local media about establishing a policy that no gang should be identified by name anywhere.

Explain to them that gangs seek this type of recognition and it must be denied in order to diminish their popularity and power.

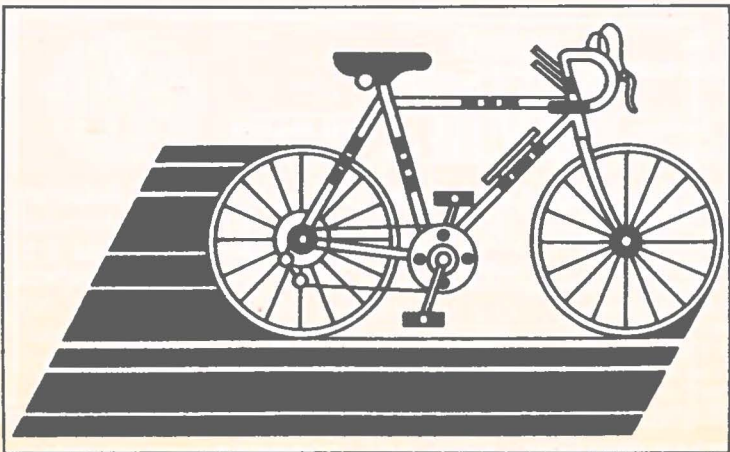
Encourage community members who witness gang crimes such as writing graffiti to **report the crime**.

From the PTA "Child Safety and Protection" kit.

COLOUR THE PICTURE AND DRAW A TOYBOX WHERE ALL TOYS SHOULD BE PUT. TOYS LEFT ON STAIRS AND FLOORS CAN CAUSE FALLS.



Safe cycling



SADLY, MANY CHILDREN WILL LOSE THEIR LIVES THIS YEAR IN BICYCLE ACCIDENTS, AND MANY MORE WILL BE INJURED, SOME WITH PERMANENT BRAIN DAMAGE. DON'T LET IT HAPPEN TO YOUR CHILD!

- BICYCLISTS ARE DRIVING VEHICLES AND MUST OBEY THE SAME RULES OF THE ROAD AS DRIVERS OR THEY CAN BE FINED UNDER THE HIGHWAY TRAFFIC ACT.
- DRIVE ON THE RIGHT SINGLE FILE AT ALL TIMES; IT IS NOT SAFER TO RIDE FACING ONCOMING TRAFFIC.
- OBEY ALL TRAFFIC SIGNS AND SIGNALS ESPECIALLY RED AND AMBER LIGHTS AND STOP SIGNS.
- AT DUSK OR AT NIGHT, BICYCLES MUST HAVE A HEADLIGHT ON THE FRONT AND A RED REFLECTOR AND RED REFLECTIVE TAPE ON THE BACK FENDER.
- WEAR A HELMET! YOUR CHILD WILL WANT TO COPY YOU AND IT WILL SOON BECOME SECOND NATURE, LIKE WEARING A SEAT BELT.
- FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT THE CANADIAN PEDIATRIC ASSOCIATION SECRETARIAT, 401 SMYTH ROAD, OTTAWA, ONTARIO K1H 8L1; (613) 737-2728.

FOOD ALLERGIES

The Council approved a resolution of support for the general principles underlying (private member's) Bill C-289 which has been introduced in the federal Parliament.

This bill seeks to amend the Food and Drugs Act and requires the accurate listing of all food ingredients by restaurants, especially the major 'fast food' chains which use set menus.

The bill has been prompted by the deaths, estimated at 12 per year, of those who suffer from severe food allergies.

The Council also referred this matter to its Executive Committee's Safety and Security subcommittee for study of the issue as it involves school cafeterias, and the possible recommendation of procedural or policy changes.