



QUEBEC HOME & SCHOOL

NEWS

"The Voice of the Parent in Education"

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1982 CONFERENCE THEME

"THE FAMILY — KEY TO THE FUTURE"

REORGANIZATION

Laurin speaks at Provincial parents' group But no questions allowed?

On February 6th in Montreal, several hundred parents from across Québec gathered to hear the Minister of Education, Dr. Camille Laurin speak and answer questions on his plans for the province's school system.

They never got to ask any questions. After the Minister's lengthy speech, which centred on the need for direct ties between his Ministry and the family in its community, the meeting ended leaving the audience frustrated at having travelled so far to spend a Saturday evening without their questions being heard, let alone answered.

Editorial pages in the French press since that date regularly printed letters from disgruntled parents, deploring Dr. Laurin's treatment of them.

Suggestions that the meeting was disrupted during the Minister's speech by non-French-speaking parents antagonized by what they have learnt of the Minister's plans have been discounted by English parents attending.

Apparently there was difficulty hearing the prepared speech because of a poorly adjusted public address system. Some members of the audience having difficulty in following the Minister's words called for him to speak more loudly.

"Apart from that", one parent was overheard to remark, "I almost had to pinch myself to keep awake, it was so dull!"

When the Minister abruptly left the stage following his address, no applause was forthcoming, it is reported.

H&S Position

On November 21, 1981, the Board of Directors of Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations approved a Statement of Policy regarding proposed school reorganization.

Since then, the QFHSA's Executive acting as a Task Force, whose mandate was to study further documentation and information on the proposed changes, reaffirmed this Policy Statement on February 8, 1982. This policy reads: —

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations take the stand that any changes in our present educational structures must in no way affect the present status of Confessional School Boards until there is constitutional guarantee for elected English language school board systems with administrative and pedagogical English language support services.

MONTREAL'S SCHOOL POPULATION 5.3% decrease in 81-82

The number of English school students in the territory served by the School Council of Montreal dropped by over 7,000 or 7.7% for 1981-82 while French schools experienced a decline of 3.9% or nearly 6,000 students.

The rate of decrease in the English school sector for this year is less than that registered for 1979-80 when the rate was 9.2% or 9,250 students.

In terms of confessionality, the declines registered are 4.9% for the Catholic sector and 7% for the Protestant sector. The Montreal Catholic School Board decreased by some 6,000 students, and

P.S.B.G.M. by 2,700 students. The Lakeshore Board population dropped by some 700 students to 12,321.

Private schools up

The number of students attending private schools continues to increase, says Statistics Canada.

While public elementary and secondary school populations have dropped 14% since 1971-72, private schools have increased their clientèle by 45%.

Private schools, however, account for only 4% of the total student population.

Once again QFHSA turns to the Family theme — always popular and a never ending resource for topics of a general or specific nature. The opening Plenary session on 'Influences on the Family' will set the tone for an exciting and stimulating conference. Come along and participate — view the displays, meet friends, listen to informative speakers, participate in workshops and generally share in the rewarding experience of a QFHSA conference. Please examine our program. We hope you will publicize and encourage members of your local associations and other friends to attend the 38th Annual General Meeting on May 14 and 15, 1982, on Loyola Campus, Concordia University.

KARI BALZERSEN QURAESHI

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Friday
evening,
May 14, 1982



Mrs. Balzersen Quraeshi, home economist and teacher, will address the delegates on the topic of "the family of the future".

The family unit as we know it may not be the same type of family unit in the future.

Editorial comment

Quality of English and MEQ

'MEQNEWS', the English version of 'INFORMEQ', is distributed to parents and school personnel throughout Quebec. In it appear samples of English usage which startle and sometimes appall.

The December 1981 issue, received in English homes around the end of January 1982, has the curious headline 'WISHES FROM THE MINISTRE FOR A LEAN CHRISTMAS', ('Ministre', of course, because Quebec has been legislated into unilingualism where official names and appellations are concerned.)

If the Ministre has only wishes for a lean Christmas, then I rather wish he would keep them to himself. The headline presumably is intended to mean that Christmas will be lean but best wishes anyway. However it does not read that way to those of us who have retained sensibility where our language is concerned. Its meaning, as written, is rather that Monsieur le Ministre hopes we will have a thin time of it round Yuletide.

Another headline in the same issue has the

prominent typographical error "approximateley". The next page is headed "Camille Laurin Leads for Workshops", in reference to the series of exercises undertaken in order to discuss Quebec policy with the universities. One presumes the intent here was to say that Monsieur le docteur would lead the workshops.

A later page is headed "School can lead to various forms of maladjustment". The ensuing article talks about dropping out and absenteeism. A more accurate heading would seem to be "Schools may cause maladjustment".

Editorial policy re French names for institutions and functionaries in Quebec expands in the December issue of MEQNEWS to institutions outside Quebec. The United World Colleges — Atlantic College, Pacific College (Lester B. Pearson College) — are reported in this English publication under French versions of their names, which seems going too far. It is bad enough flipping from English to French to deal with 'responsable de la coopération avec

l'extérieur' or 'Bureau d'admissibilité à l'enseignement en anglais' without complicating the issue by rejecting legitimate English titles.

English versions of reports and comments by ministerial officials in MEQNEWS are scrupulously literal, presumably not eligible for the adaptation which is the mark of the professional translator. The problem is that in their French forms such reports and comments are so compressed into pedagogical and bureaucratic jargon that the English versions defy understanding.

But the most frequent and consistent crime against the English language appears in the words 'professional', 'confessional' and 'personal' which are regularly misspelled (please forgive me) 'professionnal', 'confessionnal, and 'personnal'.

What is even more frightening is that English-speakers are beginning to use the double 'n' in words such as these, and not just students — school administrators!

The endings 'ant' and 'ent' as 'independent' are on the way to becoming permanently confused. Where once even an elementary knowledge of Latin protected the English writer from putting the wrong ending on 'existent' now no such protection can be counted on.

MEQNEWS cannot be held responsible for growing ignorance about proper spelling, but would it be asking too much for MEQ to staff MEQNEWS with writers of English who will help, not hinder, communication, and who show respect for what remains of our language?

Joan Mansfield

Could MEQ meet English school service needs?

There are at present very few members of the English-speaking community working at the Ministry of Education, in Quebec or in Montreal. They are to be found in the post of Assistant Deputy Minister (Protestant) and in the 'services aux anglophones' section under the Montreal regional directorate of MEQ. One or two work in services devoted to information and other services.

The culturally sensitive posts which work only or directly with English schools and their Boards are those which deal with curriculum and the implantation of the new regulations concerning school organization.

Observation of those in such posts at present establishes certain facts about how they are mandated to carry out their tasks. The first observation is that their dominant function is passing information down to the communities with which they work, not passing it up to the powers-that-be. Like it or not, they therefore have the role of 'hired guns'. They try very hard to play down this fact; they are not at ease with it. They have a difficult job and one which "someone must do". Better they than no one at all, they can be seen to say to themselves.

It is not the people carrying out the jobs but the perspective which their superiors insist on that is the problem. Non-English superiors ap-

prove and designate the tasks to be done and who will do them. There is little or no autonomy. Usual, one may say, in the civil service. Isn't that just the point? Some mandated group, somewhere in the system, must have enough autonomy to do the right thing by the English children of this province.

The Protestant boards, and many parents, say this should be the school board.

Even so, those with the difficult task of carrying messages between Ministry and schools must be allowed to serve more openly the students who are the reason for the whole enterprise of education.

J.M.

RUTTER REPORT - "15,000 HOURS"

Secondary Schools and their Effects on Children

A recent research report from Britain concerning effective schooling claims to demonstrate that individual schools, as institutions, can have a marked effect on students' behaviour and attainments.

The research hoped to find the answers to two basic questions: does it matter which school a child attends? and if systematic differences between schools should be found, what are the features of school that matter?

In tackling the first question the researchers decided to measure four school outcomes that might be inter-related and were common to all 12 schools: academic achievement, student behaviour, attendance, and delinquency.

Marked variation

In terms of academic achievement, as measured by public ex-

amination results, it was shown that the schools with the best scores had 70% more high grades than the anticipated level, while the school with the worst scores had nearly 60% below it.

In general, it was found that the schools with the better academic results also did better in terms of attendance, behaviour, and delinquency. The converse was also true.

School not student makes difference

The conclusion is that it does, indeed, matter which school a child attends. The inference is that the differences are due to the characteristics of the schools themselves rather than to individual differences among the children or the socio-economic status of the parents. Somewhat surprisingly, perhaps, it was found that the outcome differences between schools were not due to such physical factors as the size of the school, the age of the building or the space available;

nor were they due to broad differences in administrative status or organization.

Significant factors

Significant factors included the amount of time that the teacher spent teaching the class as a whole; homework that was regularly assigned and marked; lessons that started on time and ran their full length; generally accepted standards of behaviour prevalent throughout the school rather than individual teachers setting their own standards; the display of pupil work and the recognition of pupil achievement; responsibility given to large numbers of pupils rather than to just a few; teachers operating in a planned and supervised environment rather than in isolation; consultation with teachers by ad-

ministrators concerning school policies; and schools, whatever their age and design, purposely kept clean, tidy and attractively decorated.

Principal & teachers can modify.

All the factors found to be significant were open to modification by the school staff rather than fixed by external restraints. The clear implication is that in-school administrators and teachers are directly responsible for the success or otherwise of the schooling process.

"15000 Hours: Secondary Schools and their effects on children:" Rutter, et al. Available from Book Center Inc., 1140 Beaulac Street, Montreal, and University Bookstores.

by Dr. Donald Burgess
McGill University

OTHER PEOPLES OPINIONS



Quebec Home & School NEWS

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Legal Deposit Quebec National Library

Hearing from you...

86 into 21 won't go!

I read with interest your various articles in the last issue of the NEWS with regard to proposed changes in the structure of school boards. Nova Scotia is just now completing such changes. Eighty-six boards were reduced to 21 boards with one-third of the commissioners now being appointed by the government. This appointment area is one I would like to comment on.

Once you dispense with elected school board members where does accountability to the public come in? Answer: It's not there anymore. What you replace ac-

countability with is political patronage, with these positions going to long-standing party workers. Parental choice is gone.

What should we (you) do? Fight to retain parent and community control of education. We live in a democracy do we not? Do not allow any government to withdraw a democratic way of life in education (elected school board members).

Carolyn Drysdale
Past-President
Nova Scotia Federation of Home
and School Associations

A current message from the past

To the Editor:

As I was cleaning out some old files, I came across this letter which I wrote to the Ottawa Journal on March 29, 1969. I thought that you might be interested to note that Home & Schools have been a vital part of our system of education for many years in this area. The points of contention are familiar too aren't they!

Nil desperandum.

Yours sincerely

H.A. Macdonald
Director General
Protestant Regional School Board
of Western Quebec

Reprinted from the Ottawa Journal, March 29, 1969.

Sirs: This is in response to an article in The Journal (March 19) by Barry Lowes of the Toronto Board of Education. Mr. Lowes expressed the view that home and school associations do not provide a strong representation of parents' views.

Mr. Lowes may represent one point of view or he may be talking about home and school associations in Toronto. However, right here in the Protestant school system of Greater Hull, and in many of the surrounding municipalities, there are strong home and school associations which do more than hold "fun fairs and cookie sales," as Mr. Lowes suggests.

They also do more than present prizes for outstanding scholars and provide advice to the provincial government through their central office.

These home and school associa-

tions have representatives on local study and advisory committees of teachers, board members and parents.

These committee meetings have led to general meetings which are well attended and from which specific suggestions arise. This is involvement in the school program in a real sense.

The Hull Home and School Association had adopted the school library as a project. They did not merely make a donation of cash from the proceeds from "Fun Night." They donated some of the long hours and hard work which go into cataloguing several thousand books.

Not content with this, the mothers "man" the library for at least part of every day of the week so that students can use it as a resource centre even when there is no teacher available to help them (our school system cannot afford a librarian).

The mothers come to the school to mark standardized tests. This frees the teachers from a routine clerical task. They go on field trips to help with supervision.

Last year we designed new report cards. "We" means teachers, administrators and parents. There are a number of home and school associations that do provide a strong representation of parents' views. We need their help and I publicly thank them.

H. A. MACDONALD
Supervising Principal,
Protestant Elementary
School of Hull



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

OWEN BUCKINGHAM
President

You will recall reading in your November/December issue of the NEWS that QFHSA has been given a date in the Fall of 1982 for a hearing on the Court Action 101. Legal counsel, on the advice of our Board of Directors, petitioned the Court for an earlier date but Judge Deschenes has ruled that the Fall date will remain.

Following this the Rights Committee launched a press conference on February 26, 1982. A highlight of this conference was the presentation of a videotape which featured many of the 17 co-plaintiffs as well as other key persons such as legal counsel, William I. Miller, QC, Dr. Calvin Potter, Chairman of the Rights Committee, Mr. Allan Butler, Chairman of the PSBGM speaking about the issues concerning our action in bringing this case to court. It was well received by the press at that time and our intention is to have the videotape given wide media coverage.

What is our next step? It is to appeal to you, our local associations, to help us at Quebec Federation to publicize this court action in your communities and to assist in raising funds to cover the financial costs of the case.

Copies of the videotape should be available by the time this edition of the NEWS reaches you. Anyone wishing to show the videotape may call our QFHSA office to make arrangements. Members of the Association will be available to assist you with any group showing.

Contributions to the Rights Fund may be made by sending your donation to QFHSA (Rights Fund); receipts are given for donations of \$10. or more.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, the members of the Rights Committee and myself, I wish to thank you for your support thus far and we look forward to your continuing assistance.

COMPUTERS

A new education 'basic'

"We are living in a world in which more and more functions are being performed by computers... and it's imperative that schools play a part in preparing students for such a life!"

Lakeshore School Board mathematics consultant Rey Clarke together with a team of high school teachers and administrators are carrying out a new and exciting task this year—a mini-course in computer literacy for all secondary II or III students (grades 8-9).

In setting budget priorities for the 1982-82 school year, the school board included the purchase of 30 TRS-80 (Radio Shack) microcomputers. These have been divided among the Board's five high schools on a per capita basis.

While for the past several years Computer Science 421 and 521 courses have been offered to a limited clientele of senior students, the intent of the new

mini-course is far different. It is now providing every student enrolled in the basic 'core' maths program with an acquaintance of the role and impact of computers in society.

National Round Up

H&S has Honorary President

Mrs. Lily Schreyer, C.C., wife of the Governor-General of Canada, is the new Honorary President of the Canadian Home & School and Parent-Teacher Federation. The Canadian Federation groups H&S associations in all of the ten provinces of Canada, including the Quebec Federation of Home & School Associations.

The President of Canadian Home & School, Kirsti Jarvis (Ontario), reports in her recent communiqué that she has had the pleasure of a visit to Rideau Hall to discuss current projects of Home & School across Canada. She presented Mrs. Schreyer with both French and English Home & School pins. It is hoped that the new Honorary President will attend part of the 1983 Annual General Meeting of Home & School to be held in the Ottawa region.

1982 AGM

Canadian Home & School and Parent-Teacher Federation will hold this year's annual meeting in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, in May. Presidents and

delegates of provincial H&S federations will be joined by national committee chairmen. To be elected at the meeting are a new President for a two year term, and an Eastern Vice-President. It is hoped to precede the annual meeting with a workshop on 'Fitness and Nutrition' as a follow-up to the workshop held last year with the financial assistance of Fitness and Sport Canada. The workshop will be designed to prepare provincial leaders for an active promotion of fitness and nutrition at school at home and in the community.

Membership push

Membership in local and provincial associations has implications for the financial viability of Canadian H&S. A small portion of each local membership is forwarded to fund the activities of the national group on the behalf of all Canadian children. This year and even more so next year, Canadian Home & School will be looking to local chairmen to promote membership in H&S. 'Each One Reach One' is the motto!

Journalists pass

Average scores of 95% (oral) and 85% (written) were registered by Montreal English speaking journalists who at the invitation of the 'Office de la langue française' took the language tests for professionals wishing to work in Quebec.

None of the journalists failed. Reporting Quebec news requires a good understanding of the language of the majority.

Among the French-speaking journalists who sat for the tests, the average scores were 97% (oral) and 91% (written). The representative of 'Le Devoir' registered a score of 97% (written) and 99% (oral). Since 'Le Devoir' prides itself on the quality of its written language, it is of note that at least one of its writers reveals room for improvement.

It will be a great day when our schools get
all the money they need,
and the navy has to hold
a bake sale to buy
a ship.

reprinted from: B.C. Home & School News, March 1982 issue.

THERE IS AN ALTERNATIVE

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the pressures of competition

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Our existing school boards are vital institutions protecting the fundamental principles of our children's education.

School boards are parents and concerned individuals from all walks of life working to make sure that education corresponds to the needs of the community, not the needs of partisan political appointees or distant technocrats.

Our school boards are a part of the vital checks and balances at the heart of the democratic process. They ensure that parents have a strong voice in the classroom, and that our children aren't subjected to the arbitrary aims of political parties.

We need our school boards to be sure that we'll be able to pass our culture and traditions to future generations. School boards preserve the right of minorities to speak for themselves, providing locally-tailored educational services and cultural resources needed by individual (and often unique) communities throughout Québec.

School boards are the best way we know to bring about changes in the system without losing local control ... to respond to the changing times without forfeiting the quality of education for our children.

Our school boards do a good job.
We need our school boards.

Your ~~our~~ School Boards Work!

Québec Association Of Protestant School Boards.

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- Laurentian • Laurensval • du Littoral • South Shore • Richelieu Valley
- St. Lawrence • South Central • Western Québec • Greater Hull
- Northwestern Québec • Pontiac • Laurentienne • Baie Comeau • Rouyn

REORGANIZATION

The fight for control of schools goes on

Since the first leaks last summer which gave warning of proposals to change drastically the present organization of public elementary and secondary schools, many sectors of both the English and French community have seized on any information, official or unofficial, which could elucidate government intentions.

School-related organizations and other interest groups in the English community have sponsored meetings with spokesmen who can help them understand what such change might mean to the children and their schools.

As a result of pressure on members of the National

Assembly, particularly those in opposition, the Minister of Education has been bombarded with questions about the nature of his reorganization proposals, about the unofficial consultation which seems to be taking place, and about government plans to permit intensive and extensive study by politicians and their electors.

In this issue, there are reports on the nature of the information which has come to light, on the activities of communities for the purpose of informing as well as possible as many people (particularly parents) as possible, and on ministerial replies to certain specific questions.

The FCPPQ claims to speak for you . . . does it?

Count Down

Since the National Assembly does not sit in July and August, and since the next round of negotiations between teachers (and other school personnel) and their employers is due to open in July, legislation changing the present structure of the school system must be expected by the middle of June at the latest.

As reported elsewhere, the Minister of Education has assured the Assembly standing committee on education that tabling of legislation will be preceded by distribution of a policy paper (White Paper) and extensive consultation on its objectives.

The Minister was not asked at that time whether a version of the policy paper in English would simultaneously be released.

prepared for FCPPQ elaborates on and supports aspects of the proposed reorganization concerning tasks and roles in the new system, and goes into detail as to the elements it sees necessary to include in the school's educational program.

REORGANIZATION

F CPPQ supports draft proposals for reorganization

F CPPQ wants stipends for directors and to keep school committees

The Fédération des comités de parents de Québec (F CPPQ) in January distributed a document supporting the reorganization of school boards as proposed by the Minister of Education, Dr. Camille Laurin.

REORGANIZATION

Slide/Tape presentation prepared by QAPSB

A 15-minute audio-visual (slides and pulsed cassette tape) has been produced by P. S. B. G. M.'s Media Services Centre in cooperation with the QAPSB Task Force PR Committee. The presentation succinctly and vividly explains the present school system and its role in the community, and the reasons for opposition to the Laurin proposals. The AV is useful as a meeting starter, or as a lead-in for discussion. English copies are available from local boards, French and Greek editions are in production.

At their Annual General Meeting of the F CPPQ in October, the Fédération had met with the Minister of Education and had also adopted a set of principles which it recommended for integration into any proposal for reorganization. Its executive committee as a result prepared a working paper and submitted it to a December meeting of the directors of the Fédération which gave unanimous approval.

Main points of F CPPQ documents

The school would indeed become the focal point of the school system, with the function to provide education and to fill a social role. Parents would hold power at every level of the system. To elect a board of directors of each school, the present school committees would be retained: one year's service on the school committee would be a prerequisite for election to the role of school director.

The school board (or council) would be formed of delegates from each of a group of schools. The school board would have no relationship to the regional county municipality sharing its territory. Its tasks would include role of employer of all staff except principals and vice-principals, assigning staff to schools, holding title to properties, carrying out building maintenance, setting school tax to

be raised by local municipalities, and preparing and submitting a budget to the Ministry of Education.

The F CPPQ supports in principle the need for adequate financial compensation for those acting on behalf of parents in the govern-

nance of schools and school boards. (Dr. Laurin made it clear in a later speech to F CPPQ that this would not be forthcoming: no honoraria would be paid to members of the school's board of directors.)

The balance of the document

REORGANIZATION

Forsey says board proposals "threat to national unity"

Constitutional guarantees are necessary before changing present confessional school board system, says Senator Eugene Forsey. He was speaking at a January meeting of the South Shore University Women's Club called to hear speakers on the reorganization issue.

The threats of the change proposed are to all citizens, French and English speaking alike, according to the well-known constitutional expert.

Quality education is costly, says Dr. George Flower, Dean of

McGill's Education Faculty, and every effort must be made to ensure freedom for educational development.

Bob Dobie of the English Catholic teachers' union unequivocally declared that the English must fight for their rights. Declining population makes language boards the most viable alternative for English Catholics, he said.

Adult education services for the English will suffer if there is no support through Protestant

school boards, says Clifford Board of the South Shore regional board.

School boards with real responsibilities are needed to counteract a trend to take a collectivist view of society in new social studies programs. Individual achievement must also be valued, says Sam Allison, history teacher at Richelieu Valley High School.

MNA Joan Dougherty saw democracy at risk for everyone, and the people of the province as fed up with reform for reform's sake.

REORGANIZATION

LSB Statement of Principles

At its February meeting, the Lakeshore School Board formally adopted a position paper based on certain 'fundamental principles' with regard to the organization and function of school boards.

1) Religious and Cultural Diversity

The recognition of the constitutional rights of Quebec's Protestant and Roman Catholic citizens to develop their own education systems as well as the right for minority, cultural and religious groups to dissent from instruction that might prejudice their cultural practices or religious beliefs.

2) Local Democracy and Universal Suffrage:

The continued election of local public school boards with the authority and means to meet the needs and develop the priorities of the communities they serve.

3) Balance of Power between the State and Local Institutions:

The recognition of a division of jurisdictions between the authority of the State and the authority of locally-elected institutions in order to maintain a balance of power that will permit local initiatives to be developed and realized without unnecessary restriction and regulation by an all-powerful central government.

4) Local Financial Independence:

The recognition of the local school boards' right to direct access to public taxation in order that citizens exercise appropriate control over local education budgets through the election of accountable representatives.

5) Local Control over the Content

The return of the right of local school boards to oversee the content and character of the school curriculum and their right to take appropriate steps to see that the educational process is acceptable to the communities they serve.

Lakeshore task forces active

Many meetings have been held across the province, or are planned, to inform the public, to review action and to prepare for further developments in the school board reorganization 'affair'.

No area has been more active than that of the Lakeshore, where almost every school community has set up combined task forces with members culled from H&S, school committee, and school board.

In March, area meetings have the objective of reaching all interested parties and getting support for present or future action.

The first results of this operation are thousands of letters to government leaders and MNAs protesting the leaked proposals

and supporting the present organization of school boards. Several local MNAs have cooperated to deposit formally in the National Assembly the bags full of mail that have been collected. Joan Dougherty, MNA for Jacques-Cartier, is one, as is John O'Gallagher, and Daniel Johnson (Vaudreuil).

Fund-raising to support the action is to be under the auspices of a new fund, the Community Action Fund for Education (CAFE), sponsored by three Lakeshore education groups — the H&S, the Parents Committee, and the Council of Commissioners. Fund-raising target is some \$72,000 for local and provincial expenses to promote and defend the interests of students and parents.



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Norman J. Gentry
General Director



REORGANIZATION

Draft policy paper reviewed

"L'Ecole Québécoise: Phase II"**"This project is not just one exploratory hypothesis among others."**

The essence of the draft policy paper is a new relationship between the school and the state, one which reflects a view of Québec as a French society, and central government as the dominant force in education. And the plans for elementary and secondary school organization in Québec which it describes are not regarded as negotiable.

Relationship between school and state

The powers which the Ministry of Education has already assumed are many. It intends to assume even more. Such powers may well be essential to the maintenance of order in a school system in which management is deputed to an exclusive but changing team of parents who must gain the cooperation of the school staff.

As part of a territorial grouping of schools, the school will be responsible through its board of directors for managing its premises, its expenditures and its staff in such a way as to reflect its community's expectations.

The way in which the school will carry out this responsibility will be set down by government policies and guidelines, and particularly by the financial controls exerted from above.

The agent for the Minister of Education in Québec will be the 'regional bureau' of the Ministry for the territory in which the school is located.

Regional Directorates of MEQ

"A more important role" is prescribed in the draft policy paper for the regional offices of the MEQ located at strategic points across the province.

They should have, says the policy paper, real decision-making powers and be strengthened as regional authorities with 'defined, intensified and systematized' ties with schools (and school boards) of their territory.

They should hold, it continues, the place reserved for special representatives of the regions and

of the central authorities at the same time.

That the regional directorate will act as a kind of school board and MEQ in one organism is a perception reinforced by the policy paper's reference to 'pedagogical and administrative' support to the schools.

While the new school board will 'ensure equitable and efficient distribution of educational services', MEQ through its regions will make 'pedagogical development' its central mission. For this purpose, the regional MEQ will be the organism providing support for the school's educational project, for parents and principal carrying out new responsibilities, and for teachers in their teaching.

All these tasks are at present carried out by the school board. The 'new' school board will be confined to receiving and distributing resources (funds) and will have no mission to provide services to teachers and learners in the school.

Collective agreements

The school board is at present the employer of all the staff in its schools, and this function will remain with the 'new' board. But changing the other functions of the school board makes changes necessary in the scope of the collective agreement with the teachers.

The working conditions of the teachers, says the draft policy paper, will be defined by the government, not through bargaining. This is necessary in order to achieve the 'flexibility' essential to the success of the 'reform' project. The school will need increased capacity to assign its personnel in relation to the educational needs of its pupils and the qualifications and interests of the staff.

The advent of provincial negotiations meant that bargaining took place removed from the school and the classroom environment. Collective agreements have become more and more specific and complex. The cause for this situation is not as easy to designate as is the effect. An in-

creasingly technological society exerts influences which changes in structure are unlikely to be able to neutralize. Destruction of a functioning system with significant participation from local communities seems a high price to pay to deal with circumstances originating in the society, not the structure.

Bureaucracy

The complexity of collective agreements and the complexity of controls exercised by central government on the school system has led to a multiplication of the management workload, and public perception of the school board as a harbourer of 'bureaucrats' rather than a leader of educators.

The paperwork required as a result of central government and the use of technology is enormous. Any lightening of this load would be desirable — most of all to those, who, seeking to work for education, find themselves the slaves of forms, directives and reports.

Will the 'reform' proposed alleviate this burden? Experience would indicate that the burden will shift to the school rather than be reduced. As the school becomes more involved with the MEQ through its regional directorate, it will find itself preoccupied with paper-reporting mechanisms, committees and so on, which the relationship will spawn.

Contrary to the intention to permit the school and its participants to concentrate more fully on teaching and learning, the likelihood is that the school will become, not the 'pivot of the educational system', but the pawn of a deconcentrated bureaucracy called the regional directorate.

'Function in French'

At intervals throughout the draft policy paper, reference is made to the legislated requirement that all Québec institutions 'function in French'. A significant outcome desired from a change in structure is the elimination of English as the working language of any public administration.

A direct relationship between school and regional directorate of MEQ will make the principal's ability to be the advocate for the school in French as a priority factor in his/her appointment. Once school boards identified as 'English' (i.e. Protestant) no longer exist, the visibility of the English element in Quebec public administration will be reduced.

The intellectual demands on individuals managing English schools will increase as they try to remain true to the culture and philosophy of English education while sustaining close relationships with French-speaking authorities and adapting educational concepts originating under French cultural influence.

The challenge to the managers of English schools will be further complicated as they try to flourish, rather than merely exist, in a society in which the role of the minority has been diminished.

School board/school alienation

Schools are too removed from present school boards, says 'L'Ecole Québécoise': they do not share priorities.

Ten years ago school commit-

tees were instituted in order to recognize in legislation the voice of parents at both school and school board level. If school commissioners are deemed 'removed' from their local schools, it is strange that legislation did not promote the relationship between the school committee and the local commissioner. In fact it did the opposite, by specifically denying to a parent elected as commissioner from sitting as an elected member of the school committee.

Unless the school is completely independent and self-sufficient, it is a fact of life that some of the activities of its supervisory group are going to seem extraneous, differing in priority, and even superfluous. The difference lies in the point of view, not the value system.

The question at base is: will the school be more or less alienated from those in authority over it when the authority is the Ministry of Education?

No urgency the conclusion

Reorganization of school board structures cannot be urgent if fifteen years have passed since plans

L'Ecole Québécoise Phase II (QAPSB Translation)

were laid out in the Parent Report (1964). Some questions raised at that time remain unanswered: the question of the rights of children and parents other than Catholic or Protestant, for example. The Superior Council of Education and its committees see no block in the present structures to dealing with this question.

Negative conditions operating on schools have more to do with economic conditions, trends in collective bargaining, and reduced school population than with neglect of the interest of children and their parents. There is no desirable or practicable change needed to enhance the school that is not possible under the present system of school organization.

The government does not need to strengthen regional directorates; it needs to resituate with the locally-elected school boards the powers which, by its own definition, are important to a decentralized and flexible education system.

The urgency for change to the extent proposed in 'L'Ecole Québécoise' can only lie in objectives which are politically, rather than educationally, inspired.

Don't sit back and let the other guy do it. . . HE WON'T!

REORGANIZATION

Parents committees join forces

The Parent's Committees of Quebec's Protestant school boards have formed the Association of Parents' Committees of Protestant School Boards of Québec. This is an outcome of the concern developing among parents faced with fundamental structural changes to the school system according to various working papers and drafts which have found their way about the province. Representatives of the Parents' Committees have been meeting at the suggestion of the Quebec Association of Protestant School Boards to consider reactions to anticipated legislation reorganizing school boards.

Chairman of the new Association is Jocelyn Girard of Trois Rivières. A subcommittee has already been formed to prepare a common position of the issue of school board structures. Support for the new Association is being confirmed in school boards across the Quebec Protestant system and delegates being appointed.

Protestant Parents' Committees

A letter to the Minister of education from the newly formed Association of Parents' Committees of Protestant School Boards says in part:

In our opinion, a school restructuring that does not guarantee the continuity of the services which the children belonging to a religious or linguistic (even cultural) minority recognized by law are enjoying, services presently guaranteed by our existing school boards, would inevitably entail, a reduction in the quality of education, and instruc-

tion and would go against the principles declared by the Government. It is indeed imperative that parents have a say in the administration of the schools and that they be involved in their functioning. We are in full agreement with you in this respect. We believe we are already involved through our school committees, parents' committees and our home and school associations. Moreover, under the present circumstances, we also have the right to elect democratically and locally, commissioners of our choice and to renew the mandates of commissioners with whom we are satisfied.

The direct control of the administration of schools is far from being a priority for parents of children attending the schools of the protestant school boards. We place emphasis on a quality education based on solid pedagogical foundations.

We, the parents' committees of protestant school boards, are satisfied with a school system that allows for school boards whose members are elected democratically and locally by universal suffrage. We also believe that the right to levy taxes with which school boards are vested favours the responsibility of the commissioners who must answer to the population for the exercise of their mandate. In short, it is our desire that protestant school boards be maintained.

The Association President, Jocelyn Girard, invited the Minister to meet with the group at his convenience.

APRIL 15 and 16

T.V. LITERACY WORKSHOP

Guest speakers from across Canada will focus on television literacy, educating about television, the role of T.V. education in the schools, perspectives on viewing, and putting media in the hands of kids. Activities will include seminars, workshops and 'hands-on' experiences. No fee. Open to public.

Concordia University, Hall Building,
Sir George Williams Campus,
1455 de Maisonneuve West, room 937

For further information call

879-4535

REORGANIZATION

What the Minister said on March 5th

By Joan Mansfield

"Policy paper and provincial tour to precede tabling of Bill"

The Minister of Education has assured the National Assembly standing committee on education that draft legislation on the reorganization of school boards will be preceded by 'veritable consultation' with citizens and groups all over the province.

During a special session of standing committee held on Friday, March 5th, 1982 in the National Assembly chamber, members of the Official Opposition posed questions and debated with Government members on the subject of well-publicized, but as yet unofficial, government policy on elementary and secondary school systems.

For what purpose?

In leading off the period of questions and debate, Fernand Lalonde, Opposition education critic, asked the Minister of Education why changes were being considered at this time, particularly since in its electoral campaign the Parti Québécois had not named school board reorganization as a priority. What do these changes, said Mr. Lalonde, have to do with quality of education and resolution of persistent problems such as the high school drop-out rate?

The Minister of Education, in his lengthy speech in reply, pointed out that the overhaul of the course of study, steps to personalize education services, and increased attention to evaluating students and programs were the object of recent reforms. Now, he said, it is time to evaluate the school board and its function. The 'leaks', he said, have been useful in getting public input into impending proposals before they are fully drafted. He deplored 'leaks' as a method but found that they had given a chance for 'ideological cliques' to react early.

That said, Mr. Laurin described as 'obsolete for the most part' the drafts to which the public has had access. "The draft Bill (December '81) was an academic exercise in legal drafting which is now totally discarded and has no similarity to the final Bill."

The new arrangements which the Minister sees as necessary will not 'deconfessionalize' schools, nor remove anglophone institutions. He wants to stop school closings and give schools the wherewithal to fulfill their mission. School closure, he said, is

not just a financial and administrative question, as parent protests prove.

Why now!

Why, said Mr. Lalonde, when the community is just beginning to live with recent changes to the school system, is it necessary to change the structures now?

Newcomers to French schools as a result of Bill 101 include many non-Catholics, and in Catholic schools, such students can be seen as outsiders; in Protestant schools they are under the influence of English administrators. These conditions, said the Minister, are not acceptable.

New structures can eliminate separation between elementary and secondary school represented by local and regional school boards. The first years of secondary education will be able to be provided on the elementary school site if parents so wish, something which the Minister of Education sees as difficult if not impossible under the present structures.

The Liberal Opposition spokesmen protested that moves to integrate elementary and secondary education do not require radical reorganization; progress towards quality will be hindered.

Universal suffrage

Is universal suffrage in elections to school boards to remain? There are other forms to democracy than universal suffrage, said Gilbert Paquette, MNA for Rosemont: for instance, appointments by town councils to the Montreal/Urban Community. School boards will exist; they will be made up of people appointed by schools; and their task will be services to the schools.

The Liberals cited statements by the Premier and the former Minister of Education, both of whom said universal suffrage and school board elections were essential. They could understand MEQ's inclination to centralize control, but Liberal consultation on the issue shows the public does not want it.

Central Control

The charge of centralizing power is curious, said Mr. Paquette. Whether power is centralized at the school board or at MEQ, it is bad in either case. The

aim of legislation will be to focus power on the school.

The individual is better served by a balance of power between the school and the State, and the school board represents this balance, replied the Liberals.

Collective agreements and parent power

In the face of the present collective agreements," asked Joan Douherty, MNA (Jacques Cartier), "how will parents achieve power and school stability?"

The collective agreement is not part of the reform I foresee, said Mr. Laurin. School stability will be an aspect of the next round of negotiations with the teachers. On this there is need for a real dialogue between parents and teachers. 4,000 parents are now involved in school committees and when even more parents are involved there will be more influence on the school.

Do parents have time?

The Liberal member for St. Henri, an ex-school principal, questioned the viability of parent school managers. Parents, he said, are preoccupied with family life and earning a living, managing their home and family. The proposed board of directors may become the arena of a few partisan politicians and interest groups.

89% of present school commissioners are parents, replied Mr. Laurin. As for time, "the average school commissioner spends one evening a month" running a school system, why should running a school take more time?

It is the Board's staff which do most of the work preparing for Board meetings. For one school, matters will be simpler and the school will find expertise among its staff. Moreover the parents will be highly motivated.

Asked by MNA Cusano about the low interest in orientation councils by schools, the Minister went on to give his view that the school would not only have its board of directors, but also an education committee and a school committee which would work on different aspects of the educational project in concert.

What savings will the changes bring?

The new structures are expected to result in savings which will be passed on to the schools themselves, said Mr. Laurin. "Reductions in head office staff will offset more administrative services at the level of the school." Economies could be realized through the articulation of elementary and secondary schooling, for instance by retaining the first cycle of secondary education in elementary schools which have less expensive buildings and equipment.

The principal

The idea of a permit for principals has been abandoned, announced the Minister of Education in response to questioning.

The new responsibilities of the principal will require new dimensions to skills. The right to return to teaching will also be required to meet the new circumstances.

How can new responsibilities for the principal be reconciled with the detailed and weighty collective agreement with the

teachers, asked Mr. Cusano.

The collective agreement, said Mr. Laurin is a deal "between the unions and the Government". . . An effort will be made to reduce the technicalities of the agreement and quality of education will be the priority. Before negotiations begin later this year, those elements of school board reorganization which affect the collective agreement will, it is hoped, be in place.

The School and the State

There is no intention, said the Minister of Education, to set up state schools. Confessionality will be an element of the educational project developed by the school itself, provided that the school respects differences of conscience.

Confessionality is part of the cultural heritage and is respected as such.

At present, said the Minister, there are complaints of poor quality teaching in religious, Catholic instruction, and the Protestant schools give "more moral than religious" education, within a Christian perspective.

The Opposition education critic refused to accept the Minister's view and reiterated his conviction that the motive is clear — to dispense with democracy as it is presently known, to give control to MEQ through its regional bureaux, and in its place to establish 'corporatism', education under the control of exclusive bodies separate from the local electorate.

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Montreal H3Z 1S8

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AGM Section

The following resolutions have all been sent to your local association executive. Be sure to discuss them before you have to vote on them during the Annual General Meeting

82/1 . . . Constitutional Act (Canada) 1981

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The Canadian Home and School and Parent-Teacher Federation take note of the petition of Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations to the Members of the House of Commons regarding the exclusion of the citizens of Quebec from the protection of section 23 (1) (a) of the Constitution Act 1981, and that it assist Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations in making representation to the end that there be equality of minority official language educational rights for all Canadians.

82/2 . . . High School leaving examinations

BE IT RESOLVED THAT no provincial examination should consist solely of objective questions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a committee of teachers in each subject area should be established to review the examination set in that discipline. The task of this committee would be, in part, to 1) ensure that the students are tested at the proper level and on the proper material, 2) ensure that the examination is free from errors and that the questions are unambiguous, 3) ensure that papers requiring translation are translated accurately and idiomatically using correct English terminology.

1981-82

CONVENTION COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

General Arrangements	Dorothy Chant-Hannah	Program Committee	Sandra Posner
Hospitality	Joan Locke		Peggy McArthur
	Margaret Monks		Angelika Redahi
Registration	Fay Richardson		Fay Richardson
	Celia Davids		Aldis Lee
Displays	Joyce Payan		Norah Ramsey
Finances	Betty Bouchett	Publicity Chairman	Sandra Keightley
Book of Reports	Celia Davids	Publicity Comm.	R. Kandalgaonkar
Kits	Nina Stein		Dawn Barrett
Program Book-layout	Gordon Perry		Irene Lambert
-ads	B. Milne-Smith	Preview Book	Louise Stronach
Audiovisual	Gordon Perry		Celia Davids
Photography	Gordon Perry		Rosalee Fagan
Resolutions	Margo Purvis	Constitution	B. Milne-Smith
Nominations	Calvin Potter	Awards	O. Buckingham
Program Coordinator	Marion Daigle		Calvin Potter

VOTING DELEGATES

The following schools submitted their membership lists before March 1, 1982, in accordance with the constitution and are entitled to send the number of voting delegates indicated to the annual general meeting.

Allancroft 4	Beaconsfield 3	Keith 3
Ayer's Cliff 3	Edgewater 6	Lachine High 4
Aylmer 3	Edinburgh 4	Lindsay Place High 3
Baie Comeau 3	Elizabeth Ballantyne 3	Macdonald High 5
Beacon Hill 4	Gardenvue 3	Malcolm Campbell High 3
Beechwood 3	Greendale 3	Mary Gardner 3
Carlyle 3	Hampstead 3	Matapedia Intermediate 3
Cedar Park 3	Herbert Purcell 3	Meadowbrook 4
Chelsea 3	Hopetown 3	Mountrose 3
Christmas Park 4	Shigawake, Port-Daniel 3	Mt. Royal High 3
Courtland Park 4	Howick 3	New Carlisle High 4
Dorset 3	Hudson 4	Northmount High 3
Dunrae Gardens 3	John Rennie High 4	Northview 3
Eardley 3	John XXIII/Dorval High 3	Princess Elizabeth 3
Ecole Primaire	Julius Richardson 3	Ste-Foy 3

Business procedure for Annual Meeting

1. The Annual General Meeting is conducted in accordance with our Constitution, By-Laws and Standing Rules. In the case of any procedural dispute reference shall be made to Robert's Rules of Order Revised.
2. Each official representative of each Maintaining Member Association shall have one vote on any question which comes before the meeting, except for associations more than 150 miles from Montreal. Such associations will still be entitled to three votes, expressed either as an identical or a divided vote. Application for such privilege is to be presented in writing to the Executive Secretary prior to the start of the business portion of the Annual General Meeting.
3. The quorum for transaction of business at the Annual Meeting shall be twenty-five (25) percent of maintaining Member Associations in good standing, represented by their official representatives or accredited alternates.
4. Voting shall be by ballot or show of hands. All questions shall be decided by a majority of those present and entitled to vote, except those which require a two-thirds (2/3) majority; the President having a deciding vote in case of a tie.

On ballot votes, the votes of each association shall be handed in by the official delegates of each association individually but at the same time. Counting of the votes shall be done by non-voting participants.
5. A delegate may not speak for more than two minutes on any question under discussion, nor more than twice on the same question.
6. Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present and entitled to vote, and notice of the proposed amendments must have been mailed to all Maintaining Member Associations at least ten weeks prior to the meeting. Amendments can be accepted or rejected, but no modification can be made from the floor.
7. Resolutions to the Annual Meeting must have been circulated to the Maintaining Member Associations eight (8) weeks prior to the Annual Meeting. Resolutions received after the date specified will be presented as Emergency resolutions only after consideration by the Chairman of the meeting and the Resolutions Committee. Delegates presenting resolutions are reminded that they must be present at the time designated on the agenda for the presentation of their resolution. The submitting party may speak to the resolution or amendment thereto for not more than FIVE (5) minutes. **NO AMENDMENTS TO RESOLUTIONS MAY BE MADE FROM THE FLOOR,** they are either accepted or rejected.

Note: Workshops are open to EVERYONE - Home & School members, School Committees and friends. There is a \$10.00 Registration Fee at the Conference for observers who are NOT members of Quebec Federation of Home & School Associations. Student observers may attend FREE.

Seigniory 4	Val Cartier 3
Somerled 3	Valois Park 4
South Hull 3	Wager High 4
Spring Gardens 3	Waterloo 3
Stonecroft 3	Westminster 6
Summerlea 3	Westpark 5
Sunnydale 4	William Latter 3
Thetford Mines 3	Willingdon 3
Thorndale 4	Windermere 4

FRIDAY, MAY 14, 1982

7:30-8:30 a.m.	BREAKFAST	Available in the cafeteria at the Campus Centre Building, Loyola campus.	10:30-11:00 a.m.	COFFEE BREAK	Time to view displays.
8:30-9:00 a.m.	REGISTRATION	On the second floor, Campus Centre Building. Coffee available here from 8:30 to 3:30.	11:00-12:00 p.m.	CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS	FOUR SEPARATE WORKSHOPS HEADED BY THE PANELISTS Delegates will have the opportunity to choose one of the workshops conducted by one of the panelists. There, in a more informal atmosphere, the many ideas brought forward by the panelists can be discussed and questions asked.
9:00-9:15 a.m.	WELCOME	Opening remarks by the President of Quebec Federation, Mr. C. Owen Buckingham.	12:00-12:30 p.m.	FREE TIME	Another opportunity to view displays.
9:15-10:30 a.m.	PLENARY SESSION	INFLUENCES ON THE FAMILY Since the relationships within the family core have a major impact on future generations, it is important to see what effects different influences have on this family structure • During these difficult economic times, what stresses do financial problems put on our relationships? • In an active or involved or two-income family, what are the ramifications of proper nutrition or lack of it, on our children? • How do the media influence us as a family? • Who is determining our kids' values—the school? their peers? the family? These important questions as well as others will be discussed by our four knowledgeable panelists. Rev. Alex Morris , a Past President, QFHSA Dr. William Tally , Director of the Counselling Program, Department of Education, McGill Univ. Sylvia Adams , R.N., Community & Health nurse, Town of Mt. Royal; Chairman, Fitness and Nutrition Committee, Candn. Home & School (CHSPTF). David Nadler , Consultant in Moral and Religious Education, Lakeshore School Board. Sandra Posner , Past-President, Westpark Home & School Association.	12:30-1:30 p.m.	BUFFET LUNCH	Served from the Oasis Bar on the second floor.
	Chairman Panelists		1:30-5:30 p.m.	ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING	To be held in the Games Room in the Basement. If the business meeting has not been completed by 5:30 p.m. it will be continued the same evening at 9:45 p.m.
	Co-ordinator		3:30 p.m.	COFFEE BREAK	A few minutes to relax and look around.
			5:30-6:30 p.m.	HAPPY HOUR	In the Wolf & Kettle Pub on the first floor.
			6:30-8:00 p.m.	BANQUET	Guest speaker.
			8:15-9:45 p.m.	PLENARY SESSION	SCHOOL REORGANIZATION Because of the critical issues facing us regarding the possibility of legislation to dismantle the existing school boards, this time period will be kept open to address this problem. Any change will be publicized.
			10:00-11:30 p.m.	SOCIAL HOUR	In the Oasis Lounge on the second floor. Cash bar.

SATURDAY, MAY 15, 1982

7:30-8:30 a.m.	BREAKFAST	Available in the cafeteria at the Campus Centre Building, Loyola Campus.	11:00-12:30 p.m.	CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS	1) COMMUNICATION IN THE FAMILY An experiential workshop dealing with feelings and how to develop skills for more effective communication. Rev. Alex Morris , a Past President, QFHSA
8:30-9:00 a.m.	REGISTRATION	On the second floor, Campus Centre Building. Coffee is available.		Chairman/Co-ordinator Speaker	Helen Constantine , Senior Staff Member, Family Life Educator, Peel Centre, L.C.S.C. (formerly Mental Hygiene Institute)
9:00-10:30 a.m.	CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS	1) SOCIAL SERVICES AND THE SCHOOL This workshop will explore the many support services available to children and their families. What is the role of the social worker in our schools? The school chaplain? What programs are available in high schools for students to influence and help each other in their peer groups. 2) RECOGNIZING THE SIGNS — DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE, CULTS Would we as parents recognize the signs presented by a child who is becoming involved in drugs, alcohol, or cults and if we did what then? Who to turn to? Where to go? Our panel will address themselves to these problems—the signs, the services available, and what we as parents can do in the home. Sue Finkenbine , Willingdon Home & School Assoc. 3) THE NEW CURRICULUM: REGIME PEDAGOGIQUE A positive or negative force in education in Quebec. Our workshop leaders will give background and an update on this new standardized curriculum for Quebec schools. Implementation has already begun and will continue until 1986. What are the implications for English education? 4) TECHNOLOGY: KIDS AND COMPUTERS What do cashiers, librarians, pharmacists, auto mechanics, lawyers, secretaries and accountants have in common? In these careers, as well as most others in the future, our children will use computers. It is necessary that they learn NOW how to use them as one of the many tools (e.g. calculators, telephone, photocopy machine) available to them. To the gifted child, the preschooler, the learning disabled, the playful child, the bored child, the home-work-laden child as well as the average child, the computer is an exciting learning instrument. Your children have no fears of using computers; come and learn why you shouldn't either.	Speaker	Manon Lebel - dietician and nutritionist - Community Health Dept., Montreal General Hospital. Mlle Lebel has also worked as a nutrition consultant in a number of Montreal schools.	
	Co-ordinator			Co-ordinator	Angelika Redahl , Edgewater Home & School Assoc.
	Chairman	Rod Wiener , Vice-President, QFHSA		Speaker:	Patrick Baker , Principal, Northview Elementary School, Lakeshore School Board.
	Speaker	Stanley Squires , Head, Children's Services, Oakville Public Library.		Co-ordinator	Peggy MacArthur , President, Northview Home & School Association.
	Co-ordinator	Joan Wiener , William Latter School, South Shore.			4) IS THERE LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL? Are the schools of Quebec meeting the needs of students preparing for careers? vocations? for leisure time? for personal development? Are the post-secondary educational institutions able to offer students the means of achieving their goals in the 1980's and beyond? How effective are the work/study programs in helping students to explore the working world? These and many other questions will be highlighted and explored in what should be a highly stimulating and thought-provoking work-shop.
10:30-11:00 a.m.	COFFEE BREAK	Displays.	12:30-1:00 p.m.	FREE TIME	Last opportunity to view the displays.
			1:00-3:00 p.m.	AWARDS PRESENTATION LUNCHEON	The recipients of the Leslie N. Buzzell and Gordon Paterson Awards will be honored.
			3:00-5:00 p.m.	BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING	All Home and School Presidents are invited

Terry Fox youth centre opens in Ottawa

In September 1982, the first group of 136 sixteen and seventeen year old Canadian students will be the first residents of the first permanent conference centre for young Canadians.

A truly Canadian cultural experience is the objective of the one-week program to be offered at the Terry Fox Youth Centre by the Council for Canadian Unity.

A non-profit and non-partisan national organization, the Council for Canadian Unity has been guaranteed a grant of \$807,500 from the Secretary of State toward the starting capital for the Centre. An annual fund-raising campaign by the Council will provide \$300,000 annual towards operational costs.

The building renovations of the centre will begin in February and will include the installation of an elevator and special facilities for handicapped students.

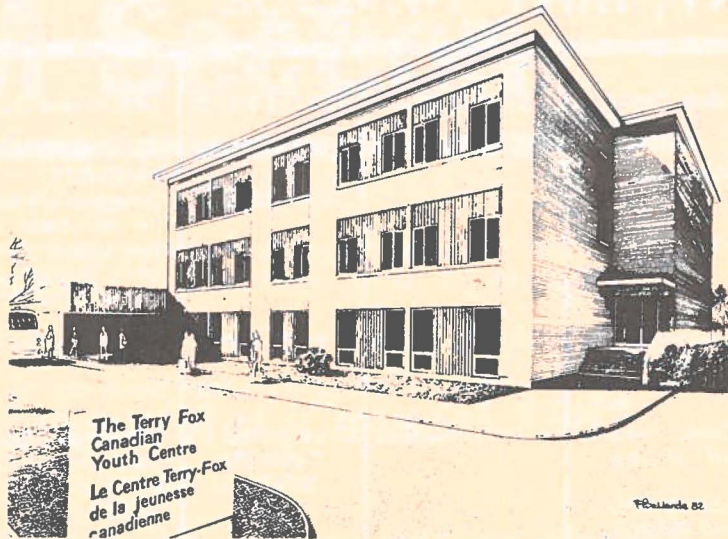
Information material for students, high school principals and teachers is being mailed throughout the country in order to enroll students for the first session this coming September.

In Quebec, information will be sent to students through the various school boards and school commissions.

In the other provinces and territories, the Departments of Education have assured the Council of their entire cooperation.

So far, the Yukon, Manitoba and Saskatchewan have also promised to subsidize a portion of the community funding for students in their jurisdiction. (See article and brochure for fee breakdown).

Local volunteer committees headed by a provincial or territorial president are being set up in order to choose the various can-



didates in each area and to promote the Centre in the respective communities.

Provincial quotas for candidates are based on demographic and geographic factors with adjustments made to accommodate the less populated provinces.

Participants will be asked to list their preferred session dates and topics, and the selection committee will respect the participants choice of topics as much as possible, while working towards the ideal grouping. No candidate will be accepted without the authorization of one of his parents or legal guardian and the recommendation of his school principal, teacher or designated school authorities.

Volunteer and community organizations such as service clubs or chambers of commerce will be encouraged to make scholarships available to potential participants thus helping to fund the local portion of the fee.

New health survey planned

Physical education and health programs will be the subject of a survey to be undertaken by the Council of Ministers of Education for Canada. School fine arts programs are being considered for similar treatment.

Social studies programs are the topic of the survey currently in final stages of editing. English language arts, science and mathematics at the elementary and secondary levels have already been compared across provincial jurisdictions and the studies issued by CMEC.

WOMEN IN SCIENCE

Canadian girls need figures and physics

Few girls study science and mathematics in Canadian schools, says the Science Council of Canada. Worse, there is little evidence that enough is being done to correct the situation. There are consequences for the lives and careers of women themselves, and also for the scientific and economic health of the country in this age of high technology.

The number of girls studying physics and mathematics in high school is less than half the number of boys, according to statistics presented to the Science and Education Committee of the Science Council. A basic understanding of these subjects is essential for the development of competence in all areas of science, including biology.

As a result, girls who opt out of physics and mathematics before the age of fifteen deprive themselves of many career choices, including the skilled technical and computer-oriented occupations.

If women are to help mould Canadian society they must be well-represented in the profes-

Hil Directory of Ethnic resources

Help for schools welcoming students from different ethnic backgrounds and cultures is the objective of a new directory of resources available through some 75 organizations in the Montreal area.

The directory was published in February and is available from the offices of the School Council of the Island of Montreal, 500 Boulevard Crémazie East, Montreal H2P 1E7, telephone 384-1830.

150th ANNIVERSARY

Jesse Ketchum Public School

Jesse Ketchum Public School, Toronto, will mark its 150th Anniversary in 1982. It may be the oldest public school in the Toronto area.

Some of the thousands who have attended over the years may

wish to join in the special events to be held May 13 to 15, 1982.

All interested ex-Jesse students and teachers may contact Mrs. D. S. Keen, c/o Jesse Ketchum Public School, 61 Davenport Road, Toronto, M5R 1H4, or telephone (416) 922-3205.

National PTA Month

US Congress recognition

In recognition of 85 years of service to children and youth, the US National Congress of Parents and Teachers found legislative sponsors in Senate and Congress to pass a resolution calling on the President of the United States to issue a proclamation that February 1982 be observed as "National PTA Month".

The annual general meeting and

convention of National PTA is to be held in Nashville, Tennessee, June 6-9.

The objects of Canadian H&S follow closely to those of US National PTA:

"to raise the standards of home life and to secure for all children and youth the highest advantages in physical, mental, social and spiritual education".



REMEMBER!

The greatest oak was once a little nut that held its ground

"EDUCOUNCIL"

English newsletter launched

The Superior Council of Education has issued Volume 1, No. 1, of a new publication designed to inform the English speaking community of Quebec about the Council's activities.

"EDUCOUNCIL" will be published five times each year and distributed to organizations and individuals concerned with English education.

The first issue of the Superior Council of Education's information bulletin summarizes the 1980-81 Annual Report of the Council and its program of activities for the current school year.

The duties of the Superior Council of Education include:

- advise the Minister of Education on regulations before they are adopted;

- advise MEQ on other matters which MEQ considers appropriate

- prepare an annual report to the National Assembly on activities, and on the needs of the Quebec educational system;

- ask for opinions, receive and examine requests and suggestions from the population at large;

- submit to MEQ recommendations on any question concerning education

- carry out studies and research on matters judged useful or necessary.

To be put on the mailing list for "EDUCOUNCIL", write to EDUCOUNCIL, Direction des communications, Conseil Supérieur de l'éducation, 2050 boul. St.-Cyrille ouest, Sainte-Foy, Qué. G1V 2K8.

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CALL FOR FREE BROCHURE

Guides for adults

Children's choice

A second volume in the series of practical guides to Canadian children's books is now available from the Citizens' Committee on Children in Ottawa.

The two volumes in the series include nearly 200 reviews by children of the literature available to them from Canadian sources.

The guides have received considerable praise from educators, librarians, parents and publishers.

Orders for either volume or a standing order for future volumes can be placed with:

Citizens' Committee for Children,
Box 6133, Station J,
Ottawa, Ont. K2A 1T2.

Volume 1 costs \$3.50, and Volume 2, \$5.00, with discounts on orders for five or more copies.

Cost of Schools

\$847 million

Island school boards and the School Council of Montreal spent some \$847 million in 1980-81, according to the combined financial statements for that year.

Government grants amounted to \$771,440,901 and school taxes on Island real estate brought in \$37,135,188.

Of these monies, \$489,247,732 were spent on 'educational activities' which include regular courses, special education, adult education and student services. Teacher salaries make up most of this cost.

School transport and cafeterias accounted for \$36,776,314, while costs for buildings and equipment and general administration required expenditures of \$200,639,537.

Other expenditures were for debt service, job security provisions, retroactive pay settlements and school fees and amounted to \$120,329,778.

\$12,686,867 remain as the accumulated surplus of the eight Island Boards and the Council. \$5 million of this is made up of grants sought by the Boards which the Ministry of Education may refuse to pay.

Budget cuts

DENTICARE program may be pulled

Rumours of impending cuts to Quebec's free dental services for children under 15 years are circulating, and debate is underway on the significance of such a reduction in free services.

Since 1974 free dental services have been progressively extended to Quebec children. Services include prevention and treatment.

It seems that the government is considering substituting for professional dentists, preventive services by dental hygienists. In 1979 \$15,700,000 was spent on children's dental services by the Quebec government. The balance of the total \$62,000,000 cost that

Students given taste of poverty

Fish heads and rice for lunch! That was what 30 out of 40 people had on Oct. 16 at the Rich Man

Poor Man Lunch held at St. Michale Junior High School. The other 10 people had a typical

Lunch crunch looms

Tight budgets threaten the program that provides wholesome food at reduced prices for approximately 70,000 students in the schools of the Island of Montreal. That was the essence of a statement made by Jacques Mongeau, Chairman of the school council of Montreal, at an information session held recently for news media representatives on this program.

"A large financial problem presently over-shadows our future planning for our food and nutrition policy," he stated. "Presently, this program is entirely financed by the taxpayers of the Island of Montreal. The \$2.75 million that it costs is derived from the school tax set by the Council for residents of the Island."

For years now, the ministries of Education, Social Affairs and Agriculture have been extremely enthusiastic about our food and nutrition policy... but they do not contribute one cent to financing it."

The food and nutrition policy of the "Conseil scolaire" is a program that aims at encouraging students to adopt good eating habits. To achieve that goal, the council subsidizes certain foods served in school cafeterias to allow students to purchase a complete meal for \$1.50. It forbids the sale of junk foods (soft drinks, french-fries, etc.) and finances the cost of teaching materials as well as the salaries of dieticians to permit the eight school boards of the Island to implement nutrition programs in their schools.

The decision on the future of this program will be taken in the spring when the Island school boards and the council adopt their budgets for the 1982-83 school year.

Parents support policy

A survey carried out by the School Council of the Island of Montreal in cooperation with the Federation of Parent Committees

of the Island of Montreal, indicates that:

- the majority of those who replied are aware of the SCIM policy on food and nutrition;
- that almost all respondents believe that the school has a role to play in nutrition education;
- that almost all think it necessary to learn the principles of sound nutrition in class;
- and that a considerable majority believes that subsidies to reduce the price at which food is sold are necessary to encourage the choice of wholesome food in school.

Teaching English,

NARROW RANGE OF TACTICS USED

Teachers of all high school subjects could be using writing far more effectively to help their students learn. And if more teachers, in history and science as well as English, used current knowledge of how writing can serve learning, their students would become better writers.

Too many teachers still function in a kind of vacuum, unaware that they are using the kinds of writing assignments, teaching and grading methods least likely to help students learn.

Only 3 percent of the writing required in the classrooms studied was one paragraph or more in length. For English classes the figure was 10 percent. Thus, with few exceptions, high school writing tasks are useless for fostering sustained thought on any subject or for developing fluency in handling the language.

The findings of this US research have been published by the National Council of Teachers of English in "Writing in the Secondary School: English and the Content Areas".

Educational Values

FRENCH, ENGLISH TEACHERS SHARE TRADITIONAL CONCEPTS

Teachers from all groups—English, French, private or public schools, young or old—share the same set of educational values, reports the MEQ's research directorate.

Traditional concepts are those based on the transmission of established knowledge rather than on a view of education as centred on the child as the principle agent of his/her own education.

Teachers from other countries

exhibit the same feature, according to the UNESCO Faure Report. They are generally more concerned with the relationship between the teacher than the taught.

Though teachers may intend to promote the development of the whole child and to individualize the child's learning, they have difficulty moving away from the model of the teacher as authority and the school as subordinate to

the needs of the labour market.

Though teachers favour reforms which would make the school more egalitarian, they hesitate to make negative judgements about the school system and also to raise political questions in the classroom.

The findings are part of a research report soon to be published in its entirety by the Ministry of Education.



QUEBEC NOT ALONE

SCHOOLS TO BE OVERHAULED

Dramatic changes to the education system in the Province of Ontario are to be implemented. The Ministry of Education of Ontario is talking about revising the school curriculum from Grade 7, reorganizing the technical colleges, and restructuring univer-

sities. Job training is reported to be a major preoccupation of the studies on which the changes in Ontario will be based. Grade 13 is expected to be eliminated, and Grade 11 and 12 studies expanded to include Grade 13 content.

Claims plastic films environmentally efficient

"Facts about plastic film" has recently been published by the Plastic Film Manufacturers Association. This leaflet shows that compared to alternative non-plastics materials, plastic films save energy in their manufacture, distribution and use. Safety and efficiency in the disposal of plastic films is also dealt with.

The leaflet is intended to provide teachers with background information should questions arise about the energy or environmental efficiency of plastic films. Copies may be obtained by writing to the Society of the Plastics Industry of Canada, 1262 Don Mills Road, Don Mills, Ontario M3B 2W7.

Howard S. Billings

Dr. Howard Billings, former deputy minister and director of Protestant education in Quebec, died suddenly on November 2, 1981.

Dr. Billings, a graduate of Bishop's University, first joined the Quebec Department as inspector of secondary schools in 1932. He was successively special officer, assistant, and in 1962 was appointed deputy minister, secretary and director of Protestant education. When the new Quebec Department of Education was set up in 1964, he became associate deputy minister, a position he held until his retirement in June 1967.

"Youth Stress Jeunesse"

The problem of stress and youth in modern society will be addressed by a new foundation created by the Canadian School Trustees Association. Named "Youth Stress Jeunesse", the foundation's main project is a comprehensive educational campaign designed to alert Canadian youth to the dangers of negative stress. The foundation's plans include a film on stress and youth, featuring Dr. Hans Selye, the world's

foremost authority on stress, a national crisis centre and a 24-hour hotline. Today's youth is in a serious state of crisis, say the foundation's organizers; there exists a frustrated, insecure group of young people, desperately in need of direction in dealing with an uncertain future. Existing community services are too diffuse to impact upon this problem. The group hopes to raise \$1.2 million through public and private funding.

Fine Arts Festival

The kids are great

The PSBGM is again this year conducting a Fine Arts Festival. Upwards of 5000 elementary school pupils are expected to take part in the preliminary activities that lead up to the finals that will take place from April 26th to April 28th at Westmount High school.

Events featured in the Festival will include:

- art
- folk dancing
- drama
- choral speaking
- choirs
- instrumental music

The boys and girls who take part in the Festival begin preparing for this event many months before the preliminaries actually take place.

"The level of performance of our pupils in past years has been very high," said Mr. G. G. Auchinleck, Coordinator of the PSBGM Fine Arts Festival. "In fact, our pupils seem to get better every year."

The pupils' work in the preliminaries and the finals is judged by highly competent adjudicators.

"Many teachers, principals and other School Board personnel work very hard to make sure the Festival will be a success," commented Mr. Auchinleck. "It's a

mammoth undertaking that takes a great deal of planning and organizing. We hope parents in particular and the public in general will try to attend both the preliminaries and the finals. The results of everyone's hard work should be seen by as many people as possible."

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF EDUCATION

"FEDERAL ATTACK ON PUBLIC EDUCATION"

Federal government proposals on post secondary education and occupational training funding have, as was expected, provoked the opposition of the Ministers of Education for Canada. The proposals include funding for universities below the rate of inflation, and federal direction to the occupational training enterprise, in order to promote Canadian economic development.

Proposals for both areas of funding include a request that the federal contribution to programs be 'visible'. The provincial authorities jealously guard their prerogatives in all educational sectors and consider the allocation of federal financial support as a matter for exclusive provincial decision.

New initiatives by the federal

Portability of Certificates

Provincial and territorial Ministers of Education have agreed to implement the portability among the provinces and territories of teachers' certificates, based on three general qualifications candidates would have to possess:

- valid certification to teach issued by a provincial or territorial government, and
- a three or four year degree awarded by a university accredited by a provincial government, and
- successful completion of one year of teacher training, or equivalent, as attested by a teacher training institution accredited by a provincial or territorial government.

The ministers asked that a status report be prepared on related issues such as the portability of teachers' pensions within Canada so that they can assess what factors might affect mobility of teachers.

government in education seem, as a matter of course, to give rise to increased cooperation and solidarity between provinces. This was the case when the review of Canadian education carried out by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in 1976 noted incoherence between provincial jurisdictions, and a need for 'national goals' in education for the country as a whole. This sparked increased activity by the Ministers of Education in concert and the expansion of services by the Secretariat of the Council of Ministers of Education.

At their January meeting, the Ministers agreed to consider the role of their Council, review its operating procedures and make decisions on its activities as a result of such review. It seems likely that adjustments in the terms and operations of the Council may come about which will have as their origin the new federal stance on education expenditures from the federal budget.

The 'Bilingualism in Education' funding arrangements expired in 1979 but have been renewed till March '82 pending a new agreement between the Secretary of State and the Council of Ministers of Education. Meetings with the Secretary of State, Mr. Regan, are to be held in order to conclude a

Kindergarten report released

Newfoundland's Provincial Kindergarten Committee, set up in March 1980, has completed *Kindergarten Education* in response to the wishes voiced by many teachers and parents for new directions in kindergarten policy and curriculum to meet the needs of unprepared five-year-

olds as well as the more mature children. The report has been sent to school districts and to parents (through the Federation of Home and School Associations) in the hope that they will send reactions to the Committee

From CEA Newsletter, Jan/1982

Career opportunities

Forests Need People

The Canadian Forestry Service is gravely concerned about the current shortage of trained forestry specialists. Without their expertise, says CFS, Canada will be unable to apply advanced technology or meet the research needs in this sector.

The Forest Sector Strategy for Canada, reviewed in the last issue of Environment Update, stresses the need for more intensive forest management and research. But there is already a serious shortage of some of the required professional skills, and this will worsen as the demand for them increases.

At least 6,000 forestry graduates, and 1,500 with post-graduate degrees, will be needed in the next 10 years.

But Canada's six forestry schools now are graduating only about 335 students annually with bachelor's degrees and 70 with master's degrees or doctorates. Without additional support, says CFS, these schools will be unable to train the required personnel.

The shortage of woods labor is equally serious. High turnover rates, difficulty in recruiting workers in more isolated locations, and lack of manpower planning have led to low productivity and high costs. The forest sector strategy calls for the creation of another 75,000 to 100,000 jobs.

At least 25,000 of the new jobs would be in forest regeneration and the tending of forest stands. These would draw heavily on native people, students and newcomers to the labor force.

Cabinet has recommended that 300 students be provided for forestry work under the Summer Canada program and has provided for forestry work under the Summer Canada program and has provided \$1.2 million in funding to augment salaries and to provide funds for field work. Action on proposals for increased federal support for university training in forestry and the manufacture of forest products is anticipated early in 1982.

new agreement as soon as possible. The Council of Ministers is proposing a five year term to the new Bilingualism agreement, that total funds reflect developments and growth in de-

mand, that no province receive less than it currently does, and that it be left to each province to assure that the funds are used to meet the objectives of the Bilingualism in Education program.

COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY NEWS

Cuts aren't only problem . . .

Quebec universities are already affected by cuts in funds to be made available to them, and next year will be worse.

The Minister of Education has held a series of encounters with carefully prescribed delegations from the various participants in university education—administrators, professors and students, and others. Press reports of the experience have been ambivalent. There are difficult issues which the Minister seems to have wanted to place before the spectrum of groups, such as the teaching load of professors and the perceived high cost of university administration.

The representatives of professors refused to take part in later sessions because of their disagreement with the Minister's view of their role in university life.

Hardest hit universities appear likely to be Concordia University and the Université de Québec à Montréal which serve large numbers of part-time students and serve a particularly distinct function in providing access to university programs for people from all walks of life and of all ages. Both universities, it is agreed, have been underfunded relative to other institutions in the past, and compressions in their budgets do not mean removal of 'fat' but surgery which could be life-threatening.

The older universities, however, provide important but expensive education in medicine, law and engineering at undergraduate, graduate and post-doctoral levels.

Compressions in budgets are likely to mean severe quotas on students in the humanities, and in those faculties whose graduates do not offer to the labour market and the economy the skills and knowledge most needed for economic recovery.

Hallward named chairman

Hugh G. Hallward, President of Argo Construction Inc. of Montreal, has been named chairman of McGill University's Board of Governors from July 1, 1982. He succeeds Chief Judge Alan B. Gold of the Provincial Court of Québec, who has held the post since January 1, 1978.

The new board chairman was born and educated in Montreal. He received his B.A. from McGill in 1951 and served as President of the University's Graduates' Society in 1972-73. He has been president of Argo Construction Inc. since 1952, and is a director of a number of Canadian corporations.

Appointments at Concordia

Concordia University has announced the appointment of four prominent Quebecers to its Board of Governors. They are:

Lucien Bouchard, a Chicoutimi lawyer and the provincial government's chief labor negotiator, whose term will expire in June, 1983;

John Dinsmore, the president of Petromont Inc. and the recipient of an honorary doctorate degree from the University in 1978. His term will also expire in June, 1983;

L. Ian MacDonald, a political columnist at The Montreal Gazette and a graduate of Loyola College, one of the University's founding institutions. His term expires in June, 1984;

Paul E. Martin Jr., Chairman of the C.S.L. Group Inc., whose term expires in June, 1982.

The 30-member Board of Governors is composed of university administrators, faculty and students and representatives of the community.

At the St. Helen's Island Fort

1982 Annual History Fair

Elementary and secondary students are taking part in the Annual History Fair, organized by the Quebec Association of Teachers of History. The fair will take place May 7th-15th, at the Old Fort on St. Helen's Island, Montreal.

Projects and audio-visual presentations are to be entered, by April 16th, on forms distributed through the Association and returnable to Mr. André Fitzpatrick, St. Thomas High School, Pointe Claire, Que. H9R 1S8 (Telephone: 694-3770, extension 37).

Entries will be judged throughout the week, with audio-visual presentations to be made during the day on May 8th and 9th.

While the Fair is progress, the Old Fort site will be open to the public during the day. 10 o'clock to 5 o'clock at weekends and 11 o'clock to 5 o'clock weekdays.

The presentation of awards will take place on Saturday, May 15th, at 12:15 p.m.

PRESCHOOLS INTERNATIONAL

Pre-kindergarten and the public schools

Growing involvement of public education systems in provision for pre-kindergarten children has led an international pre-school group to express a position on such provision.

At its annual meeting in May 1981, Parent Cooperative

Preschools International passed a resolution calling for pre-kindergarten programs to be based on parent participation principles and meet standards already established by PCPI and its member groups.

The Quebec Council of Parent Participation Preschools endorses

ed this resolution at its annual meeting in June 1981.

Information about standards for programs, teachers, etc., can be provided by the International office of Parent Cooperative Preschools International at 20551 Lakeshore Road, Baie d'Urfé, Québec, telephone (514) 457-3291.

FOCUS on the LOCALS

EDINBURGH

... and the winner is...

Congratulations to 11 year old Laura Foliot of the Grade 6 French Immersion class at Edinburg School. Her crest design was chosen over 150 entries in the recent contest sponsored by Edinburg Home and School Association.

When asked what inspired her design, Laura replied that the school reminded her of friendship and sharing.

Participation in the contest was high, with entries coming from all 17 classes in the school. The judges were greatly challenged in choosing among the many designs.

The new crest is now being sold. You may spot one around Montreal West on a jacket, a hat, jeans or lunch box.



EDGEWATER

Parents endorse music appreciation program

Children in the eight classes of grades 1, 2, and 3 at Edgewater School had the opportunity last fall to develop skills in a comprehensive music appreciation program, based on the Kodaly method, given by Miss Brenda Neeson. The trial program, given during class time, (½ hour a week for ten weeks) was funded by Home & School and received the enthusiastic backing of the eight home room teachers, the principal and the School Committee. The children thoroughly enjoyed the program and teachers felt it was a great success.

As its continuation was dependent on parental support, parents were invited to observe a class in progress. Evaluation forms were sent to all parents involved, who were also asked if they would be willing to support Home & School financially (to the tune of \$7 per child, \$10 maximum per family) to cover costs until June 1982.

Statistically, when parents are polled on any subject a response of 30-32% is considered good—in this case the response was 72% with an overwhelming majority (98%) indicating a willingness to fund the program. (over \$1000 has since been received). A sampling of parents comments included the following:

- "The program has been a great asset to my child's learning. I have noticed a big improvement in many subjects, even his speech is clear and pronounced."
- "In my opinion, music is a

very important part of a child's education. Besides learning music, and learning to appreciate music, music provides a way to express one's self. Also, for those children who perhaps are not very academically inclined, it provides them with something to be good at."

• "The study of music and rhythmic is fundamental to learning in reading and especially as a foundation to learning a second language. From what I perceived of the program, the study of music can also develop co-ordination. AND! where else can you get music lessons, quality teaching and not have to buy an instrument. And it costs pennies!"

Edgewater Home & School hired "Miss Brenda" for the balance of the year and now everyone is looking forward to "A Tribute to Walt Disney" in the Spring.

New local

Bienvenue à l'Ecole Primaire

The Lakeshore School Board's French school, Ecole Primaire Beaconsfield, has recently seen the formation of a Home & School Association.

The executive of the new parent group is: Clive Francis, President; Ann Mason, Vice-President; Mary-Ann Wilson, Recording Secretary; Helen Ashton, Cor-

responding Secretary; Geneviève Duff, Treasurer, and Susan Coyle, Chairman-subscriptions.

The formation gives the LBS a total of 19 Home & School Associations in its schools, including a combined association for Hudson High/Elementary and Mt. Pleasant.

Off to a good start

The Home and School at Ecole Primaire Beaconsfield which was formed in mid-December already has a membership of over seventy families. This represents nearly half of our school population and is an exciting start for Ecole Primaire.

Since December we have established goals, developed by-laws, set up committees and established an operating budget. The goals we established are to develop a creative playground at the school, continue and expand the lunchtime activities program, purchase equipment and books for the school library, and provide social events for the children.

We have started preliminary work for the playground equipment project. The playground committee has the basic idea of the equipment to be constructed and has tentatively set a weekend in May for the construction. This promises to be a major family event.

We are planning fund raising events to meet our objectives. These are expected to be family affairs. The funds will be used to purchase equipment and books for school use.

This will be an exciting year for us at Ecole Primaire. We will learn and grow to fill the needs of our school.

Clive Francis

EARDLEY

The "iceground" came

The playground of Eardley School now boasts a skating rink thanks to a group of energetic Dads. Different classes take turns skating on the rink at lunch hours. The kindergarten children have a skating period in the afternoon. The children must wear safety helmets while on the ice. The Eardley Home and School Association recently spent \$219 to buy them.

The Spring Fling Dance will be held on March 19th this year with dancing from 9:00 pm to 1:00 am. An eight dollar ticket gives you an evening of dancing to the music of Larry Hines.

Other fund raisers planned are a Recycled Clothing Sale on March 27th and the 2nd annual Flea Market on April 24th.

"Kitchen Encounters of the Best Kind" is the name of the Eardley Home and School cookbook. It sells for five dollars at

the school and at several local stores. Hasty notes are being sold for two dollars a package. They feature original drawings of Aylmer.

ALLANCROFT

Parlons Français - new course

Parlons Français is the name of the latest enrichment course offered by the Allancroft Home and School Association. It is being offered on Mondays and Wednesdays for eight weeks at a cost of only \$15. per student.

A Christmas coloring contest was held. As each child completed his or her coloring the child's name and room number was placed in a special envelope. A drawing was held and four lucky children won poinsettias to be enjoyed in their classrooms during

COURTLAND PARK

I Love-to-Read

February 22nd to 26th has been proclaimed "I Love-to-Read Week" at Courtland Park School. The whole week was devoted to the world of books—its interests and fascinations, its pleasures and discoveries.

The following is a list of the ten steps taken by the school to promote and emphasize the all-out effort.

1. Uninterrupted Sustained Silent Reading (USSR) every day for ten minutes for everyone in the school, all staff as well as students.

2. Prepared stencils, giving clues to various book characters appropriate to the level, will be given to the children to test their knowledge of literature.

3. The children will be involved in a Design-A-Book-Jacket project, the results of which will be displayed in the school.

4. The senior grade students will be assigned juniors to whom they will read.

5. Each class will list its favorite books and will prepare a graph reflecting the degree of popularity. From these individual class graphs one large school graph will be plotted to reveal the literacy interest of our children.

6. The grade sixes will conduct interviews with the teaching staff to discover their interest in books.

7. Emphasis will be given to book reports and reviews during this week.

8. Apart from USSR and the regularly scheduled reading times, teachers will do extra reading aloud.

9. Films dealing with books and their value will be shown.

10. At a special school assembly all the teachers will appear dressed as a character from a book.

the Christmas season.

In the cold of February hot chocolate and warm friends were in evidence at the Family Skating Party.

The Penny Race for senior students held on January 15th was won by Mme. Jacque's class. The total collected from all the seniors to fight Cerebral Palsy was \$432.37. The primary Penny Race on January 29th was won by Mrs. Georgiadis' class. The primary grades collected a total of \$190.53.



First Annual Bazaar

It could have been like any other Bazaar, but it wasn't!

Our first Annual, indeed was a special one, highlighted by outstanding community spirit.

We embarked on an adventure, conceived only in October 1981 by our Home & School Fundraising Committee, boosted in numbers and great talent by parents from Dorion Gardens School, which had become amalgamated with Edgewater School in September 1981.

As we were in the planning stages, not a door seemed to be closed for co-operation and above all talent. Our students, staff members and parents gave time and dedication in so many ways, from classes making handicrafts with their teachers for the Bazaar, to being Santa's elves, waitresses and waiters in our Cafe Terrasse, bakers for the Bake Table, babysitters, popcorn-poppers and artists producing

beautiful artwork for our school walls.

Excitement could be felt throughout the school, days before the big event, as bare walls were decorated with winter scenes and Christmas artwork, whispers could be heard: "Santa is coming to our Bazaar!"

We could hardly wait ourselves, and Saturday, December 5th held all the expectations anticipated. The handicraft table was spilling over with beautiful crafts, the bake table was laden with appetizing goods, Santa arrived, accompanied by a Majorette Band, and business was flourishing. \$2200 was raised.

Everyone involved in this great event will not easily forget the spirit, sharing and dedication, which went into our First Annual, and by all indications, not our last Annual Bazaar.

Angelika Redahl

HOWICK

Kids skate for trips

Wednesday, January 27th was Mini Skate-a-Thon day at Howick Elementary School.

The children from Kindergarten to Grade 6 skated for fifteen minutes during noon hour on this beautiful day in order to raise money for school activities, equipment and field trips.

They did a fabulous job and col-

lected \$900. Congratulations, kids, and many thanks to all the sponsors.

Howick students continued to be busy during the month of February celebrating Carnival Day, I Love to Read Week, and of course Valentine's Day.

Carole Creswell

FOCUS on the LOCALS

NORTHVIEW

New club provides adventure

Adventure and education in nature. This exciting combination is bringing a unique experience to Grade 6 students of Northview Elementary School. A series of six outdoor, over-night trips is offered to groups of 10 to 14 students. The Adventure Club, under the direction of Vice-Principal Fred Argue and Physical Education Specialist, Martine Blue, encourages student participation during all stages of each expedition.

In November, the first group traveled to Eastman, Quebec, where they learned the skills of backpacking. Preparation included the study of the Hiking and Backpacking Manual, planning menus, and assembling the necessary equipment. During the over-night stay, the facilities of the Round Hearth Lodge were utilized, and students set up tents and prepared their own meals.

In January, the Adventure Club journeyed to the Harrington Lake area for a three-day cross country ski program. While staying at the C.I.P. Nature Center, there was ample opportunity to ski different types of trails while simultaneously observing the woods and animal life of the lower Laurentian mountains.

During the remainder of the school year, four more trips are planned, with each one providing new challenges to different groups of students. Northern New York state will probably be the scene for a spring backpacking outing, as well as two canoeing events. The final event for Northview's Adventure Club will be a bicycling tour to Carillon Provincial Park.

LACHINE HIGH

Tell us how!

Two students in their final year at Lachine High School will soon have the opportunity to learn at first hand how our federal institutions work. On March 20 Kate Smart and Wayne Bryce will



travel to Ottawa to participate in the Forum for Young Canadians. They will be staying at Ashbury College for one week together with other students representing all parts of the country. During this time Kate and Wayne will meet their federal Member of Parliament, the Hon. Rod Blaker, and many other people connected with all levels of government and government institutions. This trip has been made possible partly through the generosity of the City of Lachine and the Lakeshore Kiwanis Club whom we thank most warmly.



NORTHVIEW

Towne Faire, raises \$3000

The best ever. That describes the success of the Towne Faire, Northview School's annual fund raising event, which was held on December 5th.

Sponsored by the Home and School Association and under the able direction and incredible energy of the Convenor, Frances Kalman, almost \$3000. was raised to support different student activities and to provide learning

materials.

This bazaar features traditional booths such as the Simon Pieman Bake Shoppe, the Piggy Bank Arcade, the Mug and Muffin, a Raffle, and a Handicraft Shop. New booths this year included a Bottle Baffle, Buttons and Bows sewing aids, and the immensely popular Hot Dog Stand operated by the master chef, Peter Magee.

Carol Ohlin

WILLINGDON

Books raise \$2100

During the week of February 22 to 26, 1982, "I Love to Read" Week was celebrated at Willingdon School.

On Monday, the week began with a Junior Assembly. All the children arrived in the Gym already aware of the purpose of the week and wearing their "I love to read/J'aime lire" buttons and carrying their books to participate in U.S.S.R. (Uninterrupted Sustained Silent Reading).

After seeing the film "Cricket in Times Square", everyone participated in USSR for 10 minutes.

The Senior grades had a similar assembly immediately following the Junior assembly. The 21 winning Posters were on display on the entrance floor from the previous weeks' poster contest. The children judged their fellow students work and decided on the winners.

The school was decorated with colourful "Footsteps" which led from the front door to the 3rd floor Library.

Authors Bernadette Renaud, Elizabeth Rist Arnold, Elizabeth Cleaver, and illustrator Felix

Vincent spoke to the children about their books and illustrations.

Every day the whole school participated in two 10-minute USSR periods.

The Home and School participated by preparing a Junior and Senior Library Quiz which required the children to look up data concerning books, authors, etc. in the Library.

On Thursday, a Book Fair was held in which all classes had a half-hour period in which to browse and purchase books, sales of which totalled over \$21,00.00. Parents were encouraged to come and browse with their child during his scheduled visit. The children really enjoyed this highlight of the week.

On Thursday evening the Home and School held a lecture with guest speaker Carol La Tour who spoke about "Parents and Reading". Afterwards, parents were able to browse and purchase books at the Book Fair.

On Friday, there was a closing assembly for both Junior and Senior grades.

MACDONALD HIGH

Strong Program for Carnival Week at MAC

Mac's Winter Carnival, held the week of February 3rd to 5th, was without doubt the most successful in years. Some of the activities the students participated in were Cross Country Skiing, Nite Skiing at Mount Avila, and Snow Football, not to mention the many indoor activities and contests. The traditional Carnival Ball on the Friday evening

culminated the week's events.

Mac again hosted the Provincial Debating Tournament on March 4th and 5th. The resolution debated was: "Be it resolved that lockouts and strikes be replaced by binding arbitration." Debate it among yourselves and watch the next issue of the NEWS to see if your children share your views.

Diane Dean

WESTPARK

"And oh how the money rolls in"

Thanks to a very active Home and School Association Westpark School has, as in the past, carried out many successful fund raising projects this year.

At our Bake Sale, held during our "Meet the Teacher Night" back in November we were all sold out of baked goods after two hours and made a profit of \$550. At the same time we had an Educational Toy Sale which also did well.

Another annual event at Westpark is our Book Fair. We sell used children's books donated by the students, as well as many new books sent to us on a consignment basis.

Thanks to Donna Bryce this

year we are operating a super School Supply Store which is opened for a half hour daily. Aside from allowing the students to purchase their supplies at discount prices, this has proven to be a terrific way to raise money for our school.

The students were very excited about the Skate-a-Thon held in February at Cezar's Palace. (Pointe Claire—not Las Vegas).

Much of our fund-raising money has been used to provide Westpark School with such things as live theatre, a fine arts program, purchases of additional equipment for the school, etc.

Dorothy Roter

CEDAR PARK

Animated library holds interest



Library time at Cedar Park School in Pointe Claire has been turned into a very special event through the innovative talent of parent volunteer Ursula Opal. Not content with merely reading a story to the children, Ursula, along with Librarian Betty Sorensen, prepared a shadow play to entertain and delight the kindergarten to grade three classes.

For her first attempt at shadow-puppetry Ursula chose the opening lines of an English translation of Hans Christian Anderson's magnificent fairytale "The Snow Queen". From it she spun a short story that tells how winter returns to the city, and called it "The Queen of the North". Background strains of the Snowflake Waltz from Tchaikowsky's Nutcracker Suite support the flow of the tale. The scenes and character's, mainly cardboard cut-outs which appear on the screen as shadows, add the visual stimulation.

The children were enthralled by the presentation. And Ursula declared "I had a lot of fun. I hope I will be able to prepare a longer play for next year."

Another popular activity at Cedar Park is skating once a week in January and February. About 100 to 150 children (half of the school population) turn out each time at a nearby rink for some fresh air and exercise.

Cedar Park staff and students held a Christmas Bazaar on December 12th. This bazaar was somewhat unique in that the majority of the items on sale had

been made by the children themselves. The usual Bake Table and White Elephant Table, as well as the Mug and Muffin Stop and Photos with Santa rounded out a most successful morning.

Linda Armitage

HAMPSTEAD

Hey Doc, Listen!

The Hampstead Home and School has tackled an important issue in the last few months. We have addressed ourselves to informing our parents as fully as possible about Dr. Lauren's proposed school reorganization.

After a joint information meeting with Willingdon and Somerled Schools, we sent out a questionnaire to our parents to enable them to express their views on three topics; the existing school board structure, the election of school commissioners and school committees, and their feelings on the proposed new structures and their representation of the grass roots.

We received a mammoth response from our parents. They are overwhelmingly in favor of confessional boards and elections of school committees and commissioners, that is, the status quo.

The results of the survey are being sent to Dr. Laurin and to Mr. Levesque.

President Judy Kalman has indicated she would be glad to speak to any other school about the questionnaire.

Judy Kalman

FOCUS on the LOCALS

SOMERLED

340 students in song fest!

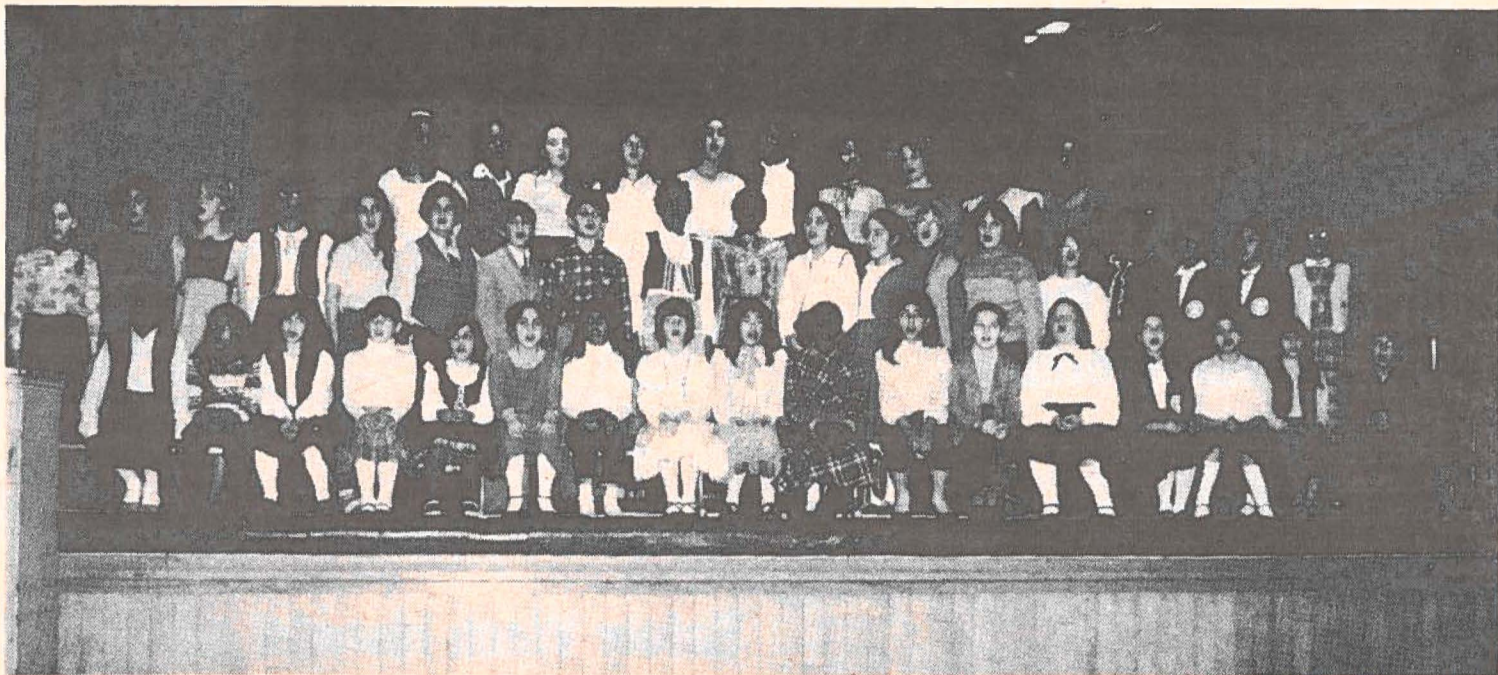
Wednesday evening, December 16th, the gymnasium of Somerled School was filled to capacity with approximately 300 parents, friends and staff to listen to the annual Christmas Concert.

Under the tutelage of Mrs. Janet MacGregor, 340 students presented seasonal music ranging from traditional to current compositions. Included were selections from the school's forthcoming musical "It's Cool in the Furnace".

Mrs. MacGregor was presented with a floral tribute.

The Music Programme is sponsored by the Home and School Association of Somerled School.

Gloria Fisher



ELIZABETH BALLANTYNE

Hard work vs. easy profit

The Book Fair is becoming an annual event at Elizabeth Ballantyne School. This year's Book Fair, held in November, made a profit of \$500. for the Home and School. The volunteers report that it is fun but involves a lot of

hard work.

Recess Sales have made a profit of only \$100. but it is easy profit and there is no fuss involved. The children bring one item each for the sale and each class has a chance to buy.

Ann Silverthorne

NEW CARLISLE

Prayers and Petitions

The first Home and School Meeting of the new year at New Carlisle High School opened as usual with the Home and School prayer.

President Wes Larose spoke on the subject of school board reorganization. The fifty-five

parents present were urged to sign a petition which was circulated during the meeting.

"This is one way we can let the government know we are not in favor of changing our Protestant school system," says Wes Larose.

DUNRAE GARDENS

Neat kids get better results

Last spring the Dunrae Gardens School Committee and the Home and School Association circulated a questionnaire concerning the school uniforms. The parents voted overwhelmingly in favor.

The children were photographed in their new uniforms on the

first day of school. Since then crests have been sewn on the tunics and sweaters.

Apart from the money saved, the children look neater and their behavior and school work reflect this.

B. Matthews

TMR Survey

MORE PARENTS SMOKE THAN STUDENTS!

The minority of students who smoke do not smoke heavily, and Grade 9 is the target group for anti-smoking campaigns, say the results of a survey carried out by senior students of Town of Mount Royal High School.

788 students filled out a questionnaire as part of a survey undertaken by science students in classes of Mr. Ken Elliott at the Grade 10 and 11 level. 6% admitted to smoking more than 25

cigarettes daily, whereas 19% smoked 1 to 5 cigarettes each day, out of the 216 students who identified themselves as smokers.

Of the 216 smokers, 69% had at least one parent who smoked, compared to 53% of non-smokers.

Grade 10 students ranked as the group with the highest percentage of smokers. 21% of Grade 7s admitted to smoking.

Conclusions of the survey are

that the vast majority of students do not smoke (72.5%), those who smoke are light smokers, the largest jump in smoking habits occurs between Grades 9 and 10, parents smoke more than their children, and the vast majority of students (69%) have at least one smoking parent.

The lower the grade level, says the study, the greater the influence of parents' smoking habits on their child.



photo: Hani Saikali

SEIGNORY

Busy as bees— and ready for the sting

Seignory's Home and School mothers were hoping for a very quiet year with nothing untoward happening. That has not been the case. This year has turned out to be one of the most important ones in education with Dr. Laurin's proposed school board reorganization topping the list. Seignory's Home and School and School Committee have formed a Joint Task Force to try to monitor the situation and be prepared for action if necessary.

On a happier note, Seignory is still a hive of activity. The teachers have been taking the children skiing and skating during the lunch hours.

Our Chess Club is coming along well. An in-school round robin tournament is in process involv-

ing children from grades 1 to 6.

Seignory School held its third annual "I Love to Read Week" on February 15th to 18th. A variety of activities were organized at all levels by teachers, students and parents throughout the school. Book making, plays, tapes, pen-pals, peer reading, reader's theatre, posters, book sharing, and library activities abounded. There was even an "I Love to Read" mascot.

The Ways and Means Committee has planned a Spring Dance to be held on April-16th. A large live band-will be the attraction. We hope everybody will come. Tickets are \$10. per person. Home baked food will be provided by Home and School volunteers.

Tina Cappelli



ELEMENTARY:

- Individual Photos
- Group Photos
- Communion
- Confirmation
- Kindergarten

Photo Art



SECONDARY:

- Identity Cards
- Rolodex Cards
- Adhesive Photos
- Graduation
- Grad Dance

810 Salaberry
Laval, P.Q.
H7S 1H3
Siège Social

Tél.:
1-514-384-0430

△ SAFETY SCENE △ SAFETY SCENE △

Local schools plan safety education programs

Although safety education is not yet an integral part of the curriculum in Quebec schools, many teachers and parents are realizing its importance and planning supplemental programs. Three Home & School member safety committees have submitted descriptions of their programs which we are reprinting in this column.

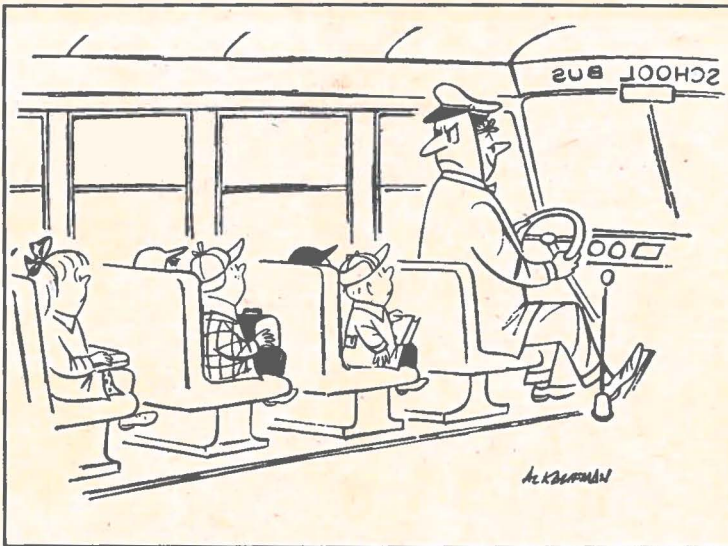
CHELSEA

Bus Safety Week inspires students to be monitors

At Chelsea Elementary School, the Home and School Safety Committee has divided their safety program into three Safety Weeks, in fall, winter, and spring. During this time the children review safety rules applicable to the particular season. They enjoy films, contests (and prizes, of course!), and guest speakers. The students were taught emergency evacuation procedures from a school bus and practised in their own buses. This was especially successful as the children actually followed school bus rules for several

months!

A school bus monitor program has been added for older students (grades 5 and 6). These children are eligible to apply for the job of bus monitor as long as parental permission is received. The monitors serve for a term of three months and are presented a special orange belt decorated with the school crest which is to be worn only while on duty. Committee members Anne Cook and Jackie Doré report that behaviour on buses has improved remarkably.



by Chris Connell

Congrats in order

The QFHSA Safety Committee extends their congratulations to those parents who worked so hard to institute safety programs in their schools. QFHSA would like to see such programs in all schools across the province. Hopefully, this report will provide others with some creative inspiration to do so!

Safety Week biennial affair at St. Lambert elem.

The Safety Committee found that students became saturated with yearly safety weeks and no longer were as receptive to the information they received. It was decided therefore to have a week-long program every second year with safety education being included yearly in the regular curriculum.

The 1980-81 school year was an "On" year, and a safety week was held in March. Students participated in a poster contest and were awarded books donated by Bettina's Book Store on Queen Mary Road.

Many guest speakers visited during that time including a member of the local police force who spoke on bike safety and the Block Parent Program, and a CN Policeman who showed a film called "A Dangerous Game" and warned against the perils of playing on or near railroad tracks. Two firemen also arrived complete with all their gear. Their talk on fire prevention made a special impression — as they were making their presentation, the

siren sounded, and off they dashed to a very real fire!

Children received many hand-outs including QFHSA bumper stickers and Binkley and Coinkel Comic Books from the Quebec Safety League. The Michelin Tire package was available for viewing as were water safety films from the Red Cross and a fire safety film from Modern Talking Films (Côte de Liesse Road, Dorval).

A Safety Day is being planned for the "Off" year of 1982 which will include the "BP Sketch Show" from Quebec Safety League. The students' artistic progress is again being tested, this time with a safety calendar contest. A student's drawing will appear next to each month for the 1982-83 school year thus giving the monthly safety theme which the teachers will incorporate in their curriculum.

Calendar - 1982

APRIL	2-8—Car Check Week
MAY	1-7—Child Safety Week
JULY	1-7—Safe Boating Week
JULY	25-31—Farm Safety Week
SEPT.	24-30—School Bus Safety Week
OCT.	3-6—14th Annual Conference of the Canada Safety Council, Westin Hotel (Calgary Inn), Calgary Alta.
DEC.	1-7—Safe Driving Week

FINE TIME\$

For Passing

• STOPPED SCHOOL BUS	\$200 to 500
• ON THE RIGHT, AT AN INTERSECTION, ON A SOLID WHITE LINE, ETC.	\$100 to 200
• THROUGH A STOP SIGN A RED or RED FLASHING LIGHT	\$ 50 to 100
For drunk driving	\$100 to 200
For failing to buckle up	\$ 20 to 50
For racing on the street	\$200 to 500
For speeding	\$20 plus
0-30 km over limit	\$ 5/5 km
31-60 km over limit	\$10/5 km
61 plus	\$15/5 km

EDGEWATER

Monthly program successful

The Edgewater School Safety Committee has organized a monthly program touching on various areas of safety. September was the most hectic month with children returning to school. The Committee concentrated on bus safety — the film "Death Zones" was shown and QFHSA Bus Safety stickers and flyers were distributed.

In October, a member of the local fire department spoke to the students on fire prevention. A local policeman visited the school in November to present information and material concerning the Block Parent Program. During that month, committee members made a strong case for the use of the Michelin Tire Program. Teachers agreed to try it out and report on its "effectiveness". Happily, the Lakeshore School Board now owns two of these kits. A film on ice safety was shown in December. With the commencement of the International Year of the Handicapped, students were given some food for

thought when they saw the film "Play It Safe" distributed by War Amputees.

February was Home Safety Month, and teachers were requested to get comments and ideas from the children on home safety improvement. The results were posted on the Safety Board in the school hall for all to see. Home Safety reminders were incorporated into the school newsletter.

C.P. Rail personnel made a presentation in March on railway safety. In April, school administrators concentrated on educating the children on school bus etiquette and paid special attention to discipline.

With the onset of summer close at hand in May, a film on water safety was shown. A bicycle safety program was successfully begun and finished with a visit from a policeman and a rodeo.

The committee wound up the year in June with a review on road safety and a school evacuation drill.

Media aids available

In addition to the Michelin Tire Package which many school boards have now purchased, filmstrips and other visual aids are available. The Visual Education Centre (75 Horner Ave., Unit One, Toronto, M8Z 4X5) has a catalogue chock full of material. The Walt Disney Guidance Elementary Catalogue is available from McIntyre Educational Media Ltd., 30 Kelfield Street, Rexdale, Ont., M9W 5A2.

Locally, schools can receive a National Film Board Library card by applying to the National Film Board Library, 550 Sherbrooke

St. West, Montreal, H3A 1B9 (attention: Mrs. Thérèse Pillozzi.) NFB will forward a catalogue of their available films along with the library card.

The Canada Safety Council (1765 St. Laurent Blvd., Ottawa, Ont. K1G 3V4) has a brochure of all their safety programs including the Safe Bicycling Course, the Elmer the Safety Elephant program, and Babysitters' Training Course. Quebec Safety League (6785 St. Jacques O., Montreal, 482-9110) also has extensive material which they are more than happy to distribute.