

NOT FOR CIRCULATION

S.110-81MN

# French in school a battle won

MISSISSAUGA LIBRARY SYSTEM



Peel Region Bury



TED HUMPHREYS

Since he left Mississauga over three years ago, Ted Humphreys has been on "sabbatical" from community involvement.

It's quite a change for a man who was actively involved here in local politics, provincial politics, church, historical, and environmental groups.

Since he moved to Toronto, Humphreys has concentrated on his academic career, which suffered in the past from lack of attention.

A professor of education at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) Humphreys teaches students going for their master's and doctoral degrees in education. He also does research projects, concentrating lately on management of school systems, especially zeroing in on the issue of confidentiality in student records.

The father of four was a member of the Peel Board of Education from 1968 to 1976. "I miss the involvement on the board," says the former science teacher at T.L.

## what are they doing now?

Kennedy and Streetsville Secondary Schools.

Humphreys went to local schools here, taught in them, and ended up chairman of the board.

"On the board, you get the kind of involvement in education you can't get when you're not a trustee," he says.

The 49-year-old professor was "delighted" to see the Peel board recently lower the start of French instruction in its elementary schools.

It was a battle he fought in his time. "The logic was so clearly positive. It's too

bad it didn't happen earlier."

Humphreys urges trustees to determine what type of education system is needed in the region and ensure it prevails. "If you pander to those who complain constantly about the costs of education, the result will be a poorer system."

Management of education systems "leaves a lot to be desired," says Humphreys. "It's very difficult for trustees to control the system and make it go in the direction they want it to."

It's crucial the product of the system, the students, be properly evaluated to improve teaching methods. Humphreys praises Peel for its new thrust to establish comprehensive evaluation techniques, and hold region-wide exams. "But we need to go a lot further," says the former Lorne Park resident.

"There has to be an integrated system of evaluation to improve the quality of teaching and learning.

Establishing evaluation methods to weed out poor teachers is a "rocky road," warns Humphreys.

Jan 1981  
September 10, 1981  
HUMPHREYS, Ted