

New July 1984 **elementary school approved**

Education minister Maureen Hemphill has announced on behalf of the Public Schools Finance Board a grant of \$2,436,025 to River East school division for construction of a new elementary school in the All Seasons and Gateway East development area.

"Housing developments have attracted many families to this neighborhood, and this has increased enrolment in several nearby schools," said Hemphill. "This new neighborhood school will provide a centre for community activities for young families in the All Seasons and Gateway East areas."

The new Kindergarten to Grade 6 school will accommodate up to 600 students in a total area of 42,500 square feet. The school will contain 17 classrooms, two kindergarten rooms, a science laboratory, a library, multi-purpose room, health room, resource teaching area, and a 4,800 square foot gymnasium.

It will serve the area around McIvor,
(continued on page 5)

School

(continued from page 1)

Bonner and Knowles Avenues between the Canadian Pacific Railway Line on the west and Highway 59 on the east.

The construction project will create approximately 1,400 work-weeks of employment. Occupancy of the new school is expected by September 1986.

"Construction of this new elementary school will end overcrowding at Springfield Heights, Maple Leaf and Emerson Schools," noted Hemphill.

"For example, students living in the Gateway East development area are being bused into Emerson School which has reached full capacity this year. These schools urgently require additional space to accommodate students and to allow for greater expansion of programs," she said.

MLA for River East, Phil Eyler, echoed the sentiments expressed by Hemphill re the need for the educational facility.

Calling the announcement "the first and most important decision," assistant superintendent for the division, Gerry Green said that the approval now allows for dealing with the specifics of land acquisition and the shape of the building.

The site for the school has not yet been selected, Green added.

Specific plans are not expected to come forth before Christmas.

According to River East school board policy a planning committee may consist of a representative from the board, superintendent's department, secretary treasurer, teachers/administrative staff, community, students and the architects.

New school makes the grade

by Vienna Badiuk

Jan 1985

Listen closely.

Come the fall of '86 strains of "School Days" will be wafting through the air east of Gateway Road and north of Springfield Road.

That is to be the general location of River East school division's newest school, the final site not having yet been selected as no word has been received from the city regarding a proposal to buy a parcel of land in All Seasons Estates, on Sun Valley Drive.

Approval of the division's request for construction of the new elementary school was received from Maureen Hemphill, minister of education, in June.

Square footage of the 500 student, Kindergarten to Grade 6 educational facility



Harris: explaining the process.

— photo by Vic

will be 42,483.

Included will be 17 classrooms, two kindergartens, one science room, one materials resources centre, one music/art multipurpose room, gymnasium, resource teaching area and medical/health space.

Further, Bob Harris, administrative assistant to the superintendent noted that the dual track — $\frac{2}{3}$ English, $\frac{1}{3}$ French — closed classroom school will be integrated.

"There won't be separate wings," said Harris, adding that dual track was division policy, as opposed to separate schools for the language programs.

Another aspect of the activities now underway regarding the facility is the Gateway East Elementary School Planning Committee.

Harris explained that the mandate of the committee is to plan the school, with final approval coming from the board of trustees.

On the 23 member committee are:

- Barbara Buffie — trustee
- Al Rouse — chairperson of the River East school board
- Don Tymko — trustee
- Walter Melnyk — superintendent
- Dr. Bob Cross — assistant superintendent
- Gerry Green — assistant superintendent
- Ed Solomchuk — secretary treasurer
- Rollin Reimer — director of maintenance
- Norm Guilbert — director of material resources
- Bill Kormylo — deputy assistant superintendent, student services
- Frieda Duerksen — elementary music consultant

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River East School Division trustees recently turned the sod for Sun Valley Elementary School in All Seasons Estates. Pat Wally, Don Tymko, Allen Rouse and Barbara Buffie pictured at the new school site on Sun Valley Drive as they assist the bulldozer in breaking the ground. The Kindergarten to Grade 6 school will accommodate 550 students and will be completed in one year. The general contractor is Taubensee Construction and the architect is Macdonald, Cockburn, McFeetors. The principal of Sun Valley School is Norman Grywinski. He is currently principal of Maple Leaf School on McIvor Avenue.