

Grade 3 and 6 testing Catholic bd. hitting provincial average while public bd. lags

by Bruce Haire

The Simcoe-Muskoka District Catholic School Board ended up just about right on the provincial in the annual Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) testing for Grade 3 and six students while the Simcoe County District School Board continues to lag.

the results.

"This board continues to focus on literacy and numeracy as its top priority," says Board Chair Diane Bell. "While the EQAO results are only one source of information, they do provide data that can be used in school and board improvement plans. Student success is a direct result of our schools' strategies, our teachers' concerted efforts, and the sup-

port of parents and communities."

Director of Education Gord Campbell agrees that the data plays a vital role in school planning. "Combined with leadership and focused professional development, the Simcoe County District School Board uses data to create programs and interventions that help students find success," he says. "Over the course of the past year, we've dra-

matically improved how we collect and use data. This will ultimately help us ensure that by 2008, 75% of students reach the provincial standard of a 'B' (Level 3) on province-wide reading, writing and math tests." Further information and provincial results are available on the EQAO web site at www.eqao.com.

Lane Closures minimized to avoid weekend traffic peaks

BARRIE, ON, Sept. 17 /CNW/ - The inside southbound and northbound lane along Highway 400 between Highway 89 and Churchill Side Road (6th Line) is scheduled to be closed, weather permitting, during September 18-22, 2006 for repairs along the median.

18 to 6:00 a.m. Friday, September 22

"Keeping Highway 400 in good repair, while minimizing impact to drivers, is important to the more than 85,000 drivers who use this road on an average week day," said Transportation Minister Donna Cansfield. "Using weekday lane closures and an around-the-clock construction schedule will reduce overall construction time by as much as one month."

in each direction will remain open.

To minimize any impacts these lane closures may have on drivers, the ministry will provide real-time traffic information through media bulletins, the ministry's website and telephone information line. For up-to-date road condition information on major highways in the area, visit www.roadinfo.mto.gov.on.ca <<http://www.roadinfo.mto.gov.on.ca>> or call the ministry's road information line at (416) 235-4686, or toll-free at 1-800-268-4686.

Lane closures will be in effect for:

- Northbound lane from 12:00 a.m. Monday, September 18 to 6:00 a.m. Friday, September 22
- Southbound lane from 12:00 a.m. Monday, September

During this construction period, the remaining two lanes

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