

Tuesday, September 21, 1971

Henry Schmidt To Run For North Kildonan School Board



HENRY SCHMIDT

Henry Schmidt, a resident of this community since 1955, decided to contest a seat on the River East School Board in North Kildonan following pressure from many friends.

Mr. Schmidt served in North Kildonan as a teacher and principal for 17 years.

He was principal of Chief Péguis Junior High School until last year when he resigned to take a position of sales representative with the Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada.

He has been active in several community organizations and has held various offices in the River East Mennonite Brethren Church and presently is a member of the Church Council.

He is also a member of the Citizenship Council of Manitoba and chairman of its Court Committee, besides being associated with the Mennonite Central Committee, a world-wide relief organization.

Mr. Schmidt has no political affiliation. He says he is "just interested in providing the best possible system of education with available dollars."

He is married with three children, all of whom are attending schools in the River East Division.

Hold the line on options - Trustee Schmidt

Apr 1974



One of the dangers of today's educational system is allowing students to choose their own programs before they are aware of their post-high school plans, a River East school board trustee said Friday.

Henry Schmidt, a three-year board member representing the Old Kildonan area, said in an interview that "too much is left to the whims of individual students at the expense of good, solid instruction." He added that some choices should be made by the students with proper guidance but courses such as mathematics, English, science, social studies and particularly Canadian history, should be retained throughout a student's schooling.

He said, "We are short-changing our students by not

offering enough knowledge of Canadian history."

The trustee echoed his campaign slogan when he stated that the educational function today should be "to provide the best possible education for the individual within the allowable finances."

Mr. Schmidt said a certain amount of "flexibility" should be allowed within the school system but complete individualization of programs for students is unfeasible.

"We often forget that we're all part of one corporate group and should be working towards one set of objectives."

He said the tendency today is for each school to set their own goals but "there isn't the time or money to set up different programs which usually results in duplication of what the student receives in the

end."

Mr. Schmidt received extensive training in the education field before his election to the River East board in 1971.

Born in 1929 he grew up on a farm in the Elm Creek area and was enrolled in Wingham School for grades one to 11. He completed grade 12 in a private school in Winnipeg.

He became a Manitoba Teachers' College graduate in 1950 after a year of permit teaching in 1948-49. He has taught four years in rural schools including one year at Norway House in northern Manitoba.

He joined the staff at North Kildonan's Lord Kitchener school, now John Pritchard, in 1953.

In 1955 Mr. Schmidt became the vice-principal at

Princess Margaret school and principal in 1957 where he served until December 31, 1968. He was appointed principal of Chief Peguis junior high and served there until June 30, 1970.

Soon after, he left the education field and entered life insurance with Sun Life.

The trustee said, "I don't regret for a moment the work done in teaching. They were good years but at that time I felt restless, needed a change and decided that was the time to do it."

Mr. Schmidt was also an active member of the Manitoba Teachers' Society and served at all levels of that organization including that of River East Teachers' Association and was on the Provincial Teachers' Society Committees.

Schmidt, ward
of, River East
division.

November 19 1974



Henry Schmidt
President

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