

and well kept grounds provide a very pleasant outdoor environment." He noted the enrolment to be 83 pupils and that the accommodation was adequate. The school as a whole, "is a happy and industrious unit – its over-all program is well adjusted to community needs and there is much parent appreciation and co-operation."⁵⁷

By the early 1970's, a portable classroom was placed on site. In the autumn of 1971 Inspector Pruden noted that the extra classroom meant that the 119 children enrolled were working in four learning groups. The changing nature of the demographics was pronounced by this time. A school that was entirely rural less than a decade earlier, "has now taken on a distinctly urban flavour and this will increase predominantly in the foreseeable future. He reported that "enrolment increases are expected to accelerate..."⁵⁸ In closing his report, Noel Pruden noted: "The future of the school presents a most interesting challenge in the development of learning programs to meet the impending change of community composition." Two year's later the portent of these remarks were realised.

Two years elapsed before Inspector John Phillips conducted the school's next review. In that time the prediction of future growth had been substantiated. Pupil enrolment had risen to 253, necessitating the reclassification of the school. Residential development had been rapid and was being sustained. During 1973, three new classrooms, a library and Art/Craft facilities and support areas were added. With these additions, Phillip's predicted that the 315-320 pupils expected in the new year would now be adequately accommodated.⁵⁹

What impressed Phillips was the manner in which the school community had risen to the challenges predicted by Inspector Pruden two years earlier. "All involved are to be commended for their efforts to meet the challenges proffered and the evident success of their joint ventures."⁶⁰ He wrote in a praiseworthy tone of the calibre of the community effort, noting that "teachers and pupils co-operate effectively and a very friendly atmosphere prevails. Parents have a sincere and vital interest in the school and encouraged by its teachers are extending traditional roles of fundraising etc to include voluntary participation in supervised teacher aides roles... Teacher/ parent relations are a significant factor in the school's successful operation." In a stressful period in the school's growth the school community clearly had responded successfully to the rapid development and change in the social fabric of the area.

The growth pattern continued. Enrolments in March 1975 had reached 364. Planning had been undertaken for four additional classrooms; only two new rooms would be needed for the 1976 school year. Four additional classrooms, heating and storage areas were built at a tendered price of \$68,685.50. Lister Constructions were awarded the contract.⁶¹

⁵⁵ School Committee Minute Book: July 1956 – March 1966; Meeting: 20 October 1965.

⁵⁶ School Inspection Report, Inspector's Report Book: 29 June 1966, p.16

⁵⁷ School Inspection Report, Inspector's Report Book: 9 June 1969, P. 26

⁵⁸ School Inspection Report, Inspector's Report Book: 17 March 1971, p.27

⁵⁹ School Inspection Report, Inspector's Report Book: 22 August 1973, p.30

⁶⁰ *ibid.*, p. 31

⁶¹ School Committee Minute Book: Meeting: * June 1976.