

Title: The Enlarged Banting Memorial High School and Vocational Wing. Page 1/5

Creator:

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Description: Official opening program for the Vocational Wing (tech wing). Program includes a greeting from the principal (Sidney Owens), a Board Chairman's Message (W. Harry Sawyers), a looking back and looking forward section, and a layout of the school with the new addition.

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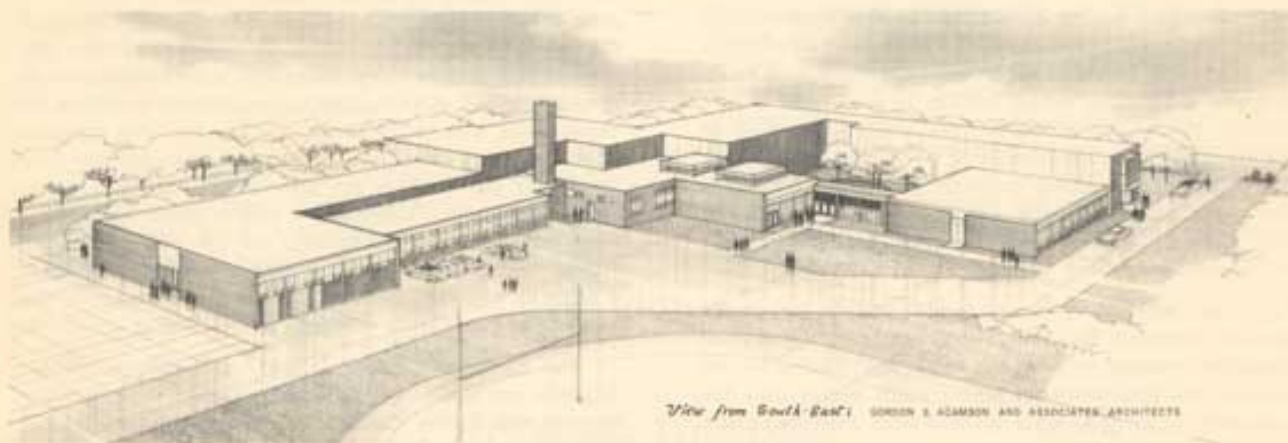
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THE ENLARGED
BANTING
MEMORIAL
HIGH SCHOOL
and
VOCATIONAL WING



View from South-East GORDON & ADAMSON AND ASSOCIATES ARCHITECTS

Officially opened on
May 8th., 1963, by
THE HONOURABLE W. EARL ROWE
Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Ontario.



GREETINGS FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The formation of the Alliston High School District and the erection of Banting Memorial High School in the late forties came as the result of inspired vision and a confidence in the future. Those who at that time had a part in the task of planning and erecting the school will no doubt be pleased to see that their dream of more varied opportunities for the youth of this district has been shared by others. The spacious addition now being formally opened will be another step in the fulfilment of their dreams.

The facilities provided by this addition make it possible for the reorganized programme of secondary education, announced in 1961, to be introduced at Banting. This reorganization comes as a result of society's need for secondary education for all youth regardless of their interests, abilities and vocational goals. Courses introduced provide training for all whether they wish to become members of a profession, skilled technicians, office workers, or employees in service occupations.

There is ample evidence of the need for citizens trained in

any of these fields and all should feel that they have a worthwhile contribution to make in their chosen occupations. It is not the intention that a secondary education will become any easier but it is hoped that, with the type of programme geared to the individual's interests, the tasks required of him will be met with purposeful enthusiasm.

No doubt many citizens of the community will envy the opportunities provided for the youth of our generation. Through plans for an expanded programme of night school classes the facilities of the school will be available to those who wish to avail themselves of the opportunity for further training.

While the building and the task of equipping it is now complete the implementation of the reorganized programme has only begun. The continuing task, with the co-operation of the students and the parents, must be carried out by the staff. It is my sincere hope that we will prove ourselves worthy of the confidence placed in us.

SIDNEY OWENS

BOARD CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Twelve years ago, on April 2, 1951, Banting Memorial High School was officially opened by the Hon. Dana Porter, K.C., then Minister of Education and Attorney General and the dream of improved Secondary School facilities in this district became a reality. The opening of this fine new school provided for all our young people an opportunity for a secondary school education equal to that available anywhere in the nation. To those men whose vision, leadership, and devotion to the welfare of their communities made this District High School possible, we are greatly indebted.

As our school grew in size to accommodate the ever-increasing enrolment, the need became apparent for a more diversified program to meet the needs and abilities of our students. The great industrial growth which this province has experienced in the last decade provided many job opportunities for skilled workers. It was recognized that our school needed the facilities to give our students basic training in these skilled trades.

In the spring of 1961 the opportunity to provide these facilities presented itself with the announcement by the Department of Education of the Robarts Plan. Through this plan the Department of Education and the Federal Government at Ottawa undertook to bear almost the entire cost of providing vocational shops and classrooms to train students in the many skilled occupations which the industries of our country require. Early in April of 1962 work was begun on a new vocational wing which, when built and equipped, would cost more than one million dollars.

On May 8, 1963, this new addition is open for your inspection. However, a tremendous amount of work had to be

done before it could be brought to completion. On behalf of the School Board I wish to express our thanks to all those who have worked long and hard to see this project finished — to the teaching and office staff who have patiently carried on the regular daily work of the school amid the noise and confusion of the building program and to the caretaking staff who have done their best to keep the place clean, working at times against great odds. Particularly, I wish to thank our business administrator, Ernest Cumberland, and our principal, Sidney Owens, upon whose shoulders fell the duty of ploughing through a mountain of detail, which, though tremendously tedious, was essential to the ultimate efficiency of the finished school.

Our continuing relationship with our architects, Gordon Adamson and Associates, has been most pleasant as have our dealings with Konvey Construction Co., the contractor on the job.

The officials of the Department of Education have been of great assistance to us, being always willing to give us of their time and advice when we needed their help. We are grateful to them for their assistance.

With the completion of these new vocational facilities, Banting Memorial High School has once again moved forward with the changing world, meeting the changing needs of our students for a sound basic education in a trade or profession of their choice. It is our sincere desire that when they go out from this place to seek what is to be, they may go with the knowledge and training which will enable them to find the type of employment in which they will be making the most of their talents.

W. HARRY SAWYERS

LOOKING BACK

Originally, the young people in this district received their secondary school education in the Alliston High School or one of the continuation schools located at Beeton, Cookstown or Tottenham.

Early in the forties the people of Tottenham began investigating the possibility of a district high school. This led to the formation of a Consultative Committee by the Simcoe County Council in 1946. This committee envisioned schools offering Agriculture, Commercial, Home Economics and Industrial Arts in addition to the academic subjects usually taught in high schools. In order to warrant these extra courses a larger district was required, with the result that a High School District was set up by County Council (effective January 1, 1948) including the Town of Alliston, the Villages of Beeton and Tottenham, the Townships of Adjala, Tecumseth and Tossoronto, and parts of the Townships of Essa and West Gwillimbury. Since then the south-west portion of the Township of Adjala has joined the Orangeville High School District and parts of the Townships of Innisfil, Albion, Mono and Mulmur have joined the Alliston High School District, covering an area of approximately 425 square miles.

Mr. D. K. Harvey, former Warden of Simcoe County, was appointed the first Chairman of the newly formed Board in January 1948, followed by such distinguished men as Mr. J. J. E. McCague, Mr. R. A. McKelvey, Mr. N. P. McDonald, Mr. C. J. Cerswell, Mr. J. C. Wilson, and the present Chairman, Mr. W. H. Sawyers.

The original building, started in September 1949 and completed early in 1951, consisted of: 6 Classrooms, 1 Library Classroom, 1 Science Room, 1 Agricultural Science Room, 1 Industrial Arts Shop, 1 Home Economics Room, 1 Sewing Room,

1 Art Room, 2 Commercial Rooms (one converted to an Instrumental Music Room), 1 Gymnasium-Assembly Room, along with various offices and store rooms. Total cost of building and equipment \$538,523.49 to accommodate 420 pupils.

In 1953 four classrooms and two health rooms were added at a cost of \$80,906.64, increasing accommodation to 540. A further addition of four classrooms and an extension to the cafeteria was made in 1955 at a cost of \$80,910.73, to bring the accommodation to 660.

The next year an Agricultural Building was erected, having two classrooms besides the areas for machinery and storage. This was built and equipped for \$22,915.86. This accommodation was further increased in 1961 by the addition of two classrooms, two washrooms and a locker room on the second floor. Cost, including equipment and fire-escape, \$19,732.37.

In the fall of 1960, discussions concerning the overcrowded condition of the school had been carried on with the Department of Education. Tentative plans were drawn up and debentures approved for necessary expansion to cost \$580,000. At this time it was discovered that the Federal Government would assist the Ontario Department of Education with grants to erect and equip a Technical addition. This was followed up immediately and more extended plans were made to design and develop a Vocational Wing and extended academic facilities to provide the widest possible educational opportunities for students. Thanks to the help of Government grants, the cost to be borne by the local municipalities was reduced to less than 10% of the original figure, although the new plans provided far more extensive facilities, and accommodation for 1,050 students. Total cost of the new addition is about \$1,233,000., including grants.

LOOKING FORWARD

The new Banting Memorial High School offers a wonderful future to its students who want to take full advantage of the splendid opportunities available to them. Few schools in Ontario offer more.

Modern business and industry demand increasingly high standards of knowledge and skill. It is only by qualifying to meet these new conditions of employment that the youth of today can look forward with any assurance to what the future holds; increasing leisure calls, also, for development of ever-broadening interests.

The three basic channels of training now available offer a chance for every student to lay a solid foundation upon which to

build. Whether students expect to go on to University, to acquire skills that will lead to certification as skilled tradesman or office worker, or whether they set their sights on more modest objectives, the new BMHS provides the opportunities for them to get the most, and best, out of their capabilities.

The new BMHS has first-class equipment for training in all these aspects of education, as is shown on the back of this folder.

There is a staff of 45 experienced, qualified instructors under the direction of an outstanding principal.

The opportunity to prepare for the future is given by BMHS. The extent of its use depends upon the students.

