

Accolades paid Principal F. Patterson at retirement party last Wednesday eve.

Among many accolades paid retiring Principal Floyd Patterson at last Wednesday night's Floyd Patterson night in Rodney Legion Hall, were those by many in education.

Wayne Neal, Superintendent of Education for West Elgin's four schools, extended best wishes on behalf of the board, in the absence of local trustee Ray Lemon, and for Director of Education Tom Cuniffe.

Mr. Patterson's 22 years is a record, with the Director of Education thinking the

board should bronze the principal as parents do their babies' first shoes.

"Now we can stop keeping track of him," Mr. Neal said.

PLEASED

"Everyone is pleased to have known him, and we on the board, and teachers who have taught for him, appreciated his academic excellence. He is a first rate principal and ran first rate schools, which students, parents and teachers appreciated."

"When Mr. Patterson went to WESES as principal he requested the board close in some rooms, because the open concept design did not lend itself to good teaching, he said. For this he offered me a bushel of white beans, and when the job was completed he delivered," Mr. Neal quipped.

"For perseverance and setting a good example for teachers and students, everyone thanks him!"

"He's not retiring, he's just not going to show up at school anymore," Mr. Neal said.

PRESENTATION

Aldborough Reeve Dan Perovich said it was a pleasure to present a set of township bookends to Mr. Patterson on behalf of council, students and ratepayers.

Speaking for Aldborough Public School's original staff, Aleta McCallum said she was pleased to see "the boys" — original male teachers at APS — back for the retirement party.

She said the school's all-woman original staff had taught at various township schools previously, so had no background on how to deal with a male principal and male teachers. However, she admitted, the women were given the opportunity to continue teaching their way, but with suggestions from the principal, which some teachers found strange, but proved better.

better.

APS OPENING

She recalled the school opening a week late and painters still on the job when it opened, but Mr. Patterson calming everyone by stating "Keep cool, don't get your bloomers in a knot." So when he left the school to become principal at WESES we gave him a knotted bloomer, she mused.

"We learned many good things from him, but when I wore a red dress and he said it indicated I was disturbed, I was careful not to wear one again," she said.

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PRINCIPAL FLOYD PATTERSON SHOWS the grandmother clock presented to him by original board member Lyle Mann on behalf of the 240 who attended last Wednesday night in Rodney Legion Hall to honor him.

Original APS board member John Fleming recalls history

John Fleming, an original member of Aldborough Public School's board of trustees, recalled the board's and the school's history at the original principal's — Floyd Patterson's — retirement party Wednesday evening in Rodney Legion Hall.

He recalled that 24 years ago — June '63 — Aldborough was declared a school area, so that fall he, with Don Campbell as chairman, and board members Lyle Mann, Keith Kelly and Maurice Mistele, were responsible for hiring an engineer to plan and build the school. Hiring a principal from many applications was next.

"On meeting Floyd Patterson, who had the experience, we hired him as principal, and after 22 years at APS and WESES, it proved a wise decision," Mr. Fleming assured.

Original board members, all but Mr. Campbell, who was absent, were introduced.

INTRODUCED

Original secretary-treasurer, Vince Black, and Harry Schindler the original head of bussing; the latter continues in that capacity, were also introduced.

Mr. Fleming recalled the board's

many meetings to get the school off on the right foot. But it was a pleasure, as was meeting again with the man whose faithful contribution to education in the township and villages added so much to the community.

In conclusion, he extended best wishes to the retiree for many more years of good health and happiness.

Former trustee Keith Kelly recalled starting the school, and hiring Mr. Patterson. Since then, he assured Mr. Patterson has given leadership, set high standards for teachers and students, resulting in them going on to higher education because of having good backgrounds.

He said parents have been pleased with what the principal has done for their sons and daughters.

Concluding his remarks, Mr. Kelly said he was pleased to see old friends from the staff, and assured Mr. Patterson everyone appreciates everything he has done toward educating their children.



SCHOOL BAND RECEIVES PRIZE — West Elgin Senior Elementary School band won a plaque and certificate in the St. Thomas Rotary Club's annual music festival. They were presented at the school recently by St. Thomas Kiwanian Brian Bolt, left, to band leader Ken McLagen. The band played two numbers, one of which won it first place. The band travelled to the London Kiwanis Music Festival last Friday where they placed fourth.

RODNEY, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, JULY 9TH, 1987

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Special Grade 8 Graduation Awards during graduation ceremonies at W.E.S.E.S. a week ago Thursday were presented to the following: Front row, left to right, Marilyn Vanderploeg, County Mathematics Award

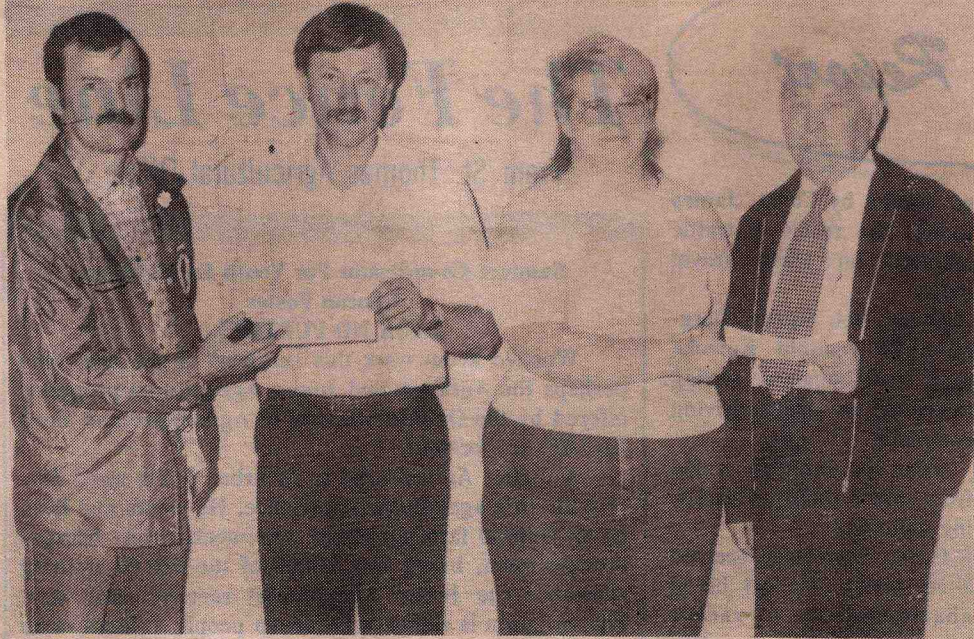
and Female Athletic Award; Cynthia Rees, Valedictorian, and Carla Staddon, Female Achievement Award and County English Award. Back row: Todd Rowsom, Most Improved Student Award; Kevin Prow,

Male Athletic Award; Kim Beattie, Eddie Carter Award; Katie Baldwin, McKillop Award, and Steve Lunn Male Achievement Award and Citizenship Award.

Photo Dutton Advance

W. E. S. S.

8 *The West Lorne Sun, Thursday, May 15th, 1986*



WESS' BAND RECEIVED \$1646.20 Cents from West Lorne Optomists and the International Club last week to assist the band pay its way this week to Expo '86. Presenting the Optimists' \$500 was Brad

Reive to Band leader Dave Cunningham. Accepting the International Club's \$1,146.20 was Ruth Ferguson, Ed Mechevech making the presentation.

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WESS band, chaperones left Tuesday for Expo '86



FORTY-FIVE WESS BAND MEMBERS and eight chaperones left school at 3 o'clock Tuesday for Pearson International Airport, where they boarded at 7:45 plane for Vancouver, and a five-day visit to Expo '86, where the band will play a few times. It took a two-ton van to transport their luggage and band instruments. Wednesday

afternoon the band played at Xerox International Amphitheatre. This afternoon (Thursday) the senior band will play at Douglas College Theatre. Friday members have a free day at Expo. Saturday morning they will attend a music clinic, and a jazz concert in the evening. Sunday is the final day of competitions. In the evening mem-

bers will attend the awards ceremony and reception for competing groups. Monday morning they will tour the city, go swimming, golfing, shopping etc., before departing at midnight, arriving in Toronto at 7 am Tuesday.

Mercury-Sun photo.