



Dear Parents:

We would like to invite students and parents to contribute to the *Breaking Through Barriers Fund* by supporting the annual

“Give a Little, Help a Lot” Toonie Campaign

All funds raised through this event will go directly to support the needs of individual Halton students whose families are experiencing financial hardship.

In a community like Halton, it's hard to believe that 10% of families live below the poverty line. This means that a significant number of children in our school system, through no fault of their own, face serious financial barriers to their success in school.

The Ministry of Education does not provide funding to address these needs. **However, your generosity can.**

Each year we ask parents, students and staff to donate a toonie to the “Give a Little, Help a Lot” campaign. The funds raised through this initiative will go to purchase food, clothing, personal hygiene products, school supplies and help with emergency situations for students who otherwise couldn't afford them.

We invite you to join other parents, staff and students in assisting students by donating a toonie. You want to give your child every opportunity possible to succeed at school. Consider giving the same opportunity to another student in Halton.

Sincerely,

Pat Wright
Executive Director
Halton Learning Foundation

David Euale
Director of Education
Halton District School Board

What Poverty Looks Like

Written by Grade 4 students at Pineview PS

*A lot of hunger, but little food
A lot of walking but no money for shoes.*

*A feeling of tired, but no bed
No soft pillow to lay my head.*

*My clothes don't fit, I've grown too tall
But I don't have the money to go to the mall.*

*A lot of things to carry, but my backpack is broke
If I tell other students, they may laugh and poke.*

*I have no money that I recall
Nobody to call, nobody at all.*

*I don't have any extra mittens to spare
Sometimes people don't even care.*

*Other kids get Scholastic, they buy lots of books.
When I just pass, they give me strange looks.*

*My friends laugh and have fun, they don't even
know, I can't afford field trips,
I'm embarrassed to tell them so.*

*I'm just like everyone else, can't they see?
I want the others to see me for me.*

*I wonder as I scratch my head,
Why is it we can't all be fed?*

*If the world were to come together as one,
We could make poverty completely gone.*