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Earl Haig S.S.: A Public School Going Private

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After a heated conference session held by the authorities of Earl Haig Secondary School, the School Council and Administration have decided that Earl Haig will undergo privatization in order to ensure financial stability. Earl Haig is a public high school that has previously been fortunate enough to collect a sufficient amount of money to pay its expenses. It has received financial support from the government, including money for the costs of buying textbooks, school furniture, gym equipment and school supplies.

Earl Haig's expenditure has increased exponentially as the school's population has grown steadily over the past five years. The amount of cash outflow by the school is much greater this year than any year in the past. Earl Haig has enrolled up to 2,200 students for the

2005-2006 school year. This is a 10% increase from last year.

"The more students attending, the more financial debt the school runs into," says a school official. "The future of Earl Haig [financially] looks grim," remarks another school official. Indeed, Earl Haig is in a financial crisis after office administrators reported that as of October 21, 2005 we are \$25,750 in debt. "Any long-term disbursements that the school is currently making have got to come to a halt," states the school treasurer. "If it does not," the school treasurer continues, "the school may sink into bankruptcy or endlessly be paying off its liabilities."

Since early September of 2005, Earl Haig has spent over \$10,000 in computer equipment purchases, after the Earl Haig Library replaced all of its old computers with new Dell ones. Two other sets of Dell computers were bought for



Photograph courtesy of Phoebe So / Carpanatomy

the Business and Technology departments. The school has purchased \$4500 worth of new textbooks, school supplies, and new electronics. Some new desks, chairs, and other furniture have also been bought while both the school auditorium and cafeteria have been renovated. Overall, thousands of dollars have been put into improving the

school environment.

With expenses climbing steadily, Earl Haig's head office had one last conference before the chief authorities of the school confidentially announced that Earl Haig is going to be privatized. In a school council meeting on December 20th, 2005, school officials also decided that Earl Haig will change its school

name to Earl Haig Private College for the Privileged once the legal process of privatization is over. The permanence of this school privatization is unknown, but it will most likely last until the school generates enough revenue to revert to a public school. Earl Haig's privatization is planned to take effect in September 2006.