

# Mould find means portables must go at Ajax school

## St. James' port-a-pac to be knocked down this summer

**AJAX** — A St. James Catholic School port-a-pac is coming down following a report on mould found inside.

St. James' principal brought forth the concern about mould to the Durham Catholic District School Board in late January, at which time the approximately 23-year-old port-a-pac was closed off.

The port-a-pac's six classrooms were relocated to inside the school.

The port-a-pac has 7,000 square feet and was constructed on-site in 1986.

The mould was inspected by consultant Pinchin Environmental, which provided options for dealing with it, said a report presented to the board.

Mould was found in several locations around the perimeter of the port-a-pac and in its linking corridor. Air sampling found the mould growth to have a slight impact on airborne spore concentrations inside.

In carefully examining current enrolment and future projections, staff recommended the unit's demolition this summer, said Tim Robins, assistant superintendent, facilities services.

Demolition is the cheapest solution at \$108,700. The estimated cost includes engineering, environmental, and demolition structure fees; demolition permits, and restoring the link from the main school building.

Other options discussed by the school board included rehabilitating the port-a-pac for an estimated \$113,000 to \$223,000; replacing it for \$600,000; and replacing it with a permanent structure for \$1.4 million.

Based on enrolment projections, all the students can fit inside the school, and a long-term port-a-pac isn't required, said the report.