

High schools seek codes

At least one school trustee says he doesn't understand why the Halton Board of Education needs to revamp its code of student behavior.

Trustees are currently examining guidelines which, if approved April 26, will go to Halton's secondary school principals for further input.

In accordance with Ministry of Education directives, the board must have each secondary school develop and adopt its own code of behavior for stud-Parents, ents. students and staff will all be involved in preparing a clear code for their school, emphasizing the ministry terms. selfsense of selfworth and discipline students" and outlining "realistic and effective consequences for failure to meet its standards".

"Our old code (the 1977 Guideline for Student Behavior) was good enough," Milton Trustee Ivan Armstrong complained Thursday night. "I can't understand where the ministry is coming from wanting us to do this all over again."

Superintendent of schools Dean Fink, a former Acton high school principal who is in charge of the project, explained that the ministry wants "to get the communities involved,"

"The process (of putting a new code together) is as important as the end result," he said, noting that the final product must conform with the board's 1977 guidelines.

"This will involve the people who are supposed to live with the code," trustee Pat Hillhouse added. "It won't take any time out of someone's classroom work."

While the individualized codes of
behavior will apply
to secondary school
students, Halton's
existing guidelines
cover elementary
schools as well.