

# Key Communicator program endorsed by trustees

By LISA BOONSTOPPEL-POT  
The Herald

A motion to freeze the activities of the Halton Board of Education's 'Key Communicator Program' was firmly opposed by Halton Hills School trustees Jan. 15.

Trustees Dick Howitt and Dave Whiting voted against the motion made by an Oakville trustee which asked that the Board "freeze its support of and activities with its Key Communicators Program immediately."

The motion was defeated 10 to eight.

The Key Communicator Program

was initiated by the Board in 1988 to establish a communication network with the community whereby board administration could seek input on board policies, decisions and publications from the community.

The Key Communicators receive advance copies of publications for input, attend sessions to provide direct feedback on board policies and directions and share facts about public education with the public, according to a pamphlet of the Key Communicator program released by the board.

According to Dick Howitt, its a good program.

"The intent of the program was to

establish a line of communication with the public," he said. "The board does that a number of ways, through 'Coffee at 10', meeting with principals and the Key Communicator Program."

Dave Whiting agrees. "It's just an informal method of getting feedback from the public."

He said from speaking with Key Communicators and school principals in Halton Hills, it was apparent that all regard it as a viable communication tool and have no problem with the program. "People here see it as beneficial," he said.

But not everybody in Halton does. At Wednesday night's meeting, two Oakville residents, Elaine Nielson and Marc Hutchins, spoke to the board about their dislike of the program.

Ms. Nielson believes "the role of the Key Communicators has taken on insidious tones" and is particularly mistrustful of their relationship to the relocation of the Oakville-Trafalgar High School.

Mr. Whiting said if there is a problem with the Key Communicator Program, "it's isolated to the Oakville area" and should be dealt with down there.

The Oakville trustee who presented the motion to the board, John Scheel, said he has a problem with the secrecy aspect of the program. The names of Key Communicators aren't made public due to the Freedom of Information Act and he's concerned about that.

Mr. Howitt thinks that's a valid concern but suggests rather than scrapping the whole program, changes should be made in order that the names of Key Communicators be released to the public.

The Key Communicator Program will be discussed again at the board's Jan. 30 meeting.

## Local host families needed for international students

ASSE International Student Exchange Programs (ASSE) is seeking local host families for boys and girls from Scandinavia, France, Italy, Spain, Germany, Holland, Great Britain, Switzerland, Mexico, Japan, Australia and New Zealand, 15 to 18 years of age, coming to this area for the upcoming high school year. These personable and academically select exchange students speak English, are bright, curious and anxious to learn about Canada through living as part of a family, attending high school and sharing their own culture and language with their newly adopted host family.

The students are sponsored by ASSE, a non-profit, public benefit organization, affiliated with the Swedish and Finnish Departments of Education. ASSE also co-operates with the Canadian Provincial Ministries of Education and is approved by the Australian and New Zealand Departments of Education. ASSE is the only organization with these credentials.

The exchange students arrive from their home country shortly before school begins and return at the end of the school year. Each ASSE student is fully insured, brings his or her own spending money and expects to bear his or her share of household activities and lifestyles.

Those persons interested in obtaining more information about

becoming a host family or becoming an exchange student should contact ASSE's provincial co-ordinator: Marta O'Reilly (519) 824-9278 (Collect) or call ASSE Canada at 1-800-361-3214.

## Board honors individuals

Eighteen people working in public schools in Halton Hills will join 100 others is being honored for 20 years of service to students.

The Halton Board of Education is hosting the event, called 'Flashback' at Milton District High School Feb. 5.

'Flashback' is an evening to celebrate with the individuals who have worked for the Board for 20 years said the board's communications officer, Brian Woodland.

The Halton Hills school employees to be honored include:

Clare Henderson, Barb Johnson, Roy McMillan and Paul Tamblyn, all of Acton High School; Brian Cosgrove from Centennial Public School; Jim Broughton, Jack Brown, Jim Hall, Russell Linney, Ted Maslach, Bill O'Reilly, Bob Rumsey, all from Georgetown District High School; Barb Walker from Glen Williams Public School; Linda Howatt from Harrison Public School; Lee Bradshaw from McKenzie-Smith Middle School, Marg Kalil from Park Public School and Anne McIntyre and Susan Sheehan from Robert Little Public School.

## PARENTING THE GIFTED CHILD

The Halton Roman Catholic School Board is pleased to invite the public, especially parents of gifted students, to attend a presentation by Dr. Nicholas Colangelo, a distinguished scholar and recipient of numerous awards in the field of Guidance and Gifted Education. Dr. Colangelo, the Director of the Connie Belin National Centre for Gifted Education, University of Iowa, will address issues in Parenting the Gifted Child on Wednesday, January 29, 1992 at 7:00 p.m. at Notre Dame Secondary School in Burlington. The public is welcomed to attend this stimulating evening and may obtain tickets, at a cost of \$5.00 by contacting Mrs. Anne Allan at the Board Administrative Office-632-6300, ext. 127.

## Parents invited

The Halton Roman Catholic School Board cordially invites Francophone parents of Halton to attend a public French presentation which will address Recognizing and Nurturing your Children's Talents, to be given by Daniele Cloutier, of the Ottawa-Carleton French Roman Catholic School Board. This public event will be held on Wednesday, January 29, 1992 at 7:30 p.m. at Ecole Ste-Marie in Oakville. There is no charge for this event.

## Misconception clarified

By BRYN DAVIES  
Principal, GDHS

A couple of parents I talked to last week asked me whether or not I was "going anywhere" during turnaround.

I thought this would be a good opportunity to clarify a misconception that might be held by some people in the community.

In Halton, high schools like Georgetown have six official exam days at the end of each semester plus three "turnaround Professional Activity days". Exam days are considered "instructional days" insofar as students continue to be engaged in the learning/studying process and teachers continue in the school to support students, to supervise exams and to do their marking.

Some teachers may have as many as 90 exams (three classes-worth to mark within a maximum three or four day time frame. Many of these exams, particularly those involving lengthy written answers, take over one-half hour each to mark. As you can see, this represents a full workload for our teaching staff.

Teachers who have a lighter marking load are scheduled into supervising more exams. Exams are written in many locations throughout the school.

Students who miss exams due to illness or students who may need special assistance to write their exams are also supported through special scheduling.

Teachers are also expected to meet with one another in making recommendations about particular students' programs next semester.

For example, teachers may recommend that a student shift a course from the advanced level to the general level; in other cases, students may need special education support, guidance counselling or monitoring by the administration. All of these decisions require careful professional consideration, and time.

When teachers aren't supervising, marking or meeting, they are preparing their courses for next semester. Not only does this involve checking inventories and ordering or running off materials, it also involves planning and collaborating with one another to ensure the best possible instruction. Again, this is valuable time-well-spent at "turn around".

To summarize, the flexible time available to teachers at the end of the semester is essential if teachers are to effectively complete their "end-of-term" duties and properly prepare for the next phase of the school year.

## Education is Ageless

Georgetown residents should be pleased to know that three new courses will be offered at Georgetown District High School this Winter.

Crafts and Silk Flower Arranging, Financial Planning and Investments, and Hatha Yoga will be a nice addition to the computer and language courses already offered.

In addition, a Saturday workshop, How to Buy a Computer, will be held on Saturday, February 15, from 9 am - 11:30 am, at the cost of \$26.54 per person.

You will find more information on these and other courses in your "Education is Ageless" program guide, or call 333-3499/878-1240.

**OFFICE MAGIC**  
877-2300  
FOR ALL YOUR OFFICE,  
ART & STATIONERY / NEEDS  
285 Guelph St., Georgetown

**J. V. Clothing**  
Men's • Ladies • Children's  
ALTERATIONS & REPAIRS  
877-1598

**VIDEO PLUS**  
West of Georgetown Fruit Market  
COMING THIS WEEK  
JUST FOR YOU!  
• LIFE STINKS  
• HOUSE 4  
• FUTURE KICK  
• HOT SHOTS  
• GATE II  
• MOBSTERS  
134 Guelph St., Unit 8  
Georgetown, Ontario 877-4260

**JUNIOR/SENIOR KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR SEPTEMBER 1992**  
**THE HALTON ROMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL BOARD**  
ADVANCED REGISTRATION for those children who will be attending Junior or Senior Kindergarten in the Catholic Schools in Burlington, Oakville, Milton, Georgetown and Acton will be held at all schools on  
**WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY**  
**FEBRUARY 5th and 6th, 1992**  
9:00 a.m. to Noon  
1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
**AGE OF ADMISSION AND REQUIREMENTS**

Junior Kindergarten	Senior Kindergarten
Children are required to be 4 years of age on or before December 31, 1992.	Children are required to be 5 years of age on or before December 31, 1992.

- Birth and Baptismal Certificate required for age verification.
- Before registration is finalized, a child will have completed the prescribed program of immunization for diphtheria, tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles, mumps and rubella.
- Families registering for the first time at a school are requested to provide the child's medical card number at the time of registration.
- For further information or alternate registration date, please contact the principal of your nearest Catholic School.

Irene McCauley  
Chair of the Board

C.G. Byrnes  
Director of Education



## LE CONSEIL DES ÉCOLES CATHOLIQUES DE HALTON AVIS D'INSCRIPTION SCOLAIRE PROGRAMMES DE MATERNELLE ET DE JARDIN D'ENFANTS

(pour la rentrée des classes en septembre 1992)

L'inscription par anticipation d'enfants francophones d'âge scolaire admissibles à la maternelle ou au jardin d'enfants en septembre 1992, aura lieu à l'école Sacré-Coeur (Georgetown), l'école Sainte-Marie (Oakville) et l'école Saint-Philippe (Burlington) aux dates suivantes:

**MERCREDI ET JEUDI**  
**5 et 6 février 1992**

entre 9h et 12h - et - 13h30 et 17h

### AGE D'ADMISSIBILITÉ ET DOCUMENTATION REQUISE

#### Maternelle

Tout enfant ayant atteint l'âge de quatre ans au plus tard le 31 décembre 1992.

#### Jardin d'enfants

Tout enfant ayant atteint l'âge de cinq ans au plus tard le 31 décembre 1992.

- Certificat de baptême et/ou de naissance.
- On demande à tout parent qui inscrit son/ses enfant(s) pour la première fois, de bien vouloir fournir, lors de l'inscription, le numéro de la carte santé de chaque enfant.
- Tout enfant doit avoir complété le programme prescrit par la Loi sur l'immunisation contre la diphtérie, le tétanos, la poliomyélite, la rougeole, les oreillons et la rubéole avant que son inscription soit finalisée.
- Veuillez communiquer avec la direction de l'école catholique de langue française de votre communauté scolaire pour obtenir des renseignements supplémentaires ou pour fixer une autre date d'inscription.

Irene McCauley  
Présidente du Conseil

C.G. Byrnes  
Directeur de l'éducation