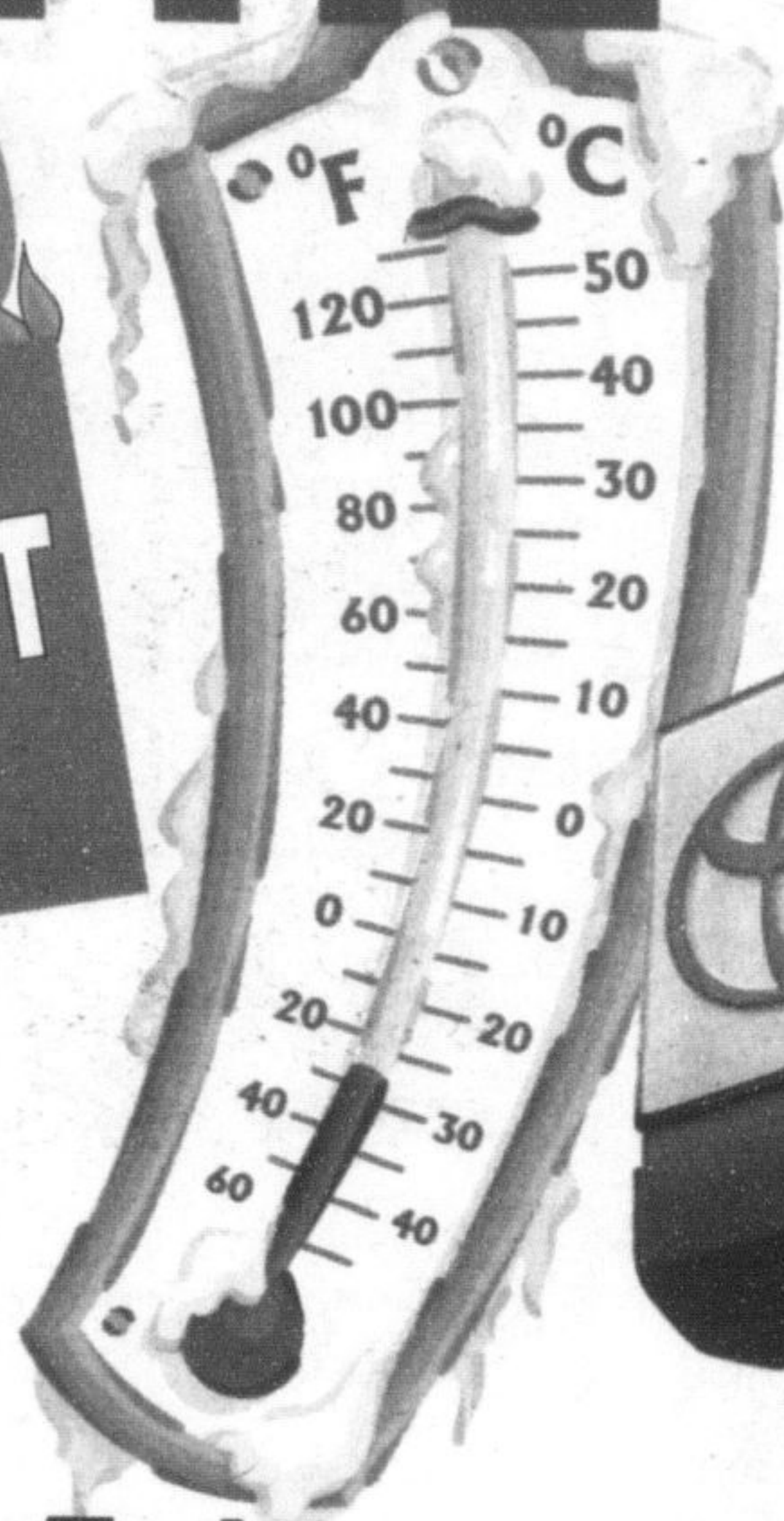


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- AM/FM cassette CD • Power locks

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2003 Highlander
\$32,330 MSRP **3.9% PURCHASE FINANCING***

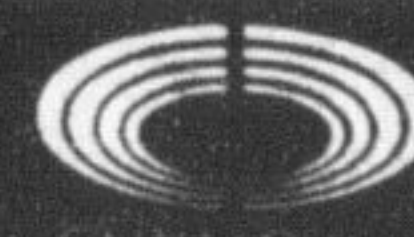
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New school trustee familiar to board

By **TIM WHITNELL**
Special to The Champion

She has sat across from Halton District School Board trustees and debated the issues of the day on several occasions. Now Janie Hames will sit among those same trustees.



Janie Hames

The Brant Hills community resident has been appointed interim trustee for Ward 3 in Burlington.

She took her oath of office just prior to Wednesday night's school board committee meeting.

Ms Hames was selected from among a large pool of 40 candidates looking to fill the seat.

Previous Ward 3 trustee Lynne Blanchard vacated it following her absence at three straight regular board meetings late last year.

Ms Hames, 39, will serve her ward until the current term of office for all trustees ends November 30, 2003.

She's one of five public school trustees for Burlington. Oakville has four representatives while Milton and Halton Hills have one each.

Ms Hames works full-time as a sales administrator for Mayhew & Associates of Burlington.

She's a married mother of three elementary-aged children attending Brant Hills and Bruce T. Lindley elementary schools.

The family recently moved into the Brant Hills community. Her children previously attended Champlain P.S., which closed in June 2002.

Ms Hames said she's honoured to be chosen as a trustee from such a large group of candidates.

"It was fabulous to see the overwhelming interest from the communities. I believe this is reflective of the dedication and hard work of the current board of trustees," she said.

"The public should be very proud of the accomplishments of the current board, most specifically in the areas of policy governance and pupil accommodation."

Ms Hames' public service background includes four years as a Champlain school council member — two as the chair — and attending and speaking at many board meetings.

"I understand the challenges that this board faces, primarily in terms of the provincial funding formula and the spin-off this creates in areas such as pupil accommodation and classroom funding," she said.

"Having gone through the school closure process, I have an in-depth understanding of the Capital Strategic Plan. I am sensitive to the issues that communities feel towards the closures and building of new schools.

"I wholly support the direction of the Capital Strategic Plan and will endeavour to listen to the communities and strive for solutions that suit all of Halton."