

# Student feedback positive

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 ents' side because we parent to our own Christian values and our own parenting values in our own homes and we expose our children to what we choose to expose our children to."

Urbanski defends the questions, like the one that asks about suicide, as critical to the study.

"Although a question like that might make some people uncomfortable and you could say, 'My God, why are you asking that of a grade 7 student?' I can tell you that the results of previous studies and also this one are showing that you do need to ask the question," she said.

"Not all kids have a great start in life or have a great situation going on, and research and other studies, national and provincial, have shown that is an appropriate question to ask at that age, as sad as that might be."

Although the survey is anonymous, Urbanski said, it can still help students plagued by these types of problems.

"Is there a pocket of something going on in a particular community? Is there a group of schools in an area that seems to be showing a high prevalence of these kinds of thoughts?" she said.

"If there is, that means you drill down and you try to find out what's going on and are there services that could be put in place. It does have an impact."

Not all trustees had a problem with the survey's questions. During the March 20 meeting of the Halton Catholic District School Board, where the controversy of the survey questions

was being discussed, Burlington Student Trustee Ryan Durran defended the survey's embattled representatives.

"Some of those are really tough questions, but I feel they needed to be asked, so I'd just like to say good job," he said.

This act provoked an angry retort from a concerned parent who voiced his feelings that children should not be asked such questions, before being silenced by board Chair Al Bailey.

Despite the activities at the board meeting, Urbanski said the feedback that has been received on the survey so far has been generally positive with less than 10 parents complaining after 9,000 surveys were distributed.

One possible explanation for this is that some parents did not receive copies of the survey as was claimed at the board meeting.

Feedback from the students, who took the survey, was also largely positive, Urbanski said.

"We also had a number of kids who made comments on the survey or responded in some way that they were glad that someone was asking these questions."

Whatever the number of complaints or praises, things may be different the next time the Our Kids Network attempts to survey schools in the Halton Catholic District School Board.

"I think the parents should have been aware of the questions that were presented to the children and before that I think the board itself should have had a chance to review that survey," said Palmieri.

# Show uses songs from various musicals

This week, E.C. Drury will be lifting the curtain on its first musical stage venture in six years.

'Come What May — A Tragic Musical Comedy of Epic

Proportions' will take place Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. It's an original musical revue put together using songs from famous musicals.

Tickets cost \$8 for adults, \$5

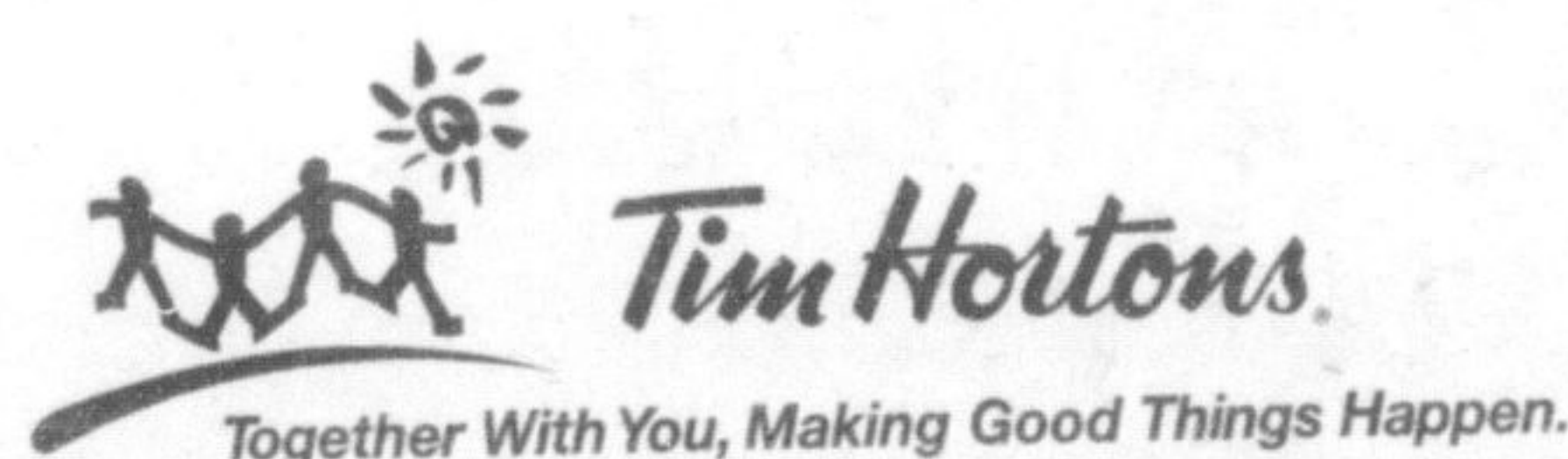
for kids under 14 and are free for kids three and younger. They can be obtained by calling (905) 878-0575 (Kathy Farrant or David Di Giorgio). They'll also be available at the door.



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