

School trustees cautious on contentious issues

By TIM WHITNELL
Special to The Champion

Cost-consciousness being foremost in their minds, Halton public education trustees took the cautious route in passing a couple of motions at Thursday night's board meeting.

Trustees agreed to hire a consultant to come up with a short list of candidates for the position of director of education, as well as to investigate the possibility of reinstating activity buses for rural students involved in after-school activities. However, reports on the financial implications of both endeavors must come back to the board for approval.

Trustee Diane Leblovic's attempt to postpone the hiring of a consultant to find a replacement for outgoing director Bob Williams was opposed by some colleagues for two

reasons. Some felt the process would be stalled while others believed the wording of her motion might empower the eight-person selection committee, not all 18 trustees, to approve the hiring of the consultant.

Trustee Dick Howitt expressed concerns about possible delays in identifying a consultant and asked the search committee to "get on with it", in addition to his accepted amendment that the cost of hiring a consultant be brought back to the board.

Board Chair Linda Glover, also chair of the search committee, told trustees 10 letters already had been sent out to potential consultants. She said she expects a short list of consultants will be ready by Oct. 12, with interviews to follow.

The issue of activity buses was brought forward by trustee

Flo Belford, whose concerns were mainly for students participating in after-school events in north Halton. "I'm not asking you to spend any money at the moment, just to investigate ways," to bring the buses back, said Ms Belford.

Fellow Milton Trustee Tim Kingsbury agreed with Ms Belford. "It is an equity issue in a big way. I have 16 students in my constituency who have had to drop out of extra-curricular activities," due to a lack of transportation.

But some trustees worried that the board was re-visiting a budget issue that should be considered history. "Clearly the board has decided we will not pay for the activity buses," said

Vice-Chair Penny Siebert.

Ultimately, a motion was passed that board staff should investigate possible options of providing activity buses and that a report be brought back to trustees with the financial implications.

The Sept. 26 board meeting was the last one for special education superintendent Ian Foster. The veteran of the Halton public board enjoyed a 35-year run with education in the region.

The Milton native taught for four years, and was a vice-principal and then principal at several Burlington and Oakville schools for a total of 26 years,

the last being Glenview P.S. of Burlington in 1986.

Foster moved into the position of supervisory principal for educational programs between 1986-1993, before becoming acting superintendent in 1993 and superintendent of special education, his final post, in 1994.

The 53-year-old was born into an educational setting, as his father was a principal and had an elementary school named after him in Milton, E. W. Foster.

Mr. Foster termed his departure from the Halton board, "more of a change of careers than a retirement." He said he may remain in the education field or pursue activities with

community organizations in the area.

Trustees passed a motion Thursday not only to honour 100-metre Olympic sprint champion Donovan Bailey with an award of excellence at an upcoming board meeting, but also to start a scholarship fund in his name.

No dollar value was attached to the fund, but trustees decided it should be awarded to one student across the board based on his/her academic/athletic standing. Trustees agreed money would have to be raised in some manner, with Milton Trustee Tim Kingsbury pledging the first \$100.



Flo Belford

BEING A VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER OFFERS ONE REWARD FEW OTHER JOBS CAN MATCH:

THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



Are you interested in a challenge and an opportunity to serve your community? Are you prepared to give your time for training, fire fighting and other related duties?

If you are, then pick up an application form at the fire hall in your area during the week of October 7-11, 1996 between 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. The Burlington Fire Department is currently looking for suitable men and women to join the ranks of the volunteer fire fighting division.

Applications will also be available at the Burlington Fire Department Open House on Sunday, October 6, 1996 at 1255 Fairview Street between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Talk with the men and women of the fire department and watch the fire and rescue demonstrations.

If you think you have what it takes, accept the challenge and sign up!

(766)

CITY OF
BURLINGTON

GREAT SAVINGS

GUARANTEED!

UP TO

40% off

ALL WALLPAPER BOOKS

When you buy 2 single rolls or more!

You'll find the right pattern for every room in your home.
*Our reg. price per single roll. Excludes fabric and accessories. Patterns will vary from those shown.

ALL IN-STORE WALLPAPER

Choose from a large selection of patterns. Patterns will vary from those shown.

FROM 7⁹⁹

SINGLE ROLL

PAINTER'S CHOICE INTERIOR SATIN LATEX

- High hiding, luxurious satin finish for bedrooms and living rooms
- No roller spatter • Scrubbable
- 100's of pastel colors

*Reg. low price 22.96

17⁹⁶

3.78L (3000)

DESIGNER'S TOUCH INTERIOR/EXTERIOR ACRYLIC GLOSS LATEX

- 100% acrylic • Ideal for interior/exterior walls and trim • Super scrubbable
- Adheres to glossy painted surfaces
- Non-yellowing • 100's of pastel decorator colors

*Reg. low price 31.96

25⁵⁶

3.78L (3750)

EGGSHELL LATEX

- High hiding • Scrubbable
- No roller spatter • Low sheen finish
- 100's of decorator pastel colors

28⁹⁶

3.78L (6100)

SEMI-GLOSS ALKYD

- Low odour • High hiding • Super scrubbable
- 100's of decorator pastel colors
- Ideal for doors and trim

*Reg. low price 11.99

9⁹⁹

946ml (5400)

Color Your World

Your best paint, wallpaper & carpet value

• For nearest store
24 hr Decorating Hot Line
• For shop at home

• For store hours

1-800-299-9940

• For decorating help

Prices guaranteed until October 22, 1996. Not all items may be available at all stores. Dealers may sell for less. FRANCHISE OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE. CALL 1-800-387-7311