

OUTLOOK

A report from the Council for American Private Education, Washington, D. C.

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CARTER PLEDGES ASSISTANT
SECRETARY FOR NON-PUBLIC
EDUCATION IN NEW DEPARTMENT

"You have my personal commitment" that the Office of Non-Public Education will be continued at the "highest level headed by an Assistant Secretary," wrote President Carter, referring to the positioning of the private

school office within the newly created Department of Education. A major purpose of the legislation creating the Department is to "support more reliably and effectively the efforts of public and private education systems to provide high quality education to all students regardless of the setting they choose," he continued in a recent letter to Rep. James H. Scheuer (D-N.Y.). Carter was responding to concerns of Scheuer and Rep. Frank J. Guarini (D-N.J.) that parents continue to have "a viable option to our public school system." Guarini told Carter, "We share the common view that the private sector has made an outstanding contribution" to education. "We need their leadership" and "cannot afford to lose their effectiveness." Carter has reportedly given his support to a bill (H.R. 5429), sponsored by Guarini, to create an Assistant Secretary for Private Education. "I have no fear of a strong and viable private school system," Carter is reported to have told the NEA.

It is anticipated that a Director of the Department of Education Transition staff, which is being set up by the White House to oversee the establishment of the new Department, will be appointed in a few days. In the meantime, Nancy LeaMond is directing the effort. She reports that there will be heavy use of consultations in developing plans for the Department, including those with private school representatives. Directors of the Council for American Private Education (CAPE) have been invited to participate. The staff, which will number about 100, including a private school specialist, will move fast, LeaMond says, but will take enough time to avoid organizational problems found in creating the Department of Energy. They hope to start drafting the organizational design within a month. Those interested in presenting written comments should do so promptly. Rep. Jack Brooks (D-Tx.) says that Congress intends to "keep a close eye" on plans as they develop to be sure that the Department structures and procedures will be designed to achieve the purposes of the legislation. The purpose is to create an effective Department without changing Federal education policy or adding new programs. The legislation states: "The establishment of the Department of Education shall not increase the authority of the Federal Government over education or diminish the responsibility for education which is reserved to the States and the local school systems and other instrumentalities of the States."

The Office of Management and Budget estimates the new Department will save nearly \$100 million annually through staff cuts, streamlined offices, shared administrative functions, computer services, and other items. It could be in place 180 days after the Secretary takes office, or earlier if Carter so prescribes. There will be a budget of about \$14 billion and about 18,000 employees transferred from other agencies. HEW will be renamed the Department of Health and Human Services. The Department draws together all of HEW's Education Division, which includes the office of the Assistant Secretary for Education, the National Center for Education Statistics, the National Institute of Education, and the United States Office of Education; the Defense Department overseas dependents schools; education activities of HEW's Office for Civil Rights; HEW's vocational rehabilitation programs; some National Science Foundation science education programs; the Justice Department's law enforcement education and intern programs; and Labor Department's high school equivalency and college assistance programs for migrants.

PRESIDENT, MRS. CARTER SAY
INDEPENDENT SECTOR VITAL;
CONVO, NCOP STUDY MERGER

President and Mrs. Carter greeted some 200 leaders of national voluntary and charitable organizations at the White House recently, confirming the fact that these organizations help "make our country great." President Carter told members and friends of the sponsoring organization, the Coalition of National Voluntary Organizations (CONVO), that in trying times "volunteerism has strengthened us." He cited the emergence and proliferation of cultural institutions during the Great Depression, such as symphony orchestras, theaters, and libraries. The First Lady has long held an interest in the role of voluntary organizations in America. "We must preserve, promote and protect this very valuable sector of our American life," she said.

Former Secretary of HEW and founder of Common Cause, John Gardner, also addressed the group. In the independent sector we can pursue the idea of pluralism with "remarkable freedom from constraints," he said. Gardner now chairs an Organizing Committee, which is charged by CONVO and the National Council on Philanthropy (NCOP) with investigating the possibility of creating a new national organization with the recommended name of Independent Sector.

CONVO and NCOP currently have a collaborative relationship. The emerging force would "protect and enhance the opportunities of citizens and their non-governmental/non-profit sector to have impact on society's problems and directions." There is a growing concern among "people and organizations concerned with the independent sector," Gardner says, that problems are developing which put the sector in "some danger of decline." If it is to continue to serve society well, "it must be mobilized," he believes.

CAPE is a member of CONVO, along with over 50 other national organizations representing a broad range of health, environment, welfare, education, arts, religious, and other groups.

McELLIOTT NAMED TO TITLE I
NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Joseph P. McElligott, a leading private school representative from California, has been appointed by President Carter, along with nine other new appointees, to the 15-member National Advisory Council on the Education of Disadvantaged Children. McElligott, Director of the Division of Education with the California Catholic Conference and Commissioner of the California Equal Education Opportunities Commission, has played a vital role in many private school activities in the state, as well as nationally. A former CAPE State Representative, he is presently Director of Governmental Relations with the California Association of Private School Organizations and was instrumental in the formation of the CAPE-type state organization. The Advisory Council appointment is for two years.

COURT RULES ON PERMISSABLE
LIMITS FOR DRUG SEARCHES--
NUDE SEARCHES RESTRICTED

A nude search for drugs is unconstitutional, unless school officials have strong reason to believe a student possesses them, according to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Indiana. But students' clothing can be searched by school officials, with police and police dogs in attendance, without violating the constitutional tenet of "unreasonable searches and seizures" because of the "in loco parentis" doctrine.

In a junior and senior high school in Indiana, a two-hour school-wide inspection was conducted, using police dogs. The court found the search a "justified action" because it was conducted to reduce drug use, not to make arrests. Officials were justified in using the dogs, the court said, "to fulfill the school's duty to provide a safe, ordered and healthy educational environment." The one nude search conducted, however, was unreasonable, the court found, because it was based on a dog's "alert" and did not take into consideration the student's age, history, and school record. The student insisted she had never used marijuana; none was found on her. The case is Doe v. Renfrow.

FIRST BLACK WOMAN RHODES
SCHOLAR INDEPENDENT SCHOOL
GRADUATE--ATTENDED TAFT

When the Taft School, an independent school in Water-
town, Connecticut, admitted girls for the first time in
1971, they selected one who would eventually become the
first black woman Rhodes Scholar. Karen Stevenson, one

of 32 American Rhodes Scholars selected from 1,250 applicants, made a distinguished under-
graduate record at the University of North Carolina following Taft. Some believe it's a
great time to be a black female, she comments. "I believe it's a great time to be bright
and competent." There are lots of black people "smarter than I," she adds. "But," refer-
ring to winning the Rhodes, "motivation is a factor. You have to apply, you know."

Karen fit in easily at Taft, The Washington Post of September 9 reports. "I was excited"
about being in an "academically challenging environment," she says. The Taft School is a
500 pupil boarding and day school, established in 1890. It is a member of the National
Association of Independent Schools, one of the 15 national private school organizations in
the CAPE membership.

NCES URGES PRIVATE SCHOOLS'
SUPPORT OF 1980 CENSUS--
EDUCATIONAL PACKET PROMISED

Urging school support for the 1980 census effort, Marie
Eldridge, Administrator of the National Center for Edu-
cation Statistics (NCES), reports that NCES has "a vital
interest" in the census, which goes beyond "our interest

in the success of a major data acquisition effort." Allocation formulas are computed by
NCES and used as a base for funding distributions to states for Federal educational programs.
Because the formulas are usually based on population of a state, school district, or other
area, they can only be as fair and equitable as the census is accurate. To all concerned
with Federal policies and programs, an accurate census effort is vital, Eldridge says, in
order to "accurately illuminate educational operations." CAPE agrees. Special educational
materials to help increase public awareness of the 1980 census will be sent by the Bureau
of the Census to the nation's schools late this year, Census has announced.

Representatives of CAPE have worked with the Bureau of the Census in designing 1980 census
items related to private schools and with Census, the National Center for Education Statis-
tics, the Office of Education, the National Institute of Education, and the Center for Re-
search on Private Education in considering how data relating to private schools can best
be stored, accessed, and displayed for public policy purposes.

OE STUDIES WAYS TO INCREASE
PRIVATE SCHOOL STUDENTS IN
FEDERAL "VOC ED" PROGRAMS

Although students enrolled in nonprofit private schools
have the same employment needs as their counterparts in
public education, "a broad array of structural, atti-
tudinal, and fiscal problems has effectively worked

against their involvement in publicly financed vocational education programs," according
to a study conducted by Educational Testing Service (ETS) for OE's Bureau of Occupational
and Adult Education. OE funded the project in order, says Marion Craft of OE, to improve
the communication between public and private schools concerning the participation of pri-
vate school students in Federal vocational education programs--and to increase participation.

The study team, directed by ETS' Raymond Wasdyke and assisted by an advisory committee com-
posed of public and private school representatives familiar with local, state, and national
conditions, has conducted field research on the topic. Based on that research, they have
prepared, among other materials, including a videotape, a Procedural Guide for Encouraging
Nonprofit Private School Student Participation in Federally Supported Vocational Education
Programs and conducted regional workshops across the country. Topics in the guide are: the
intent and requirements of the law; the benefits of vocational education programs; communi-
cation links with the nonprofit private sector; and methods of establishing cooperative
relationships between public and private education.

MANS CREATES ZYLSTRA AWARD
RECOGNIZING OUTSTANDING
SERVICE TO PRIVATE SCHOOLS

The Michigan Association of Non-public Schools (MANS) has created the Ivan E. Zylstra Award to be conferred upon "a person who has contributed significantly to the cause of nonpublic education." The first two recipients were recognized last month before 6,500 at the annual MANS Educational Conference in Detroit: Edmund D. Farhat, Director of Public Relations for the Michigan Catholic Conference and volunteer staff person for MANS, and Robert L. Lamborn, CAPE's Executive Director.

Zylstra, then Director of Government Relations for Christian Schools International, was a charter member of the MANS founding group and served as first president. He served on a presidential commission which studied the place and contribution of nonpublic schools in the United States, and played a key role as a CAPE Director during its formative years. MANS is one of CAPE's Associated State Organizations and is made up of Catholic, Missouri Lutheran, and Christian Schools International organizations.

NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS SECTION
OF AASL NOW IN FORMATION

Private school librarians may now join the newly formed Non-Public Schools Section of the American Association of School Librarians (AASL), which was voted into being by the full membership in Dallas this past June. "We already have a good representation of the private school groups and a wide geographical distribution," says the group's organizer, Pauline Anderson, librarian at Choate Rosemary Hall, an independent school in Wallingford, Connecticut. At the midwinter meeting, Anderson reports, by-laws, nominating, and program committees will be formed and directions planned. "We urge private school librarians to join us," she adds.

ARPE STRENGTHENS RESEARCH
CAPACITY: ERICKSON TO HEAD
NEW PERMANENT SECRETARIAT

Associates for Research on Private Education (ARPE) is now an organization in its own right. Started as a "Special Interest Group" of the American Educational Research Association in the spring of 1977 with about 80 members, the group has grown to about 300 and includes both "producers" and "consumers" of research. Donald A. Erickson, Director of the Center for Research on Private Education at the University of San Francisco and CAPE's Director of Research, will continue to head the new organization as an Executive Director, rather than as an elected officer. Richard Nault, professor at Washington University in St. Louis, will be President and Charles Beirne, Headmaster of Regis High School in New York, Secretary/Treasurer.

The organization, which will continue its special interest group status in AERA, supports and fosters research on private education and related issues. It will disseminate information and research on private education to policy-makers, practitioners, and scholars in the field of education. It will also unite scholars, practitioners, researchers, and others interested in the pursuit of research on private education.

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