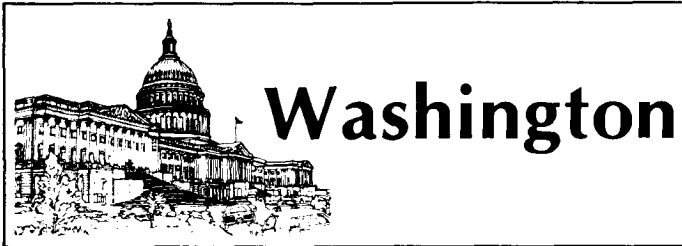


CAPE OUTLOOK



Private Ed Appointment Pending

The Education Department's Chief of Staff, Dr. Elam Hertzler, says the Department is pressing ahead with its search for an Executive Assistant to the Secretary for Private Education.

In a statement given to *Cape Outlook* on September 11, Dr. Hertzler said: "We are in the process of continuing to work on the task we've been at for a period of time, which is to appoint the best person possible for the post. We are interviewing candidates, getting nominations from various groups and will send our recommendation to the White House for approval. While we want to fill the job as quickly as we can, we need to find a well-qualified person who understands private education."

Tax Credit Idea Alive and Well

Tuition tax credits are still very much on the Washington scene, both in the Congress and at the White House.

The Senate Finance Subcommittee on Taxation and Debt Management held two days of hearings on the credits in June, and the House Subcommittee on Elementary, Secondary and Vocational Education is conducting oversight hearings on the idea on September 22. Indications are that the 1978 support evidenced in the House is holding strong and that the majority required to pass the legislation is achievable in the Senate.

Tax credits could be considered by the Congress as a separate bill or as part of the "second tax bill" emanating from the White House.

Attorney General William French Smith was quoted by the *Washington Post* on August 14 as saying that the idea "is tremendously popular in Congress."

As far as encouragement from the Executive Branch goes, White House Correspondence Director Anne Higgins stated in July that although inclu-

sion of the credit plan in the initial economic recovery package would have been inappropriate, "The President believes such a measure to be an important component of his overall tax relief program. Thus he will ask his staff to draft a tuition tax credit proposal for inclusion in the follow-up bill to be submitted to Congress. . . ."

The private school community expects that when the President submits his 1983 budget to Congress in January it will include the necessary allowances for the tuition tax credits.

Block Grants: A Boon

Private schools may derive significant benefits from education block grants, now part of P.L.97-35, the Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1981. The Act becomes effective on July 1, 1982 and ends September 30, 1987. Possibilities for increased participation in federal programs are particularly promising under Chapter II which deals with consolidation of elementary and secondary education activities.

This section of the law merges 28 categorical programs, including the old "Title IV" work in educational improvement, resources and support.

The states (which retain 20% of the grant monies) are required to show how they will use the funds to implement the programs for children in private schools. The local educational agencies, which receive the remaining 80% of the grant according to their relative public and nonpublic school enrollments, must make a similar showing.

Section 586 of Chapter II governs the participation of private schools in basic skills development, educational improvement and support services, and special projects. It requires SEAs and LEAs to consult with private schools before program planning and implementation. Further, it stipulates that expenditures for programs for private school children must be equal (consistent with the number of children to be served) to expenditures for programs for public school children. At the same time, it "grandfathers" any programs currently operating under bypass arrangements.

Richard E. Duffy, federal assistance specialist at the U.S. Catholic Conference, says "The legislation offers a wide range of possibilities for private school participation. However, the schools must be aware of the opportunities available so they may benefit from what is lawfully theirs."

Bell Creates Excellence Commission

Education Secretary Terrel Bell began the school year on a high note by announcing the establishment of a National Commission on Excellence in Education. Composed of 18 members from schools, colleges, business and industry, it includes Richard Wallace, Principal of Lutheran High School East in Cleveland Heights, Ohio.

The Commission will examine data on the quality of learning and teaching in the United States and other advanced countries; study the effects of college admission standards on high school achievement; review educational programs which have resulted in unusually successful student performance; and hold hearings on fostering high levels of academic excellence.

Wallace commented to *Cape Outlook* that he has received word from many nonpublic educators expressing enthusiasm about the direct involvement of a private school person in the work of the Commission. Speaking of the impact the Commission will have on private education, he said, "There is no question that as we focus on education it will involve both public and nonpublic. Any time we make recommendations to improve education, we improve all aspects. Our purposes in education are to prepare young people for future life, whether that be in work or in further education. We need to study all of the programs which help students get to the point of being able to function more fully in the world after high school. This means remedial programs and vocational programs, but it also means more complete college preparatory programs.

"As far as Lutheran High School East is concerned," he continued, "if participation on the Commission makes me a better educator, it makes my school a better school."

Legislative Update

Tax-Exempt Status of Private Schools

House approved Ashbrook amendment July 30.

Senate Subcommittee on Treasury Appropriations dropped amendment from bill in 9/15 markup.

Block Grants

Part of P.L.97-35. See page 1.

Tuition Tax Credits

S.550 (Packwood, R-OR; Moynihan, D-NY; Roth, R-DE).

Pending in Senate Finance Committee.

H.R.380 (Luken, D-OH) and others.

Pending before Ways and Means Committee.

Guidance for Elementary School Children

S.928 (Stafford, R-VT).

Pending before Subcommittee on Education, Arts and Humanities.

H.R.1598 (Perkins, D-KY).

Pending before Subcommittee on Elementary, Secondary and Vocational Education.

Foreign Language Training

H.R.3231 (Simon, D-IL).

Subcommittee on Postsecondary Education markup scheduled for October 7.

Testing

H.R.1662 (Weiss, D-NY).

Subcommittees on Postsecondary Education and Elementary, Secondary and Vocational Education will hold joint hearings October 14-15.

Youth Wage Differential

S.348 (Hatch, R-UT); S.430 (Percy, R-IL); S.658 (Nickles, R-OK).

Pending before Labor Subcommittee.

H.R.157 (Campbell, R-SC); H.R.2001 (Simon, D-IL).

Pending before Subcommittee on Labor Standards.

National Service System

S.1052 (Tsongas, D-MA; Cranston, D-CA).

Pending before Committee on Governmental Affairs.

H.R.2500 (Panetta, D-CA).

Select Education Subcommittee plans fall hearings.

Permanent Authorization for Education of the Handicapped Act

H.R.4410 (Smith, R-NJ).

Pending before Select Education Subcommittee.

Charitable Deductions to Extend to Non-Itemizers

Part of P.L.97-34.

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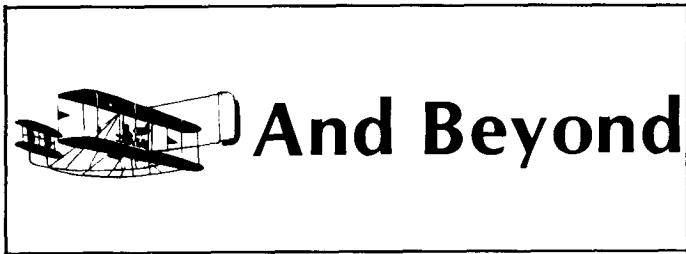
Robert L. Smith, *Executive Director*; Carla Gelband, *Editor*; Jay Roudebush, *Art Editor*; Tara Kalagher, *Reporter*

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Capenotes

... Executive Director Robert L. Smith, an Advisory Commissioner of the Education Commission of the States, attended a half-day meeting focused on public policy and private education at the John F. Kennedy School of Government in Cambridge, Mass. The session was part of the annual ECS meeting. Over 400 people, including four governors, legislators from every state and numerous chiefs of state departments of education were present for the panels which dealt with a variety of private school, public policy and public education considerations.

... CAPE was represented by *Outlook's* Editor Carla Gelband at a recent National Conference on Title I, ESEA. Sponsored by the Department of Education, the meeting included a session on Title I services to private school children.



Sports League Cuts Private School

The New Jersey Supreme Court has ruled that an interscholastic athletic league may bar private schools from membership. In the case of *Christian Brothers Institute of New Jersey v. Northern New Jersey Interscholastic League*, decided June 15, the Court held unanimously that "a rational basis can exist for an interscholastic league limited to public schools and that such a limitation does not result *per se* in a denial of equal protection under the Federal Constitution."



It pointed out that the classification of public high schools is not a "suspect classification" in and of itself (as age, race or religion would be, for example, since they involve fundamental rights).

Bergen Catholic High School and the Northern New Jersey Interscholastic League had entered into a conciliation agreement in 1976 under which the League agreed to delete the word "public" from the membership clause of its constitution. However, when Bergen Catholic subsequently sought to join, the League turned it down.

Catholics Veto Busing-Shy Transfers

Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis will not allow public school students to transfer into their school system to avoid court-ordered racial desegregation.

According to a survey conducted by the Archdiocese, transfer requests jumped to over 1,000 after the court ordered the fall busing of approximately 6,000 blacks to public schools. The survey showed that more than 100 students were denied admission after interviews with their parents revealed anti-desegregation motivations.

The Archdiocesan Office of Education established a policy on desegregation ten years ago, calling for non-Catholic parents to state their reasons for enrolling their children. However, after the court ordered the busing, Providence Sister Judith Shanahan, acting school superintendent, urged Catholic principals to extend this procedure to include Catholic parents as well.

Father Clarence Waldon, pastor of Holy Angels Church, said that although he was sympathetic to the discomfort of students being bused miles from home, "We do not want people who are just running away from busing."

Stephen Noone, archdiocesan director of schools, praised the principals' responses, saying, "Catholic school principals have implemented the archdiocesan policy and turned away families whose reasons for transfer were not consistent with the mission of the Catholic school."



Capeline

● **Montessori Conference:** The National Center for Montessori Education annual conference is October 15-18 in Houston, Tex. Contact NCME, Houston Conference, 3130 N. Pebble Beach, Missouri City (Houston), TX 77459.

(continued on page 4)

(continued from page 3)

● **Charitable Contributions:** The Urban Institute has recently completed a study for Independent Sector which estimates that, in addition to the projected \$45 billion lost to nonprofits from federal budget cuts, the President's tax program will reduce individual giving by as much as \$18 billion over the next four years. Copies of the study may be obtained for \$5 from The Urban Institute, The Nonprofit Research Program, 2100 M St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037.

● **Media Award:** Public and private school systems with superior elementary level media programs may apply for a \$5,000 first prize in the 1982 School Library Media Program of the Year. For application forms, contact The American Association of School Librarians, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.



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World Eagle, Room 2, 64 Washburn Ave., Wellesley, MA 02181

A Little Anxiety: Test-Taking Skills is a new kit designed for teachers, administrators, guidance counselors, and others who counsel students about taking tests. Developed by Educational Testing Service, the kit contains a slide-cassette presentation, an instructor's guide with handouts and suggestions for exercises, and two booklets: *Taking the SAT*, published by the College Board, and *How To Take Tests*, published by Educational Testing Service.

A free descriptive brochure is available from the Division of Educational Services, Room P-068, Educational Testing Service, Princeton, N.J. 08541.

Reporting Test Results to Parents and Students is a new kit that schools can use to help teachers explain test results to students and their parents. Developed by Educational Testing Service, the kit contains a slide-cassette demonstration of specific techniques and key terms used in interpreting and communicating test results. *Reporting Test Results* includes an instructor's guide with script, copies of the sample letter to parents, and reproducible copies of the test report used in the presentation, a checklist of activities, and a summary of points covered.

A free descriptive brochure is available from the Division of Educational Services, Room P-068, Educational Testing Service, Princeton, N.J. 08541.

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