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## **Delay the Implementation of the Sex Ed Program for the Sake of Our Children**

(Burlington) May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015. At the Halton Catholic District School Board (HCDSB) regular board meeting, Oakville Trustee Anthony Danko, in order to facilitate further community consultation, proposed to delay the implementation of the 2015 "Health and Physical Education Curriculum" (H&PE) until September 2016.

Helena Karabela, an Oakville Trustee of the HCDSB, has heard the voice of many of her constituents, both parents and other taxpayers in Oakville, and all of them believe Kathleen Wynne's Sex Ed Agenda undermines the teaching authority of parents and undermines the innocence of children.

"On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, I will be voting for a one year suspension of the 2015 Sex Ed Curriculum because the program undermines the innocence of children and leaves parents out of the picture", said Trustee Karabela.

She went on to say, "Parental rights have been denied because parents have not been properly consulted on what is to be taught to their children on the most important issues surrounding sexual behaviour."

Here is just one of dozens of examples of how the program undermines the innocence of children and robs parents of their parental rights.

- In Grade 6 (for 11 year olds), the program (page 175) describes masturbation as healthy:
- *"Teacher prompt: 'Exploring one's body by touching or masturbating is something that many people do and find pleasurable. It is common and is not harmful and is one way of learning about your body.'"*

Masturbation is harmful for the mind, body and soul. It is a behavior that is addictive, and leads to other addictions, such as using pornography. Moreover, masturbation has been highlighted by experts as having serious repercussions for future intimate relationships. The Catholic Church teaches that masturbation is a serious sin.

For another example and commentary see Appendix A.

As Catholic school trustees, we are waiting to see the Catholic resources prepared by the Institute of Catholic Education (ICE) that will be used in classrooms alongside of the H&PE curriculum. No material has been forthcoming. We have not received any examples of how controversial topics will be presented or if they will be edited. "A one year delay will respect parental rights and authority, will allow parents and others to see the materials and have meaningful input. It's worth the one year wait to protect the innocence of children" stated Trustee Karabela.

## Appendix A

- In Grades 7 (12 years old), the H&PE program (pages 196) introduces oral sex and anal sex as normal sexual activities:
- *“Teacher prompt: ‘Engaging in sexual activities like oral sex, vaginal intercourse, and anal intercourse means that you can be infected with an STI’ “*

It is harmful and irresponsible to encourage sexual activity at these young ages. The emotional, psychological and physical outcomes can be devastating. Children need to be allowed to mature naturally and not be forced to deal with adult issues when they are still children.