

# Schools urged to talk with community

Improved communications is the Walled Lake School District's most important need, according to two recent studies conducted by the school district.

The first study surveyed district staff. The second was a needs assessment designed to provide data on goals, programs, activities and services and how they are being met.

All teachers were asked to respond to the professional staff survey. A random sample of students, parents, staff and registered voters in the Walled Lake School District was polled in the needs survey.

As a result of the findings, school officials are directing attention to the need for improved communications in three areas:

- Communications between the school board and public
- Communications between the administration and public

• Community knowledge of school finances

The district has not yet developed a plan for improving communications, but officials say there have been discussions about hiring a public-information director for the district.

The district once employed a part-time public-relations director. That position was deleted in response to budget problems and has not been reinstated.

**OTHER FINDINGS** of the needs assessment survey were:

**Most Important Items**

- Teacher-student communications
- Develop skills needed to find a job or pursue further education
- Remedial programs for students with learning problems

**Least Important Items**

- Providing leisure-time activities
- Developing appreciation of cultural things
- Field trips

**Most Adequately Met**

- Vocational education
- The arts
- Variety of subjects offered
- Physical education
- Adult high school completion

**Least Adequately Met**

- Community knowledge of school finances
- Administration communications with public
- District-wide public-relations program.

**College preparation** (students disagreed)

# Handel's 'Messiah' presented at Madonna

The Madonna College Men's and Women's Choral in conjunction with the Dearborn Divine Child Choir will present George Frederick Handel's "Messiah" at 7:30 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 7 in the Presentation Chapel of the Felician Sister Motherhouse located on the Madonna campus, 36800 Schoolcraft, Livonia.

Open to the public, general admission is \$2 and \$1 for students and senior citizens. Tickets may be purchased at the door.

This is the first time in two years that the Madonna College Choral has presented Handel's 259-year-old jubilate songfest which was written in 1742. It is also the first time the College has worked cooperatively with an area church to present such an activity.

Directing the performance are John Redmon from Madonna College and James Bergman from Divine Child. For more information call Madonna College at 591-5000.

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# New gallery features crafts

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