

\$17 Million School Budget Uses All State Aid Money

By STEVE BARNABY

Because of a \$250,000 contingency fund and a \$450,000 excess from last year's budget, the Farmington school district was able to more than recover the \$370,000 lost in state aid because of the decreased student enrollment.

In its fourth Friday count the district found it had lost 390 students. The district receives \$644 in state aid for each student enrolled on the fourth Friday.

School officials had expected a 110 student increase.

William Prisk, business manager for the board, will present the \$17 million budget to the board for ratification at Tuesday night's board meeting to be held in Harrison High School.

EARLIER IN the year Prisk held back the contingency money from the \$760,000 in state aid in anticipation of a shorthanded budget.

Even with the budgeted state aid and an increase of \$556,000 in tax revenue, Prisk said the 1972-73 budget would fall short if it weren't for more than \$400,000 left over from last year.

"As it is now, it looks like we will end the coming year with at least a \$55,000 surplus," Prisk said earlier this year.

"The board has been very adamant that we not end the year with a deficit."

The board adopted a tight \$15.9 million budget last year, cutting athletics, and 10 per cent of its teaching staff along with travel and supply budgets.

Partly because of the budget

cutting and also because of unbudgeted revenue they ended up with a \$450,000 surplus.

THIS YEAR'S budget shows large increases in secondary and elementary education, administration, capital outlay and community services.

Prisk said that because of further salary negotiations with the custodians and maintenance personnel and a further look at teacher salaries in December, the surplus could shrink somewhat but still remain within the allowance.

Bus drivers and custodians have already negotiated their contracts which will be ratified in a meeting of first of next week.

Board members' salaries remain the same at \$300 a year.

The capital outlay budget, which pays for the improvements of buildings and sites, was increased by \$120,000, to \$187,000.

The new budget adds \$758,000 to elementary education, restoring some personnel, including art and music consultants, teachers, physical education instructors and reading specialists and office help who were cut last year.

The secondary instruction budget was increased \$605,000, restoring cuts in counselors and office help and increasing the extra-duty pay for teachers involved in extracurricular activities such as athletics, band and debate.

The special education budget was increased by \$100,000, to \$1 million, reflecting increased salaries and extra personnel.

Art Project

A new project by the Farmington Arts Council will be bringing some working artists into the local junior high schools.

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Coming Down

A 133-year-old farm house was torn down by an unusual group of volunteers recently. The demolition of the landmark is covered on:

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Christian Center

The first ground is being broken this weekend for a church planned as the eventual center of a new kind of community in Farmington. Read about it in today's Church Section.

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Thanksgiving Services

In Plymouth and Farmington they're ecumenical, and several services have been geared for family worship. Read about Thanksgiving in Observerland in our Church Section.

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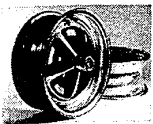
Think Snowtrails

Michigan has 200 more miles of snowmobile trails this year than last. Moreover, with new maintenance equipment, the state can keep them smoother and safer.

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If you like "things"...



the kind of things that most young people like... things like cameras and wheels and sound...then you'll enjoy making it a habit of reading the Observer. You'll find the things you like...at the price you want to pay!

Goodfellows Looking For Needy Families

One of the first signs of winter isn't that white stuff on the ground outside, but the spirit generated by the annual Goodfellow paper sale in Farmington.

The annual charity drive—aimed at "no child without a Christmas" is already being organized. Sales of 8,000 copies of a special edition of the Farmington Enterprise and Observer are expected to raise about \$3,500.

The Goodfellow dolls are being dressed, the ladies at the Farmington Community Center are working on the dresses, and members of the Exchange Club, Elks, Jaycees, both public safety

departments and others are digging out their "old newsboy" bags.

But what is needed now, according to the organizers are the names of needy families.

Names suggested will be treated with strictest confidence, Jim Stevens, general chairman said.

Anyone with knowledge of a family in the Farmington area which might be in need of a little Christmas cheer this year is asked to contact Stevens or the Farmington Chamber of Commerce.

Classes Start At YMCA

The second session of youth programs at the Farmington YMCA starts the week of Nov. 27. Registration is required at the "Y" prior to class participation.

Swimming programs include the regular swimming classes, from beginner to advanced, for ages three and

up. A swim team and synchronized class also are planned, all at the Mercy Center.

Judo will be taught on Saturdays by instructor Andrew Norton. Beginning instruction will be from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and intermediate from 12:30 to 2 p.m.

The co-ed fencing class also will be held on Saturdays, with the "Y" providing the necessary equipment.

Gymnastics classes are scheduled Monday, Thursday evenings and Saturday afternoons. A team is being formed, with tryouts scheduled for 4 p.m. Dec. 2.



FOR 16 YEARS the Farmington Elks and U.S. Marine Corps Reserve have cooperated in a Toys for Tots drive to collect new and used toys in good condition for needy children at Christmas. Cooperating in this year's campaign are (from left) Mrs. Eileen Bloech, president of the Vvians; Joe Heyman, youth activity chairman;

Lester Moss, chairman of this year's Toys for Tots; Ralph Yoder, Farmington mayor pro tem; and Chuck Schulkins, long active in Toys for Tots. Kickoffs for the collection drive is Dec. 11. Donors are asked to bring their contributions to the Farmington Elks Hall on Orchard Lake Road.

'Lake Kenwood' Hearing Set

A hearing is coming up Nov. 27 on the necessity of paving several streets including Kenwood Blvd., often referred to as "Lake Kenwood" because it is currently under several feet of water.

The Oakland County Road Commission will hold the hearing on the necessity of paving Eldred, Kenwood, Radcliffe and Tuck Rd. in Brookside Park subdivision in Farmington Township at 9:30 a.m. in the township Hall.

Paving and installation of drains is expected to drain the giant pond currently plaguing Kenwood.

Meadow Brook Tour Offered

The Farmington Community Center is sponsoring a trip to Meadow Brook Theater on Dec. 13 to see "The Torch Bearers."

A bus will leave the center at 12:45 p.m. Tickets are \$5 which includes the bus transportation.



WORKING on a "Goodfellow dress," Mrs. Harriet Broders puts the finishing touches on another Christmas. (Evert photo)