

## In Clarenceville

## Board's reaction mixed on survey

The Clarenceville School Board had mixed reactions to a survey which showed that nearly half of 587 high school students polled drank alcohol at least once a week and 35.6 per cent smoke marijuana at least weekly.

The survey among more than half of the school's students also disclosed that nearly 90 per cent have tried some form of alcohol or drugs at least once.

On alcohol, nearly 73 per cent said they tried it with 68.7 per cent saying they drink it at least weekly. The survey didn't indicate the quantities consumed.

ON MARIJUANA, 55.8 per cent of those surveyed said they tried it once with more than a third of the 587 continuing to smoke it.

Supt. David McDowell said the school board at first had negative reactions to the survey conducted by

teacher Sheldon Kaye among his health education students.

At first, the board felt that there had been no impact on alcohol or drug abuses, despite the education programs warning of its dangers, he said.

The board also felt that the problem which surfaced in the 1980s still hasn't gone away, McDowell added.

But after looking closer at the results, he said, the board took a more positive view of the problem as reflected in the survey.

Although alcohol and drug users say that "everyone uses it," the survey shows that less than half of those polled continually drink alcohol with just over a third continually smoking marijuana.

McDOWELL said the survey was conceived when Kaye's students were discussing alcohol and drug usage and concluded that "everyone uses it." Kaye asked "how many is every one?" and the questionnaire was later developed and administered in November and compiled by the health education students.

Besides alcohol and marijuana, students polled showed they didn't indulge much in other drugs, such as hashish (11.2 per cent weekly usage), speed, 6.5 per cent, mescaline, 5.4 per

cent, glue sniffing, 1.9 per cent, and heroine, one per cent.

THE IMPORTANCE of "peer pressure" was disclosed in the statistics. Some 78.5 per cent of those polled said they used the substance in a group with only 5.3 using it alone.

Nearly 32 per cent said they tried the alcohol or drug initially out of curiosity with another 16.7 per cent saying they started using the substances through influence of their friends.

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Former Farmington resident Neil R. Warriner has been promoted by National Bank of Detroit to assistant vice-president in the bank's international division. An NBD employee for five years, Warriner handles corporate loan accounts for Canadian companies. He holds a bachelor's degree in economics from Albion College and a master's degree in finance from the University of Michigan.

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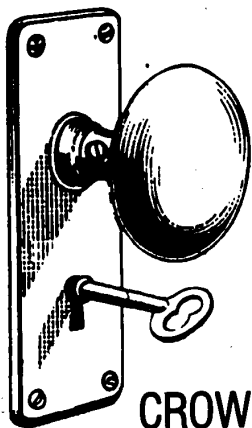
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