

School closings pondered

How Walled Lake will meet budget

Walled Lake school officials have recommended cutting \$3.08 million from the district's \$26.06 budget. Here's a rundown of those proposed cuts adopted by a 4-2 board vote last week. Trustees Patricia Jackman and Kenneth Tucker dissented.

- Close two elementary schools, a savings of \$320,000. Union Lake Elementary has already been selected for closing, and the board is eyeing either Decker or Oakley Park as the second school to close.
- Trustees Mario Tozzi, Robert Cooper and Jackman will study the school closing situation and report to the board at its April 19 meeting. After reviewing the committee report on which school should close, the board will schedule a public hearing at the selected school. It will then take action on closing the facility at its first May meeting.
- The decision to close two schools is expected to drop in enrollment to 9,700 this year from a high point of 11,600 in 1976-77. Enrollment is expected to drop to 9,300 next year.
- The district would save about \$160,000 for each school closed.
- Restructure the elementary school day for a \$235,000 savings. It would result in the elimination of morning and afternoon recesses and curtail literature offerings.
- Reduce secondary school day to save \$230,000. This would reduce course offerings for senior high students from six to five and for junior high students from seven to six. Class sizes would be increased.
- Reduce athletic programs about 45 percent, saving \$50,500. Remaining junior- and senior-high sports would be basketball, volleyball and track for girls and football, basketball and track for boys.
- Reduce extracurricular activities at junior and senior highs to save \$5,500. Programs would be reduced to a minimum with the elimination of drama, forensics and other activities.
- Transfer existing fund equity to general fund (\$302,000). This includes transfer of worker's compensation, revolving and cafeteria funds to the general fund. The fund equity would be

eliminated for 1983-84.

- Discontinue bus service within 1 1/2 miles of schools (\$35,000).
- Eliminate increases in substitute teacher pay (\$19,000).
- Eliminate in-service activities for a \$12,700 savings, leaving district personnel without new training.
- Reduce operational and maintenance costs (\$73,000). Buildings would be cleaned less frequently. There would be longer waiting periods for necessary repairs except in emergency situations.
- Reduce secretarial and aide costs (\$48,000). It would result in less supportive services in the operation of all facilities.
- Eliminate reading support coordinator position (\$26,000). Aides would no longer be available to help instruct emotionally impaired students.
- Reduce one elementary EMI staff (\$15,000).
- Reduce two media staffs at senior high schools (\$52,000), resulting in less service available for students in the high school library media centers.

Present staff levels are two at each school.

- Reduce elementary textbook costs (\$14,000). This would delay purchase of new textbook adoptions.
- Reduce elementary staff by five teachers (\$130,000), thus increasing class size.
- Combine operation of outdoor education with community education (\$45,000).

College ensemble plans concert

The Schoofcraft Wind Ensemble will present a "Spring Concert" at the Orchard Ridge Campus of Oakland Community College on Wednesday, April 28.

The program, which marks the fourth performance of the ensemble at Orchard Ridge, will begin at 7:30 p.m. in J-306. Admission is \$2 for the general public and \$1 for students. Tickets are available at the door.

Monday, April 12, 1982

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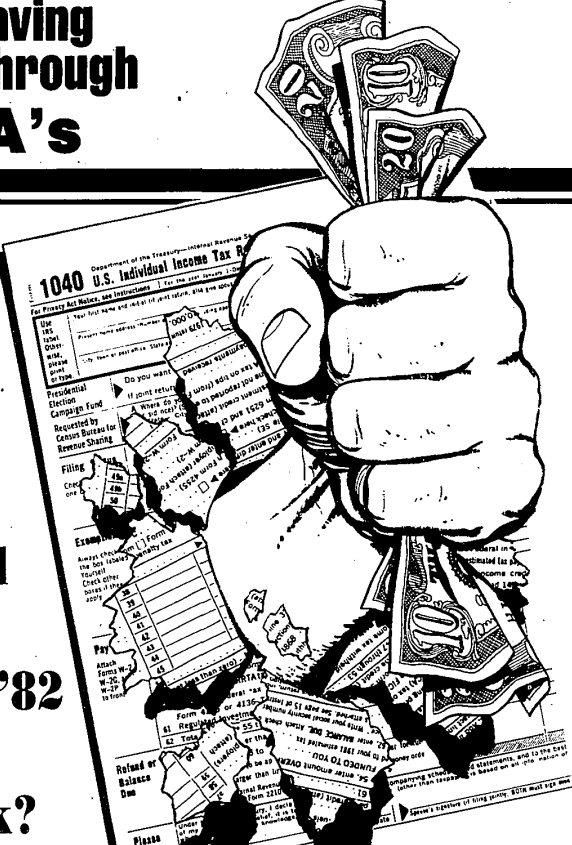
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