

# District selling property

By Karen Hermes Smith  
Staff writer

The West Bloomfield Board of Education is posting "For Sale" signs on four pieces of vacant property it says it no longer needs.

Money from the land sale will be used to maintain and equip the district's seven schools, Supt. Seymour Gretchko said.

The four pieces of property include 20 acres in the once-proposed Northwestern Highway right-of-way east of Farmington Road and south of West Maple. Another 14.6 acres is in Potomac Village, south of Walnut Lake Road.

The other two properties for sale are subdivision sites, too small for schools. One is 7.7 acres on Green Lake Road, south of Commerce Road. The other is 0.62 acres in Keego Harbor's Cass Lake Grove subdivision.

BOTH GRETCHKO and the district's business manager, Robert Clinton, said they don't know the worth of the properties. The land is not appraised for taxing purposes because they're tax-exempt.

The 20-acre Northwestern site, which is zoned residential, probably is "fairly valuable," based on the price houses are selling for in the area, Gretchko said.

The board bought the two larger sites around 1970 for schools, Clinton said. It paid \$150,000 for the Northwestern site and \$53,071 for the Potomac Village site.

In April 1983, the board closed Early Elementary School, on West Maple between Middlebelt and Orland Lake Road in the district's southeast section, because of declining enrollment. If enrollments rise again in that area, the board could reopen Early, which the district now uses as a community education center, Gretchko said.

The board expects residential development to continue in the northernmost section of the school district, Gretchko said, but not in the southeast section of the district, where the two larger sites are located.

THE TWO smaller sites are of "no use" to the district, he said.

The Cass Lake Grove site was donated to the district by the state Department of Conservation, Clinton said. Although he doesn't have historical information on the Green Lake Road site, Clinton believes it was donated, as well.

Administrators will advertise for bids on the properties.

The board will continue to own 15 acres on Greer Road, east of Hiller; 15 acres on Lochaven Road, north of Willow, and 17.5 acres on Commerce Road across of Scotch Elementary School.

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# OU restores rules

Oakland University's Senate has approved a new general education program that requires all undergraduate students to complete at least 32 credits in non-major courses.

The change is probably the most significant move OU has made in undergraduate education in many years, said

Keith R. Kieckner, senior vice president for university affairs and provost.

The action restores a universitywide general education system to OU for the first time since 1972. That year, OU gave each school and college the authority to set its own requirements.

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