

# School print program to get new equipment

By Tom Baer  
staff writer

Farmington's Board of Education authorized \$31,648.74 last Tuesday to modernize the district's high-school printing and front-office equipment and to renew board membership in two service organizations.

The big ticket item at \$23,703.50 was new computerized typesetting equipment for the district's printing program at Farmington High School. The expenditure passed, 7-0, at the board's regular meeting Tuesday.

The program serves about 150 students from all three public high schools, according to Earl Baumunk,

director of Farmington's vocational education program.

"It's one of our stronger programs in terms of numbers of students," Baumunk said.

The new equipment, which includes \$3,000 worth of type, is manufactured by Mergenthaler Linotype of Elk Grove Village, Ill. It replaces a 10-year-old electronic-photo system.

"In the past, some students have been very hard on us for not having up-to-date equipment," Baumunk said. "They've told us they've lost job opportunities because of it."

Farmington will have the new equipment in about 60 days, Baumunk said. The board also voted, 6-0 (Trustee

Jack Ioch was away at the time of the vote), to spend \$3,200 for a three-year-old computer terminal for use in the district's personnel department. The terminal had been in use in the West Bloomfield School District.

BOARD PRESIDENT Helen Prutow provided the lone dissenting vote on the board's renewal of its membership in the Michigan Association of School Boards at an annual cost of \$2,831.00.

"There's no big deal," said Prutow at the time of the vote. "I just have a problem with the organization."

Later, she added, "It's just my little protest. I've been making it for eight years now. The workshops they set up are, to me, not worth the trouble. And they take stands on issues like the Open Meetings Act that are totally the opposite of how I feel."

The vote was unanimous, however, on the board's decision to spend \$1,013.24 to stay in the Metropolitan Detroit Bureau of School Studies Inc. The group provides statistics and other information on Detroit-area schools, Prutow said.

The board meets next at 8 p.m. Tuesday, June 19, at the administration building, 32500 Shawwassee Road, Farmington.

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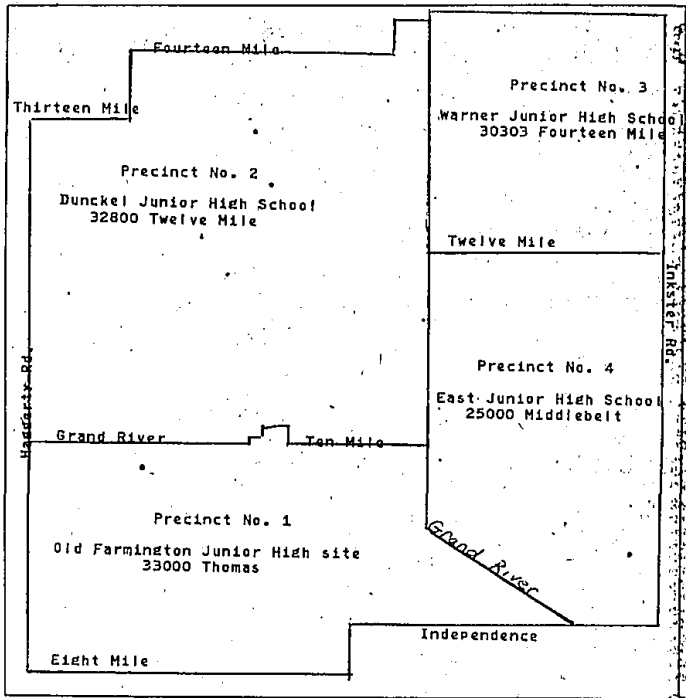
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