

School superintendent's salary increased

By Patricia Bowling
Novi-Walled Lake News

Walled Lake schools Supt. Don Sheldon received an 11-percent salary increase last week, boosting his annual wage from \$56,480 to \$62,686.

But school board members noted that the increase "is not intended to reflect any judgment upon or evaluation of the superintendent's performance."

Rather, the adjustment results from the board's review of salary levels among Sheldon's subordinate administrators, as well as a review of superintendents' salaries in comparable school districts.

The contract language approved by the board notes the full \$6,206 annual salary increase (for 1984-85) will be paid in equal installments over the re-

maining 8 1/2 months of the contract. Sheldon has not received any pay increase during the past three school years.

In addition to the salary increase, the amendment to the superintendent's contract included a new provision for

termination compensation. Sheldon's contract provides 60 days of paid vacation per year, which may be accumulated up to a total of 60 days. The new provision states that, upon termination of employment with the district, Sheldon will receive pay for 50 percent of his accumulated unused vacation days, up to a maximum of 30 days.

BOARD MEMBER Patricia Jackman, who served on the Superintendent Contract Review Committee, said the details of the contract changes were not recommended by the committee.

"The superintendent had requests he made known. The committee had concerns it made known," she said. Board attorney Dennis Pollard then negotiated the changes with the superintendent.

Sheldon said some of his requests were not addressed in the contract changes approved by the board. Although he declined to elaborate, he said the items were not related to salary.

The board approved the contract changes without discussion in a 6-1 decision. Trustee Merlin Reeds dissented. Reeds also cast the only no vote last month when the board accepted the recommendations of the contract review committee.

Explained Reeds at that time: "I do not believe any revision of the superintendent's contract is called for or necessary."

IN ITS recommendations, the contract-review committee explained that a salary adjustment for Sheldon was needed to "prevent the occurrence of other salaries in the district bumping the salary of the superintendent."

The district presently has three administrators. Dr. Carl Pacacha, Dr. Barry Roseborough and Dr. Sami Alam, and one high school principal, Richard Smith, in the \$51,000-\$53,000 salary range.

In addition, the adjustment was intended to bring Sheldon's salary closer to the average in the county and the region. The average superintendent's salary in Oakland County is approximately \$57,200, excluding annuity benefits. However, among districts with similar enrollment (7,000-10,000), the superintendents' salaries range from \$59,500 (Rochester) to \$71,600 (Farmington Hills).

Slight drop in WL enrollment

Enrollment has decreased slightly in Walled Lake Schools, according to the unofficial student count on Sept. 28.

The combined elementary and secondary enrollment dropped 135 students, from 9,010 to 8,875.

Elementary enrollment decreased by only seven students — from 4,341 to 4,334, while secondary enrollment decreased by 128 students — from 4,669 to 4,541.

"At the elementary level, I see the enrollment stabilizing," said Sami Alam, director of planning and evaluation.

Enrollment projections reported in January last year show a slight increase in elementary enrollment each year from 1985-88. Alam said that the

economy continues to be relatively healthy. "If the economy should take a turn for the worse, it would be reflected in future enrollments, he notes.

ALAM ALSO projected a slight decrease in secondary enrollment from about 3,120 in 1985 to about 2,652 in 1988. Alam noted that his projections are based on previous years' birth rates.

"What we experience now (in terms of enrollment) is a product of those years," he said. Alam said he plans to present a new set of enrollment projections this year.

Maple Elementary School in West Bloomfield had the largest elementary enrollment jump this year, gaining

students, Maple now has the second highest enrollment of all elementary buildings. Dublin decreased by only three students and, with an enrollment of 843, remains the elementary building with the largest enrollment.

TWIN BEACH in West Bloomfield still has the smallest elementary enrollment. The 304 count at Twin Beach was down slightly from last year's other elementary enrollments in-

clude: Walled Lake, 325; Oakley Park, 332; Decker, 346; Wilcom, 364; Commerce, 372; Glengary, 374; Kelih, 418; and Loon Lake, 408.

Clifford H. Smart Junior High has 76 fewer students than it had last year. Its enrollment was 742, compared to Walled Lake Junior High's 735.

Walled Lake Central High School's enrollment increased from 1,550 to 1,629 this year. Western High School, however, lost about 24 students, dropping from 1,526 to 1,502.

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CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR PUBLIC HEARING
October 15, 1984

Mayor Pro Tem Dolan opened the Public Hearing of the City of Farmington Hills City Council on October 15, 1984 at 7:30 P.M. Members present: Allantech, Anzovar, Dolan, Dudley, Soronen and Wolf. Absent: Williams. Others present: City Manager Costick, City Clerk Poon, City Attorney Pochman and Planning Consultant Goates.

Council awarded Sale of Bonds to National Bank of Detroit in the amount of \$210,000 for Road Improvement Special Assessment bonds, Series 1984-1 for Tarabul Roseland Gardens and Eleven Mile Road paving.

Council awarded Sale of Bonds to National Bank of Detroit in the amount of \$335,000 for Various Road Improvement Special Assessment Bonds, Series 1984-2 including Parker Street Sewer, Cass Avenue Sewer, Salem Road Sewer and Water.

Council introduced Zoning Map Amendment No. C89-349, Zoning Request 23-5-84, to rezone Lot 31 of Superiore's Plat of Woodcock Farms No. 1 from RA-1A to OS-3, and deleted rezoning of Lots 83 and 83.

Council denied Zoning Map Amendment No. C82-349, Zoning Request 23-4-84, to rezone 7.83 acres on southwest corner of Inabster and Thirteen Mile in Section 13 from RA-1A to RA-1B.

Council denied Zoning Map Amendment No. C82-319, Zoning Request 24-4-84, to rezone property at 37815 Grand River from L3-1 to B-3.

Council introduced Zoning Map Amendment No. C89-344, Zoning Request 28-7-84, to rezone 3.771 acres of property on south side of Northwestern, east of Clairview from RA-4 to OS-1.

Council introduced Zoning Map Amendment No. C83-345, Zoning Request 29-7-84, to rezone 25 acres south of 1494 Deerparkway, west of Halsted from RA-1 to RC-1.

Class C Liquor License issued to Capparo's Inc. at October 9th meeting was rescinded by Council.

Council introduced Ordinance No. C-16-84 accepting Howard House into Farmington Hills Historic District, located at Farmington Road and Glenmore. Also, deleting from the Historic District and Crawford-Raymer House, at 21905 Middlebelt Road, report Number 104.

Due to the late hour, discussion of Proposal C, Voters Choice on November 6, 1984, failed and an executive session was deleted from the agenda.

Council authorized purchase order for one mid-stem pumper for the Fire Department from Apollo Fire Equipment Company costing \$94,000.

Meeting adjourned at 12:40 A.M.

A. JANETTE DOLAN, Mayor Pro Tem
FLOYD A. CAIRNS, City Clerk

October 27 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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