

Teachers spend time improving their skills

By Jean Adamczak
staff writer

Informed teachers stimulate students to learn more, according to Farmington School District superintendent Lewis Schulman. "Effective teachers are able to help more students learn more with less wasted time and energy," Schulman said in his annual year-end report to the Farmington Board of Education. During the 1984-85 school year, teachers, administrators, aides, secretaries, custodians and bus drivers in the

district were able to attend as many as 27 in-service programs sponsored by the district. In-service programs are designed to keep faculty and staff up to date on world and local events as well as instructional and educational techniques, says Donald Howell, director of community services and federal projects for the district. "Whenever you improve the teaching abilities and background abilities (of faculty and staff), you definitely improve the instructional abilities of those people as well," Howell says.

ALTHOUGH teachers are required by contract to attend two in-service programs in August, Howell says many teachers voluntarily took advantage of the district's in-service programs last year. Programs attended by faculty and staff last year included:
 • In-service program on substance abuse for fifth grade students and their families.
 • Four writing in-service programs conducted for elementary and secondary staffs.
 • Special sessions involving elemen-

tary, middle and high school writing skills, grammar and literature.
 • District co-sponsored sports medical clinic at Providence Hospital with 140 Oakland County interns, coaches and medical doctors.
 • Special education in-service programs for 641 staff members in 40 different scheduled sessions.
 • County human sexuality certification workshops.
 • All-day in-service for noon aides.
 • Numerous in-service sessions on career education.
 • Three-hour CPR certification for

health and physical education teachers and athletic coaches.
 The computer in-service program was expanded last year and 130 people attended the annual summer program, says Howell. "The program was a new venture centering around telecommunications and cable television. There's a big emphasis to train teachers to utilize cable TV and utilize TV in their instruction," Howell explains. An in-service for preschool staff was initiated last year as well as three workshops on critical thinking pro-

gram involving six elementary schools. Although the district already offers a fair amount of in-service programs to faculty and staff, "there's always room for expansion," Howell says. "Professional people always need to be in-serviced and to ever broaden their horizons." According to Schulman's report, pre-implementation plans for future in-service programs include:
 • An August in-service for all administrators on drug/alcohol abuse, suicide, breakdown of family and physical/sexual abuse.
 • Expansion of the critical thinking program to include the balance of the elementary and middle schools.
 • A two-week summer computer workshop for administrators, teachers, secretaries and aides.
 • An in-service for elementary vocal music teachers.

State seeks 900 for Job Corps slots

By Teri Banas
staff writer

There are still 900 job openings for teens and young adults this summer in Oakland County under the state-sponsored Michigan Youth Corps. Job applicants have been slow in applying, resulting in only 300 of 1,200 positions being filled this season, said Frazier Kimpson, director of the corps Detroit office which serves the tri-county area. "I think a lot of people aren't applying because there's a mistaken impression that to qualify, there are income limitations. But that's not true here,"

Kimpson said. "The only requirements are that you be 18-21 and unemployed." Another reason youths may be staying away, particularly in Oakland County, could be that the economy has improved since the program's inception three years ago with youngsters drawn to the private sector for jobs, he said. "IT COULD be that because the economy is doing well, some are finding jobs in places like fast-food restaurants and other areas where the pay is just over the minimum wage," Kimpson said.

Job Corps workers are paid the minimum wage of \$3.35 an hour and under the program's requirements work no less than 30 hours and no more than 40 hours a week. The employment lasts 6-8 weeks. It began one week ago and ends Sept. 30. Under state sponsorship, jobs are found in non-profit organizations including government settings and private agencies. Youths have been put to work cleaning public parks, painting and fixing school buildings and public hospitals, as well as cleaning highways and lakes. "We even have jobs helping deaf children," the director said.

Applications can be made at local offices of the Michigan Employment Security Commission, community colleges, universities and vocational centers, Kimpson said applicants will receive "immediate feedback," probably within two days of applying. KIMPSON said the program not only "helps spruce up Michigan," but also trains unemployed youths to move into private sector jobs. "To that end, a series of summer workshops are planned for program applicants, teaching such skills as developing a marketable resume and interviewing techniques. "It's part of the transitional services

we're providing," he said. "For instance, when I got this job I was a Detroit school teacher. So, I had to update my resume and think of what I was going to say at the interview. That's what we'll be teaching the young people, how to put the whole package together." This year, the Michigan Legislature has allocated \$15.9 million to the state-wide program, down from the \$18 million targeted last year and the \$15 million allocated during the first year of the program. It was originally instituted during recessionary times when young, unskilled persons were particularly hard hit by unemployment. In the greater Detroit area, Kimpson says there are similar problems in filling Youth Corps jobs in Macomb County, but there are no such snags in Wayne County, home to 1,500 of the state's 13,000 Youth Corps jobs.

"Both Schulman and Howell are pleased with the district's well-attended in-service programs." "The district is doing a tremendous amount to keep our teachers up-to-date," says Schulman. "The in-service program is a dynamic and evolving program," Howell adds. Funding for the in-service programs comes from monies set aside in the school budget for in-service activities each year, says Howell. Each building also gets an amount appropriated from the service fund to use for individual in-service programs.

Pontiac names PR staffer

Shella A. Chamberlin has been named senior staff assistant on the public relations staff of Pontiac Motor Division. Chamberlin, whose new assignment is effective immediately, formerly was assistant manager in the General Mo-

tors public relations regional office in Flint. Chamberlin of Farmington Hills received a bachelor's degree in English from Hillsdale College and is a candidate for a master's degree in business administration from Villanova University in Pennsylvania.

She joined GM's public relations staff in 1976 as a "Progress" science lecturer and in 1977 was named communications coordinator at the then GM Assembly Division plant in Tarrytown, N.Y. In 1980, she was promoted to regional representative in GM's regional public relations office in

New Jersey, to assistant regional manager in the Philadelphia office in 1982, and to assistant manager in the Flint office in 1984. Chamberlin replaced Carl E. Sheffer who was assigned to GM's regional public relations office in Los Angeles.

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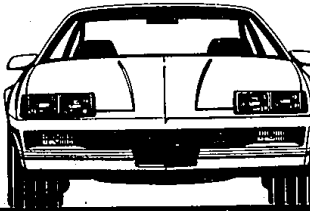
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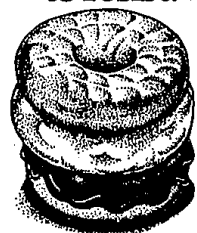
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