'Performance standards' called quotas

The Farmington Police union sup-ports proposed state legislation ban-ning traffic ticket quotas, a repre-sentative of that group said this

sentative of that group saw unsweet. The spokesman — who asked not to be named – said what the Farm-ington Department of Public Safety cults "initium performance stand-ards" are actually quotas, and that since the policy took effect Last fall. Ticket and arrest quotas are part of an eight-category performance evaluation done every four months or each officer.

evaluation done every four months for each officer. "They don't call it a quota," the spokesman said. "but if we don't get the amount, we're subject to disci-pline." No officer has been discip-lined since the new evaluation policy took effect.

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In an earlier report, Farmington Public Safety Director Frank Lauhoff stal using the ticket-writing in combination with other work per-formance was fair measure of pro-duction. He said several depart-ments in Michigan are considering using the same evalution process, in-cluding those in Oak Part and Ross-ville, Both Lansing Township and St. Liair County already use the evalua-tion system. "We measure production for a lot of ubings," Lauhoff said. "There's a sheel of expectation that any em-ployer the termine the said.

"THERE'S A direct relation in traffic enforcement to the number of accidents," Lauhoff said. Legislation prohibiling any type of traffic ticket quota was proposed in Continued from Page 3

have quotas — quotas that are tak-ing officers away from time spent fighting erime. On Oct. 1, the Farmington depart-ment started a new evaluation pro-cedure that included monitoring the numbers of takets written for both speeding and relative volucitions and for arrests, according to the Farm-ington Police Officers Association and Lauboff. The change was made to take the subjectivity away from the review process. The tight items measured allow a balance in the system, Lauhoff said. "Using tickets written as a single (review) source — I agree

garteners was a "logical conclusion because of the district's space prob-

because or the users are based with the community educa-tion department and other related programs including day care. The 11 sections of kindergarten involve 233 students; 235 including those in a pre-primary special education pre-gram.

gram. The district has committed to an-other year of the centralized pro-gram, then will review it, Pender-

KINDERGARTEN TEACHER and

that's wrong," he said. "It can't be just that."

that's wrong." he soid. "It can't be just that." Although the association member-ship agrees with the revamped eval-uation system, even calling it "im-proved," the licket and arrest quotas are still an issue, the spokesman and instead of driving through subdi-visions, they're going up and down Grand River and Farmigton Road," the spokesman said. "People used to get a lot more warnings than we're glving now. The officers tell me they leel bad sometimes writing lickets." The police union filed a grievance

when the changes were proposed, and the "minimum performance standards" in these areas were low-ered, the spokesman and Lauhoff said. Before September, there was noth-

Before September, there was noth-ing in writing giving offleers "mini-mum performance standards," the union spokesman said. "The com-manders used to monitor it." Of the change, Lauhoff said: "The courts have to be objective and formulated of what the offlerer does. Its purpose is to provide a better service to the community."

ACCURDING TO information from the union, the new guidelines require officers to write more than 105 tickets in a four-month period before an evaluation to rate at the top of the 0-4 scale. ACCORDING TO information

They have to write an additional 45 or more "non-hazardous tickets," such as equipment violations on ve-hicles, to remain at the top rating.

The union spokesman scale op actions. numbers are not based on an aver-age of what has occurred in past years as reported earlier, but on the number of tickets and arrests during the previous year.

Options are reviewed for kindergarten

West Bloomfield is the positive staff development influence that has permeated Edly's teaching staff. "There's a lot of interchange which makes for enrichment," Pen-dergrass said. "Professional dia-logue is much easier." As a teacher who previously worked as the lone kindergarten teacher in an elementary building, Smith agreed the centralized setting was "great" for staff development.

At another Oakland County school district, shifting of student popula-tions will allow kindergartens to re-turn to elementaries from an early childhood center this fail.

childhood center this fail. A spokeswoman for the Avondale schools said kindergarten has been centralized to some degree for the opast three years and totally central-ized during the current school year, because of "growth in the district."



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