Residents rate C'ville education good

The computer has spoken, so to

The computer has spoten, so speak.
Seventy-live percent of Clarenceville residents who responded to a recent districts a recent districts and the second sevent is designed to excellent with the deuceting youngster.
While response to the survey—410 residents illed out the 22-part questionnaire—is far less than the 1,500 who responded three years ago, Superintendent Michael Shilber is encouraged by the results.
"When you look at the Gallup Poll.
20 percent of those surveyed rated their school districts an A or a B for

THE SURVEY was sent out in September and the final tabulations have been presented to the school

board.

The board plans on to hold several work/study meetings to analyze the results, which will be used to develop short, and long-term plans for the district, Shibler said.

"School officials sometimes can

become insulated from residents, so there's really a need to get to people and bring them into the process," he said.

"It's important administratively

Reading to change

Members of a study committee in Farmington schools are continuing revisions to the district's reading curriculum, according to information from the district. The effort follows a two-week workshop last summer, when 22 Farmington teachers met to rewrite district reading goals. From this has come a recommendation for a new Basal Reading Series for grades kin-

to provide a vehicle for residents to respond. This is a good tool to use and to give us an idea of what people

think." When asked to rate the district's special education program, 80 percent overall said it was good to excellent. Its glited program earned above average marks from 80 percent of those responding, while the adult/community education program got high marks from 77 percent.

THE SURVEY also showed that of those responding, only 11 percent take advantage of ACE classes, meaning there's a high potential to get more people involved in the program, Shibler said.

An important benchmark in the survey was residents' estimations on how well the district has communicated with them.

ow well the astroct has common cated with them.
Overall, the district earned good to excellent marks from 79 percent. Those marks were given by only 77 percent of parents of school-aged percent of parents children. "This was very important to me

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because I wanted to know how well we've communicated with the peo-ple." Shibler said. "The whole dis-trict has tried to make an effort to communicate with residents and I think the grades we got reflects our work with the schoolwide newsletter and state of the school district re-port."

and state of the school district report."

THE SCHOOL, staff rated a 75 percent overall on their attitude toward instruction, a bit more than the 68 percent from parents. When it came to their accessibility and responsiveness, 79 percent overall and 90 percent of the parents found staff were available when needed.

As for stressing basic skillis, a number one priority for Shibler since he joined the school district in 1984, 79 percent overall and 65 percent of the parents found that to be the case.

cent of the parents found that to be the case.

But the favorable opinion dropped off to 64 percent overall and 77 per-cent among parents when it came to satisfaction with the district's cur-rent elementary-junior high grade level promotion and retention pro-

AMONG THOSE dissatisfied with the program, the reasons ranged from improving the quality of the tests used to determine student mas-tery of basic skills, letting parents know in advance what the problems are and more conformity in applica-tion of the norgram.

are and more conformity in applica-tion of the program.
When it came to preparing stu-dents for the world of work, the school district made major inroads over the 1984 responses. At that time only 33 percent said students were prepared.
But the new survey showed that 61 percent believe students are better prepared for life after school, includ-ing 58 percent of the parents who re-sponded.

THE DISTRICT came up with 23 suggestions as to areas of instruction residents feel need improvement. The areas named most often were English, science, mathematics, computers and college preparatory electrons.

puters and college preparatory classes. When asked if the high school When asked if the high school graduation requirements were adequate, 69 percent overall said yes. The figure was 70 percent among parents. Those who answered no wanted to see more requirements for computer education, mathematics and English and higher competency test scores.

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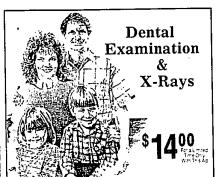
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dergarten through six.

The committee has met weekly to discuss textbooks and other materials for such a program, according to Carolyn Mahalak of the reading services department.

The committee is expected to sample two will be anyline and the program to the commendation for the new program which is scheduled to begin in September 1988.



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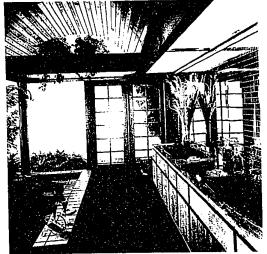
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