

Walled Lake proposes \$45-million expansion

By Janice Brunson
staff writer

A \$45-million expansion, including three new schools and a new bus facility, has been proposed to the Walled Lake school board to accommodate a sharp increase in projected enrollments over the next four years.

The district includes the northwesternmost section of Farmington Hills.

Members of a facilities study committee have recommended the new construction and move, if the school district is to meet the needs of an expected 2,300 new students by school year 1992 — most coming from West Bloomfield Township.

The committee, appointed by the board in August to analyze findings of a task force and a private consulting firm hired by the district last year, also estimated costs of the proposed expansion at \$45 million. Committee members are now considering final recommendations.

"We have a job to do. It's a big challenge, but I feel we've got to take it," said Superintendent James Geisler, new to the district in July. One of the biggest challenges, he added, is "making the case (for expansion) to the entire district."

Hard hit by new enrollment in elementary schools in and near the western edge of West Bloomfield where construction of new housing is heaviest. An estimated 11,348 new

units are either under construction in the area or have been approved by city and township councils, according to Lois Lange of Walled Lake schools. The figure is based on a report to the board in September 1987.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS also recommended using maximum enrollment projections, supplied last school year by the consulting firm of Stanfield Associates, in considering proposed expansion. This school year Stanfield projected a maximum enrollment of 9,115 and a minimum enrollment of 8,743. Fourth Friday figures place current enrollment at 8,922.

Preliminary recommendations include construction of two new ele-

mentary schools with capacity of 500 students each, a junior high with capacity of 750 students and construction of a new transportation and maintenance facility.

The plan calls for "equity" between elementary schools, upgrading existing facilities to equal standards of new schools. Equity is also called for in high schools, but duplication of such resources as swimming pools is not recommended because all students have access to such resources.

The plan recommends junior high (grades seven and eight) not be converted into middle schools (grades six to eight) at this time, but calls for conversion of Walled Lake Junior High into administration offices and

a community education center.

Projected costs of the project were set last year by Stanfield at \$45 million. Committee members have upped costs to \$45 million and recommended the money be generated by a 2.98-mill increase before voters in March 1989.

IN DECEMBER 1987, 1,379 students from West Bloomfield attended school in the Walled Lake district, including 784 elementary students and 615 secondary students.

Of the 784 in elementary schools, 355 attended Twin Beach, 238 attended Maple and 170 attended Keith. Of the 615 in secondary schools, 143 attended Clifford Smart Junior High, 61 attended Walled

Lake Junior High, 290 attended Central High and 121 attended Western High.

Although increased enrollments this year have affected elementary schools the most, Geisler said, "the long-range picture eventually places (impact) throughout the system."

Final recommendations will be presented during a regular meeting of the board, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 28, at Central High School. The meeting is open to the public.

If the board adopts final recommendations, committee members will launch a 12-week election campaign urging passage of the millage increase to pay for the expansion program, Lange said.

on the agenda

Below are highlights from agendas of government meetings this week. All meetings are open to the public.

Farmington Hills City Council
City Hall
Council Chambers
31555 11 Mile
7:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 14

Two public hearings are scheduled:

- Consideration of Salem/Village Lane water main improvements and notice of intent to issue bonds.
- Consideration of Robinson, Osmus and Tillman road improvements and notice of intent to issue bonds.

The council will consider reorganization and setting a date for appointing a replacement for councilwoman Jan Dolan, recently elected to the state House, 69th District. The council also will consider appointing a replacement on the planning commission for Paul Welday, who resigned as requested by council members.

Presentations on the E-9-1-1 emergency telephone system and the city's "Year 2000 plan" also will be given. The city's annual financial audit by Plante & Moran, CPAs of

Southfield, will be presented. The consent agenda includes the following:

- Final plat approval for Green Valley Estates subdivision No. 3, section 32.
- Proposed extension of final preliminary plat for Green Valley Estates subdivision, section 32.
- Update on Goldsmith Street's potential paving and septic field survey.
- Request for resolution consenting to transfer of employment from Quality Steel Products Inc., Farmington Hills to Milford Township.
- Consideration of special event permit for Arboretum Properties, 34505 12 Mile, for hot air balloon and Skyrunner Search Light from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 16.

Farmington Board of Education
Schulman Administrative Center
Board Meeting Room
32500 Shawwassee
7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 15

Trustees will consider appointment of an elementary school principal and will have a study session on the cooperative learning program. Trustees also will receive a report from the policy committee, which meets at 6:15 p.m.

Cleaners find Coats for Kids

Some 58 One-Hour Martinizing outlets have joined in the Coats For Kids campaign being conducted by Booth American and WJLB Radio.

The outlets in Livonia, Canton, Farmington Hills, Southfield, West Bloomfield and Birmingham are among those who are dry cleaning and packing the donated coats before the Salvation Army presents them to needy children.

The Coats For Kids campaign was created by Booth American in 1981 when economic conditions in the United States gave rise to a new group of needy known as "the new poor" — individuals who were the product of massive layoffs and plant closings in industrial cities.

One habitat subgroup of the new poor were children who were missing a large number of school days because they didn't have warm clothing, particularly coats, to wear during the winter months. The coats are distributed by the Salvation Army.

BOOTH BROADCASTING radio station WJLB in Detroit started Coats for Kids by asking for cash donations to buy new coats. Previously owned coats were collected by volunteers and cleaned at no charge by cleaners, such as One-Hour Martinizing, which joined the campaign in 1987.

obituaries

RICHARD SUESS

Mr. Suess, 53, formerly of Detroit, died Oct. 27 in Puerto Rico.

Mr. Suess was a hairdresser. Survivors include his mother, Helen Dalley; uncle, Edward Jaracz; aunt, Lottie Shilake.

Services were at the Heene-Sundquist Funeral Home, Farmington, with the Rev. James Wright of St. Alexander Catholic Church officiating. Burial was in St. Hedwig Cemetery, Dearborn Heights.

THOMAS IRWIN LYNKILIP

Mr. Lyngkilip, 33, died Oct. 20 in Lake Charles, La.

Mr. Lyngkilip was a chemical engineer for Olin Industries. Survivors include his father, John; brothers, John, David and Peter; sister, Ann Marie Morin; grandmother, Elsa Stegmeyer.

Services were Nov. 7 at the Heene-Sundquist Funeral Home, Farmington, with the Rev. William Lindholm officiating. Burial was in Glen Eden Cemetery, Livonia.

Memorials may be made to The

Gileons International, 2800 Lebanon Road, Nashville, Tenn. 37214.

MARGARET WEEKS

Mrs. Weeks of Farmington died Oct. 27 in Pensacola, Fla.

Mrs. Weeks was born in West Virginia.

Survivors include her daughters, Margaret Taylor, Mary Jo Tate, Christine Shelton and Dr. Juanita Garfield; nine grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

Services were Oct. 31 at Glen Eden Cemetery Chapel with the Rev. Dr. Stanley F. Nicol of North Farmington Baptist Church officiating. Burial was in Glen Eden Cemetery, Livonia. Arrangements were made by the Heene-Sundquist Funeral Home, Farmington.

Memorials may be made to the American Diabetes or the American Heart Foundation.

BRIGITTE MACE

Mrs. Mace, 50, of West Bloomfield died Nov. 2 in Harper Hospital. Born in Germany, Mrs. Mace was

a secretary for an insurance agency. Survivors include her husband, Tony; daughters, Rita Walston, Tina Mace and Linda Dart; sisters, Maria Zellner and Clara Loeffler; one grandchild.

Services were Nov. 8 at the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, Mass. was celebrated at Prince of Peace Catholic Church, West Bloomfield, with the Rev. William J. Dowell officiating. Burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield.

MYLES R. MATTSOON

Mr. Mattson, 39, of Livonia died Nov. 3.

Mr. Mattson was an automotive-machine operator. He was a member of the Finnish Cultural Center and a Vietnam veteran.

Survivors include his mother, Elma; sister, Arlene Sabin; brother, Ray.

Services were Nov. 7 at the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, with the Rev. V.F. Halboth Jr. of Grace Lutheran Church officiating. Burial was in Glen Eden Cemetery, Livonia.



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