

The pilot "Teacher on TV" program is just the start of technological changes planned by the Farmington school district. Here, telecommunications coordinator Dean Cobb teaches a North Farmington class in the TV-10 studios, and Farmington

High and Harrison High students who are remote. Cobb talked via cable with all the students. The program is to be considered by the Farmington school board in February.

Schools tap high-tech teaching



schools to ten technology

Continued from Page 1

Teachers will have to go through stalf development programs to teach them to use the new tools, there might be union concerns. And an "ever-evolving" mixture of technologies and training will not allow everything to be used in every class communication, the expects some from immediately. He expects some free mixture of the every class of the every c

THERE IS also the question of how the district will pay for the new technologies.

Flanagan is optimistic that com-munity-oriented companies, includ-ing cable networks, will work with the school district.

He also believes there will a "direct, bottom line incentive" to industry to help in subsidizing these new methods.

"It will be because of a self-inter-est issue," he added. "Really, a pa-triolic issue."

Schools to get better phones

Before Farmington Public Schools moves high tech into the classroom, officials decided getting simple items, like push-button telephones, might be appropriate.

"We decided it was time we got some of these," anid a half-joking deputy superintendent Michael Flanagan, holding up a push-button unit before the school board last week. "Before we get too high-tech anywhere else, we should take care of this first."

What's not funny, consultants sav.

What's not funny, consultants say,

where else, we about take care or this first."

What's not funny, consultants say, is the district's current patchwork aystem, some films can be transferred to the consultant of the consultant say. It is the district's current cannot. Still other buildings with a small number of lines give callers busy signals far too often.

This summer, the district will go through a lengthy education process for employees, as they install a Digital Centrex system through Michigan Bell Communications and upgrade phose hardware throughout the district. School trustees approved the purchase of \$3274,477 for the system last week, after a study of several months by business department personnel, headed up by director beits Duschinske.

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With the district's current patchwork system, some lines can be transferred between buildings while others cannot. Other buildings with a small number of lines frequently give callers busy signals.

will also allow for "unlimited data capabilities." School trustee James Abernethy requested administrators talk with teachers and principals in the South-field district before implementing a new system in Farmington.

WHILE VISITING the Southfield district, recently, Abernethy said he heard a lot of concerns about their new system which was implemented

we system which was implemented late last summer.

"It has some problems," he said. "I think we should find out what those are. Itm sure whatever the issue, richey can be worked out."

Flanagan said he believed the issues probably involved staff training, and getting employees accustomed to a different system.

Plans call for installing the Farmington system in late July and early August, phasing it in over one week.

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33 make top 1,000 in math competition

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Thirty-three students from ta, Jeff Haber, Scott Hawkins, Farmington's three public high Schools inished in the top 1,000 of Marcon, Katly McDonald, Tim the 23,000 high school students who took part in Part I of the 30th anivel Michigan Mathematica Prize Competition.

This was the largest number of students from Farmington ever to quality.

They included: Aftay Arors, Caro-

Preschool classes are offered Class fees range from \$45 to \$257

Beginning this week, Farmington Community School offers preschool classes similar to those at two early childhood centers in the Farmington

Classes will include the Mom/Tot Program for children 22 to 38 months, classes for children ages 3 to 5, and a Head Start program. Each class is staffed with a teacher and aide and has no more than 16 children. The program features a develop-mental curriculum.

Opportunities abound for small children to explore the world of science in the Discovery Room, where hands-on lessons are planned about dinosaurs, pest, tracking, hibernation, space, chemistry, nature, magnetism and more.

Classes also effer chances for children to explore mathematics. In

Classes also offer chances for chil-dren to explore mathematics, lan-guage, music, art, role playing, and to develop social interaction skills. In addition, children will have daily access to preschool-oriented equip-ment in the school's gymnasium.

Class fees range from \$45 to \$257 for one, two or three-day class sessions. The Farmington Community School, formerly the Shlawassee, Center, is at 30415 Shlawassee, mid way between Middlebelt and Orehard Lake Road, one block north of Nine Mile.

Call 477-1776 for further information.

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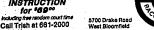
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