

Board will study ways to improve traffic safety

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city. One member will be appointed to represent Farmington Public Schools, as the district is involved in pedestrian and traffic safety. Deann said.

The remaining four members will be appointed by the city council at large. After initial terms, which will be staggered, each member will serve for three-year terms.

LAUHOFF SEES his role as a re-

source person. He believes the first several meetings of the board will lay the foundation for understanding traffic patterns in the city. "We need to give them an understanding on some of the unique points of the city," he said. "To give them some background on traffic control devices, how they're placed, why they're placed, ... why we do all this."

Anyone interested in serving on the board should submit a resume or letter of interest to the city manager's office. These will be passed

along to city council members who will eventually make the appointments.

The Old Village Association, representing some 150 residents in a historic area downtown, proposed the traffic panel last November after a heightened interest in traffic patterns in the downtown area. OVA had formed a traffic committee one year before because of concern with traffic congestion, and began talking with the city at that time.

OVA did its own study and made

recommendations to the city. This was followed by a city-sponsored traffic study, which recommended a traffic signal at the T-intersection of Shilawasee and Farmington Road. The city has also asked the Michigan Department of Transportation to conduct a speed limit survey on Grand River to see if changes are warranted.

THE NEW Traffic and Safety Board will have the following responsibilities:

- To review and evaluate traffic problems and submit their recommendations to the city council.
- To develop recommendations pertaining to improvements to traffic conditions.

• To review, on a periodic basis, the causes of accidents on the streets of the community and develop recommendations on how they could be prevented.

• To review the adequacy and effectiveness of existing traffic signs, markings and signals and to review methods to improve streets and intersections.

Report proposes changes in gifted services staffing

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DELTA is an acronym for Differentiated, Enrichment, Leadership, Talent and Ability. The department has a staff of 10 who service 1,258 students in the district.

School board members asked administrators to put the proposal on hold, and to give them more information for future consideration. The proposal had suggested changes be made this fall.

One trustee said she is concerned with the proposed new concept for gifted, and took administrators to task Tuesday opposing the integration of gifted services into the regular classroom.

"When this occurs ... there is no instruction for the gifted student," said trustee Janice Rolnick. "They are given the accelerated work and told to do it."

"I don't care how much in-service you give somebody — if they don't like what they're doing they won't do it well. I don't think a person who doesn't understand the gifted child

'I don't care how much in-service you give somebody — if they don't like what they're doing they won't do it well.'

— Janice Rolnick
trustee

and their needs and their differences can be in-serviced to understand, if they don't understand the differences."

SEVERAL PARENTS spoke in support of gifted services provided in the district, specifically for services offered at the secondary level. The board received two letters in support of secondary gifted coordinators.

And Linda Regan, an English and Social Studies teacher at Power Middle School, said the gifted coordinators were needed. "Those four people have enhanced my ability to

teach," she said. "I would like to see the positions continue."

There was a question about how the secondary gifted coordinator positions would be handled, since three were preparing for involuntary transfers, which would have bumped them into regular teaching positions. A fourth appears on the district's annual layoff list, approved Tuesday, because of low seniority.

But all gifted coordinator positions will be retained for the 1989-90 school year because no action was taken by the board Tuesday, according to personnel director Robert Coleman.

Incentives spur students to read

More than 400 fourth- and fifth-grade students were honored this week at an assembly at Harrison High School for participating in the Farmington Public Schools "Book Parade" program.

The reading incentive program offered upper elementary students a chance to enhance their reading for learning and enjoyment.

The April 20 assembly featured storyteller Sheila Dalley, who told stories about Michigan history and folklore. Superintendent Graham Lewis awarded gift books to 182 students who read all 16 titles on the district's recommended list. Students who read at least nine books from the list were invited to participate in the assembly.

During the project, small incentive awards were given after a student completed four books. These included bookmarks, pins and bookbags. Participating students read a total of 6,828 books during the eight-week period that began in January.

The project was sponsored and coordinated by the district's Media Services Department.

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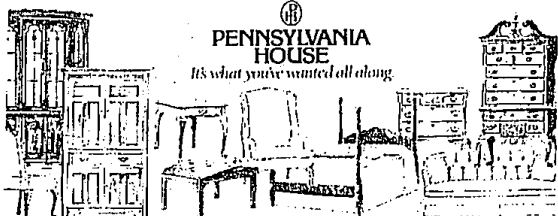
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