

C'ville launches search for superintendent

By Kevin Brown
staff writer

The search is on for a Clarenceville schools superintendent. To replace Superintendent Michael Shiber, the Clarenceville Board of Education is looking for "a progressive individual," said board president Richard Wood — someone who can communicate well with

staff and students and keep the district moving forward.

"Our chief negotiator (in labor talks) has been our superintendent," Wood added. "We're going to see if we are going to continue along those lines."

Board vice president Linda Brandemihl said, "Personality wise, I would say somebody that is very

personable, with good communication skills.

"I really think very highly of Mike Shiber," she said, adding a new superintendent should have some of his qualities.

"He kept us very informed, and had good communications with the community and the board, and he kept his ear to the ground in Lansing."

A BROCHURE detailing what the board is looking for, compiled with the help of the Michigan Association of School Boards, is being sent around the Midwest to advertise the position. The district includes parts of Livonia, Farmington Hills and Redford Township.

Qualifications the brochure lists are:

- Must demonstrate deep concern for all children.
- Must demonstrate strong educational leadership and be able to develop both long and short-range education goals.
- Must be committed to high standards of professional ethics and performance.
- Must be able to work fairly and effectively with board, staff and all segments of the community.
- Must maintain a high level of integrity in all communications.
- Must be able to maintain a solid base of community support for the school program.
- Must be able to manage the school system with fiscal prudence.
- Should understand school law.
- Should have a working knowledge of collective bargaining.

meetings with school staff and the community, to seek more ideas of what to look for in a new superintendent.

Today, meetings are scheduled for 9-10 a.m. in Clarenceville High and 10:15-11:15 a.m. in the middle school. Board members say they plan to read all applications. Shiber was chosen from a field of 90 candidates in 1984.

Deadline for applications is May 17, interviews and scheduled for June 3-5, and visits with final candidates — about eight — will be completed by June 16, according to the board's timetable.

With Shiber leaving for his new job as schools superintendent in Rockford near Grand Rapids on June 30, the board wants to hire a new superintendent July 15, Wood said.

Because five current board members were not on the board during the last superintendent search, Wood said the MASA consultant will convene workshops with trustees on interviewing and what to look for on superintendent applications.

15-year-old hurt in van-bike crash

A 15-year-old Farmington High School sophomore was hospitalized in stable condition Tuesday, following a bicycle accident April 18 at a busy Farmington intersection.

Matthew Mullins of Farmington Hills remains in Botsford General

Hospital, Farmington Hills, where he was admitted to the intensive care unit with internal injuries following the accident. This week he was moved to the acute care unit after his condition stabilized, a hospital spokeswoman said.

Reports that Mullins had been transferred to the University of Michigan Hospital were apparently incorrect.

The accident occurred shortly after 7 p.m. as Mullins was riding his bicycle westbound on Freedom Road. He turned south on to Farmington Road as the traffic light was red, and collided with a van traveling north on Farmington Road. The van was driven by Richard John Lessway, 42, of Farmington Hills.

Lessway was traveling the speed limit and both the driver and bicyclist had swerved to try to avoid each other. The driver was not hurt. No tickets were issued in the accident. Goss said pending recovery of the youth, the department considered the investigation closed.

New voter cards on way

Farmington Hills voters, throw away your old registration cards. New ones, featuring city and school voting precincts and political party affiliation, are on their way.

"They are good forever unless voters change something," city clerk Kathy Dorman said.

Approximately 45,000 new voter registration cards are hot off the press; they were mailed early this week. When voters receive the cards, they are urged not to assume it can be thrown away because they have an old one, Dorman said.

"These are revamped with school information on them. We have a real problem with school elections. Voters were going to their city voting precinct. People were confused and we got a flood of calls."

The new cards have the voter's city voting precinct number and address and the same for the school

voting precinct, Dorman said.

The cards also feature the voter's designated political party, which voters are forced to follow only in the presidential primary, Dorman added.

"IT LOOKS like his handlebar hit the van first, then the front wheel went under the van," said Gary Goss,

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