

# District steps up plans for elementary school

By Darrell Clem  
staff writer

Burgeoning enrollment has prompted Walled Lake school officials to proceed one year early on plans for yet another new elementary school.

The school is expected to open in fall 1991, one year after the new Pleasant Lake Elementary School now under construction on Halsted Road south of Pontiac Trail.

"It's clear that we will need that

## Walled Lake Schools

building in 1991," district spokeswoman Lois Lange said.

Plans to move the second new elementary school ahead of schedule were approved Dec. 14 in a unanimous vote by five members of the Walled Lake Board of Education.

The district includes northwest Farmington Hills.

The new elementary are part of a massive construction plan that school district voters approved last March, when they passed a \$17.8 million bond issue.

THIS LATEST move is not expected to force the school board to seek a millage increase beyond the three-mill level that voters had been told to expect, Lange said.

The two schools will bring to 13 the number of elementary schools in the Walled Lake Consolidated School District, which is experiencing tremendous growth. The district serves nine Lakes Area communities.

"The board has concerns about

meeting the space needs. The statistics and figures made a clear indication that we need to move the timetable up because the larger number of students will be coming in sooner. Instead of later," said school board President Sammy Ruetenik.

Decisions about whether to build the second new elementary had been postponed until school officials could study enrollment projections, said Lange.

District enrollment increased by about 350 students this year and is expected to climb by 355 pupils next

year. All of the growth has occurred at the elementary level where enrollment reached 5,441 this year.

THE SCHOOL will now be included in the second phase of the construction plan, along with a new junior high, which will replace Walled Lake Junior High, and the renovation and expansion of the district's two high schools.

The next step for school officials will be to begin seeking a site for the new school, Lange said.

## recreation news

Each week, the Farmington Hills Department of Special Services Recreation Division presents a synopsis of upcoming activities. For more information about programs, call the recreation office, 473-9570. For matters regarding city council agenda items, call Newsline at 476-3838.

● **downhill skiing**  
Students in grades 4-12, can enjoy a night of skiing at Mt. Brighton on Friday evenings. Buses leave designated sites at 4:30 p.m. and return approximately at 10 p.m. The first session will be January 5, 12 and 19. Fee is \$45 and includes ticket, lesson and transportation. Ski rental is not included.

● **ski trip**  
Join us for a fun-filled day of downhill skiing at Mt. Brighton on from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 28. The activity is for children in grades 4 through 12 in the Farm-

ington and Clarenceville School Districts. Fee is \$15 per person. Buses will leave from North Farmington High School and East Middle School.

● **cross-country lessons**  
Individuals 10 and older can learn the proper techniques to glide across the snow as they begin enjoying this lifelong activity. Lessons are held on Saturdays or Sundays at 10 a.m. or 12:30 p.m. beginning Jan. 6. Fee is \$7 with your own equipment, \$13 with equipment rental. Pre-registration is required.

● **bill koch ski league**  
This activity is for children 7-13 years of age. The league offers lessons, races, club patch, poster and more. The first session will be held from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Saturdays, Jan. 6, 13 and 20 at the Glen Oaks Ski Center. Fee is \$26 with rental and \$16 with your own equipment.

● **learn to bowl**  
Children in grades 3-5 can learn

the basic fundamentals that will help develop their bowling skills. A four-lesson program on Tuesdays begins Jan. 9 at Bel-Air Lanes 4-5:30 p.m. Shoes are provided. Also a bowling plus program runs on Saturdays for eight weeks at Drakeshire Lanes from noon to 2 p.m. which provides instruction and league-type play beginning Jan. 6.

● **mysteries of magic**  
If you always wanted to learn about magic, this workshop is for you. Simple tricks and sleight-of-hand will be taught and put together in a routine used by professionals. Materials will be provided. Class will be 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 10.

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## obituaries

LAVERA E. CONKLIN

MARY HULL

Mrs. Conklin, 76, of Farmington Hills died December 21 in Scottsdale, Ariz.

Born in Detroit, Ms. Conklin was an analyst for Wayne Co. Probate Court.

Survivors include one sister, Emma Jane Conklin, one brother, Charles Conklin, four nieces, and three nephews.

Services were Dec. 28 at McCabe Funeral Home with Fr. Norbert Kondzielski of St. Fabian Catholic Church. Burial was in St. Augustine Cemetery, Deerfield.

Mrs. Hull, 60, of Farmington Hills died Dec. 20 in St. Joseph Hospital in Ann Arbor.

Born in Highland Park, Mrs. Hull was a secretary for the University of Michigan in Dearborn.

Survivors include two daughters, Cheryl Wasson and Patricia Barnard; one son, James; and two brothers, Lee and Bob Cataldo.

Services were Dec. 23 at the Ted C. Sullivan Funeral Home with Fr. Alex Brannett of St. Aidan Catholic Church officiating. Burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield.

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