

# School follows kids home on TV

BY RALPH R. ECHTINAW  
STAFF WRITER

Kids beware! Your parents might have you watch something other than Looney Tunes and Bullwinkle tonight.

They might have you watch something about school. Beginning at 7 p.m. tonight, a series of three educational programs produced by the Oakland County Intermediate School District will be cablecast on the community access channels in all 28 Oakland County school districts.

But parents aren't off the hook either. The plan is for them to watch the program with their kids in order to get a better idea of what's being

## PARENTING

taught these days.

Since curriculums have changed a lot since most adults went to school, and many parents don't have the time to visit their kid's teachers anymore, the school districts have decided to bring the school to the parents, said Carol Klenow, the information resources director for Oakland Schools.

The first three programs, to be aired tonight, Oct. 1 and 8, deal with mathematics. Klenow said that the way math is taught has changed so much that parents who try to help their kids at home often

aren't in sync with the curriculum. Tonight's TV show is supposed to give parents an idea of what goes on in the classroom so that they can do a better job of helping their kids at home.

The three 20-minute Oakland Schools productions will be supplemented in most school districts with locally-produced TV programming, Klenow said, including a segment whereby school officials take live calls from viewers.

Although Oakland Schools hopes to produce additional shows dedicated to reading, social studies, science and fine arts, the decision to do so won't be made until officials

get a sense of how successful the math series is. "We're trying this to see how it works," Klenow said. "The experiment is, 'Will the cable medium be effective?'"

But what about the estimated 20 percent of parents in Oakland County who don't have cable TV?

Klenow said videotape copies of the math programs have been passed out to the school districts to do with as they see fit. Folks without cable who want to see the program can probably borrow a copy by calling their school district's public relations person. Or call the Oakland Schools hotline at 1-800-242-1323.

## Walkers are needed to pledge dollars to Focus: Hope projects

Old favorites will be joined by new faces at the Focus: Hope 18th annual Walk for Justice Sunday, Oct. 11.

The walk gets under way at 1 p.m. at Focus: Hope's Center of Children, 1550 Oakman Boulevard in Detroit.

The walk follows an eight-mile route through Detroit and Highland Park. Walkers are encouraged to sign up sponsors to pledge dollars to Focus: Hope projects.

Ron Coden, Josh White Jr., Phil Marcus Easer, Barbara Bredius, Charlie Latimer and Dean Rutledge are entertainers who will perform. They will perform at the beginning

of the walk, while bands from area schools will be stationed along the route. Among those participating will be Dearborn Divine Child, Highland Park High School and Spaulding School in Detroit.

Focus: Hope will celebrate its 25th anniversary in 1993. The organization was founded in response to the 1967 riots and has since become a leader in administering food programs for low-income children, mothers and seniors. It also has established a high-tech training program in an effort to assist people in finding long-term, substantial employment.

For more information, 883-7440.

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