Board eyes giving teachers suspension authority

Teachers in Farmington Public Schools can't paddle trouble ntakers anymore. But starting tlext week, pending board approval, they'll be able to issue stapensions practically on the eget. According to an amended stu-

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Φ

dent code of conduct, which is expected to be approved by the board during its regular meeting set for 7:30 pm. Tuesday, faculty members "may suspend" a stuchent for code violations such as fighting, or they may decide to go the traditional disciplinary route - and forward the matter to the building principal.

James Myors, the district's or the state law, suspensions "from a teacher's to the building principal.

James Myors, the district's out to students for: fighting:

"I don't think it (the policy) is going to be disruptive at all," almost early consequence of the policy amendment is to comply with the se-called Teacher Snap Suspension Law, or state Public Art 103.

According to the state law, suspensions "from a teacher's class, subject or activity for up to one full school day' can be meted out to students for! fighting; refusing to wear antety glasses or asfety-required attrice; possessing or using a laser light without permission; possessing, using or being under the influence of alcohol or controlled substance; having a "dangerous weapon" as defined in the student doct.

Teachers must make a written report to the priheipal immediately after handing down a suspension.

The district's amendment was

ately after nonding down a sus-pension.

The district's amendment was tabled during the board's Sept. 7 meeting to give Myers and other administrators additional time

Myers explained that the poli-cy needs to be very specific in order to help maintain consisten-

order to help maintain consistency.

That (consistency) can be tricky when you have 60 or 70 different teachers in there.

Myers said. Any time you have a disciplinary situation, there's a little judgment call in everything. So, the direction we're going is for this to be as clear as possible so the consistency is there.

John Barrett, Farmington High School principal, said the new policy really doesn't change the way teachers handle such situations anyway. Building administrators hand out suspensions ranging from three to 10 days for serious offenses.

"I don't think it (the policy) is

School use policy approved a policy change for the use of school facilities by community groupe living within the district. According to the policy change, facilities cannot be used by 'any individual, group or society that advocates or teaches any doctrine or theory that is subversive to the Constitution or laws of the state of Michigan or the United States, or advocates social or political change by violence or revolution, or by any individual or group in any manner contrary to law."

But it does encourage use of facilities by "non-profit, youth-serving groupe" in the community, including parent organizations.

Priscilla Brouillette, school board president, said the policy is intended to approve groups or the serving groupe in the serving groupe's the policy in the deal of the programment of the policy intended to approve groups and the policy intended to approve groups and the policy intended to approve groups and the policy intended to approve groups.

Priscilla Brouillette, school beard president, said the policy is intended to encourage groups to use the buildings, as long as they "serve youth and children." The policy language about barring subversive groups is "very clear and fair." Brouillette said. "We want to make sure the groups who use (facilities) are within the law."

Brouillette said those who

Brouillette said those who want to apply to use facilities can call the district's administra-tive office, (248) 489-3382.

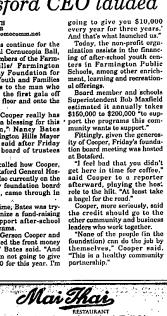


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Preparing: Foundation board members Mark Jensen, Joanne Smith and Gerson Cooper plan for the next Cornucopia Ball in November.

Botsford CEO lauded

As efforts continue for the fifth annual Cornucopia Ball, several members of the Farmington Hills' Farmington Community Foundation for Children, Youth and Families gave kudes to the man who helped got the first gale off the ground floor and onto the dance floor.

the ground floor and onto the donce floor.
"Gerson Cooper really has been such a blessing for this foundation," Nancy Bates (also Farmington Hills Mayor Pro-Tem), said after Friday morning's board of trustees meeting.

meeting.
Bates recalled how Cooper,
CEO at Botsford General Hos-

pital and also currently on the community foundation board of trustees, came through in

At that time, Bates was try-ing to organize a fund-raising arm to support after-school

arm to support alter-sentor youth programs.
"I called Gerson Cooper and said I needed the front money (\$10,000)," Bates said. "And he said, 'I'm not going to give you \$10,000 for this year. I'm

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