

OLS parents speak out at board meeting

By Bob Buck
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Other private or parochial schools in the Farmington Public School district may look to a shared time programming agreement between the school district and Our Lady of Sorrows School as an example.

That's the opinion expressed by Len Fedoruk, OLS School Committee chairman, at Tuesday Farmington School Board meeting. The 12-member committee reached consensus in supporting the OLS administration in proceeding with shared time.

"We have laid out our concerns with both Monsignor Walter Hurley and Principal Roberta Clemak," Fedoruk said. "We've said, 'These are the issues which need to be addressed.'"

No matter how it works out there will be people who won't accept the arrangement, he said.

"Reprisals, forget about it, it's not going to happen," Fedoruk said. "I made that point to Monsignor Hurley. That's not acceptable behavior. This school does have a code of conduct."

Faith-based
Jeanne McAllister said she

chose OLS because of its faith-based education in developing the foundation of the child. A phone call to Hurley two weeks ago wasn't returned, she said.

Tom Nemus wanted to gauge interest. School Board President Cathy Webb said the study committee will come up with some measure to determine support.

For Farmington Public Schools Superintendent Bob Maxfield, the clause "strong level of support" in the resolution means more than a 51 percent majority among parents.

Alice Hixson asked for equal representation on the study committee.

"Thank you for giving us the voice which we don't have across the street," she said. "This is not an enhancement to our program."

As a Farmington Hills resident, Charles Hixson said the school board represents his interests, too. He distrusts the continued silence by OLS administration.

The big picture
Sam Rolick, a Farmington Hills resident, admired the Catholic parents' faith. "Using taxpayer money is a violation of church and state and a springboard for more demands," Rolick said. "Superintendent Maxfield misses the big

picture. Principle is more important than money."

Meg Hughes, a former OLS student, said she and her husband support both OLS Monsignor Walter Hurley and the school administration. They are their children's primary educators of faith. The school supplements that faith, she said.

Mary Beth Carey, a parent, couldn't attend the meeting but watched it on TV. She stressed that prayer does permeate the classroom. If a child has mother or sibling, who is sick or going in for surgery, he or she feels comfortable telling even their physical

education teachers who will lead the class in prayer. "We also pray before each art session," Carey said.

Stan Szczepaniak asked about having a ballot referendum, but Maxfield said there is significant cost to such an election.

Chris Bruton, another parent said while information about a survey conducted by Concerned Parents of Our Lady of Sorrows Students showed about 250 families against shared time, the school represents 791 families. Some people didn't fill out their survey cards or threw them out, Bruton said.

Board

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away from their chosen school.

Inch said he heard a lot of "righteous anger" from the audience. "This is the wrong group you are dealing with," Inch said. "The problem isn't here. I don't want to be accused of selling out for 30 pieces of silver. I'm very disappointed that there hasn't been action for you."

Dialogue needed

Board member Pamela Christian supported the resolution and added that she was concerned about misdirected anger and the tone at a previous board meeting. "The board respectfully listened to comments and postponed its vote," Christian said.

"I want to create a situation where that dialogue takes place," board member Linda Enberg said. "If it doesn't take place we'll deal with that next year."

Board president Cathy Webb asked the group to address their letters or requests to serve on the study committee as an Our Lady of Sorrows member to either Hurley or OLS Principal Roberta Clemak. "We have no power or legal obligation to appoint anyone to the Sorrows committee," Webb said.

"Positive intentions are always there but sometimes hard to find," said Superintendent Maxfield. "This began with an honest request. We need to have time for our community to talk among ourselves. We hope we can answer questions."

Crash

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from Botsford Hospital, said Dwyer.

Donna Sekulidisa, operations manager for the Fox Theatre, said the Gorzecka had been volunteer ushers since 1999.

"They were a lovely couple," she said. "They were always together and they always made sure they got there on time. You could tell they did everything together."

She added the couple were also known to volunteer their time with the Detroit Opera House.

The police department continues to investigate the accident using reconstruction techniques on the damaged vehicles to determine the Camaro's rate of speed at the time of impact, said Dwyer. No skid marks were discovered at the scene, he said.

A conclusion to the investigation may come next week, the chief said. The department will bring its findings to the Oakland County Prosecutor's Office for consideration of a criminal warrant against the boy.

Concert set at Warner Mansion

Enjoy an afternoon of Heartstrings music 1-5 p.m. Sunday, May 5, at the Governor Warner Mansion.

Rob and Nancy Downie, a talented musical duo, will play the trumpet, string bass and violin as guests stroll through the mansion.

The mansion is located on Grand River in downtown Farmington.

Rummage sale set for Saturday

The Finnish Center of Farmington Hills will hold a rummage, party and bake sale 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, April 27.

Admission is free and refreshments will be available.

The center is located at 35200 W. Eight Mile, one mile west of Farmington Road.

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SALE 49.99 Comfort sandals and shoes from Clarks, Merrell and Born. Reg. 65.00-75.00. IN SHOES.

25% OFF Many beach and casual shoes from Rocket Dog, Candie's and Rampage. Reg. 22.00-35.00, sale 16.50-26.25. IN WOMEN'S SHOES.

30% OFF Great selection of children's sandals and shoes from Stride Rite, Esprit, Candie's, Skechers and Sam & Libby. Reg. 28.00-52.00, sale 19.60-36.40. IN CHILDREN'S SHOES.



SALE 49.99 Save on a large selection of women's shoes and sandals from Unisa, Enzo Angiolini, AK Anne Klein, Franco Sarto, Nine West, Timberland, Naturalizer and more. Reg. 59.00-79.00. IN WOMEN'S SHOES.

MEN

SALE 14.99 Preswick & Moore cotton polo, crew-neck and v-neck shirts. Reg. 25.00. IN MEN'S.

SALE 24.99 Solid play polo or micro-sanded twill shorts from Izod. Reg. 34.00-38.00. IN MEN'S.



SALE 19.99 An assortment of shorts and knit and woven shirts from Preswick & Moore and Savane. Reg. 34.00. IN MEN'S.

SALE 14.99 Young men's cargo shorts from Marino Bay and Retimé. Reg. 30.00. IN MEN'S.

30% OFF Entire selection of spring fashion sport coats. Reg. 275.00-450.00, sale 192.50-315.00. IN MEN'S.

SALE 24.99 Fashion dress shirts from Preswick & Moore and Hathaway. Reg. 37.50-50.00. IN MEN'S.

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SALE 12.99 Selected knit, rayon and woven tops and twill shorts for boys in sizes 4-20. Reg. 20.00-30.00. IN CHILDREN'S.

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