

How Will Proposals C and D Affect Farmington Schools?

By STEVE BARNABY

What would the passage of Proposal C mean to the citizens of the Farmington School District? Even if the board of education has determined an answer, it has failed to take a stand for or against the measure.

Gene Caesar, educational consultant to the Michigan State Senate, came to an open study session of the Farmington Board Monday night and seemed to raise more questions than he answered.

He said "Proposal C could work without the implementation of the graduated tax. The object of the proposal was to provide equitable education throughout the state, and the middle class would pay the brunt of taxes, no matter what the tax plan, according to Caesar.

Citizen activism is the only way to insure adequate school funding by the State Legislature if proposal C is passed, he said.

WHEN CAESAR made the point that Proposal D would assure the implementation of a graduated tax, Board Member Aldo Vagnozzi countered by saying that it doesn't necessarily follow.

Vagnozzi explained that the passage of "D" only means that the ban on a graduated tax is lifted from the state constitution and doesn't compel the Legislature to turn to the graduated tax.

Vagnozzi thought it wise that both C and D be passed as the best way to insure quality education for schools because it would widen the scope of legislative action.

Debate broke-out as to the percentage the flat rate tax would be if "D" lost.

the flat rate would be raised to only about 6.2 per cent. The present rate is 3.9 per cent.

"I can't see C and D separated, because of the hardship it would cause on those with incomes below \$16,800," said Campbell.

The \$16,800 figure is the median income of Farmington residents.

Caesar admitted that in later years the flat tax rate would probably be raised by the State Legislature.

Caesar explained that on a statewide basis, dollars behind each student would be raised by 58 per cent and professionals per student by 60 per cent.

WILLIAM PRISK, business manager for the Farmington board, said that the people of Farmington should be aware that under Proposal C they would be voting to pay more money on an individual basis.

Prisk feels the people should be aware of this despite the fact that they voted down three previous millage proposals during the last school year.

Caesar said that one objective of the program was to equalize the amount of new and experienced teachers.

With a long range goal of equalizing salaries throughout the state, he hopes that the formerly poorer districts would get more experienced teachers.

members was that even if Proposal C passed, there is no percentage of funds earmarked for education and therefore no one really knows how much money the educational system would get.

CEASAR SAID it is the responsibility of the voters to make their sentiments known to the state legislators in order to garner the funds for education.

He warned that there were many other factions in Lansing that would want the money.

"The Legislature will act like citizens want it to act. They will listen to the concept of earmarked funds if the people speak out," said Caesar.

John Washburn, a member of the Farmington School Citizens Advisory Council, labeled that attitude as a "cop-out."

"When they (legislators) are elected, it is part of their responsibility," he said.

Washburn said the people shouldn't have to dog elected officials to get quality education for Michigan schools.

The Farmington area PTA Council has voted to urge local PTAs to support passage of proposal C.

The Farmington Education Association and the League of Women Voters have supported the implementation of proposals C, while the local Chamber of Commerce opposes it.



PATTY STUBBS was honored as Harrison High's homecoming queen at the game Saturday. (Evert photo)



WINNING FLOAT -- It was the junior class that took the honors at the Harrison High homecoming parade Saturday. (Evert photo)

today's hot line

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what's inside

Candidates Speak

Candidates running for local office continue to voice their opinions in the Enterprise and Observer. Candidates are on: Pages 3, 4, 5A

On Busing

A local group dedicated to peaceful integration held a meeting recently with a member of the Roth busing panel. The results of that meeting are reported on: Page 3A

Selections

The candidates for Congress were pretty good. For the Legislature -- well, it was tough, but we've made our recommendations on the editorial page, and we hope they help you make up your mind on election day. Page 14B

Tell And Sell

A Farmington garden club is offering an informative speaker and unusual decorations in a special event coming soon. Get the details in today's Women's Section. Page 4C

Mixed Up Romances

The Farmington Players will open their 1972-73 season Nov. 10 with a comedy about two mixed-up romances. Cast members come from Southfield and Livonia as well as Farmington, and all are hard at work on final rehearsals. Page 11B

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Hit-Run Driver Kills Young Father

Farmington Township police have asked citizen help in locating the driver of a hit-and-run car which struck and killed a young father on Grand River Avenue early Saturday morning.

The victim, Isaac Agar, 22, had just left "Wack's Bar, 2934 Grand River, with his brother, Christopher, 21, on about 1:55 a.m., police said.

Christopher told police his brother started walking toward the curb. The younger man turned his head to see Isaac flying through the air and an orange or black-and-orange car speeding away, officers said.



WINNING FLOAT -- It was the junior class that took the honors at the Harrison High homecoming parade Saturday. (Evert photo)

McConnell Keeps On Campaigning

Campaign '72

By DAN MCCOSH

Robert McConnell, running technically in opposition for township supervisor, but facing a write-in challenge from incumbent Earl Teeplees whom he beat in the primary, is still challenging Teeplees' administration and stumping for incorporation.

McCONNELL SAID he planned to set up the administration of the supervisor's office "along city lines" to prepare for the transition to cityhood.

McConnell said he replied that wasn't his intention, and to prove it, if all attempts at incorporation failed, he would resign.



ROBERT MCCONNELL

"WHAT IS NEEDED is planned, orderly growth," he said.

"I see two issues in this campaign," he said -- "leadership and incorporation."

"I'm doing it for the community. I challenge my opponent to say his position on cityhood has the same motivation."

The "transition period," when McConnell would have to serve as supervisor (he has promised a spring election on the charter, as head of the charter commission) demands more direction at town hall, according to McConnell.

"We should not allow speculative growth," he said. He criticized Teeplees' support of a proposed regional shopping center, which would have been in Farmington Township but outside Farmington School District.

"We are writing the charter with a maximum of five departments," he said, and they expect to start the city with only three: finance, public safety and public services.

"People don't realize how little power the township actually has."

-Robert McConnell