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Van Ameyde To Be Appointed New School Superintendent

By DAN McCOSH

Marinus Van Ameyde will be appointed superintendent of Farmington School District next Tuesday, the Farmington Board of Education has announced.

Van Ameyde was named to the post he has been filling since the board accepted the premature resignation of Dr. Roderick Smith last November.

THE BOARD made the announcement before a screening committee for other applicants for the job was even set up, according to Board President Kenneth Perrin.

"To carry the selection procedure through the development of criteria and acceptance of applications would become merely an academic exercise at this point," he said.

According to several board members, Van Ameyde has the full support of the board "both publicly and privately."

Van Ameyde said he had made a condition of his appointment for the job the full

support of the board, which was divided over the granting of a three-year contract to Dr. Smith shortly before his resignation.

Van Ameyde will receive a contract retroactive to Jan. 1, 1972, and extending through June 30, 1976, Perrin said.

His current \$32,000 salary will be continued until salary adjustments for the 1972-73 school year are made for all high-level administrators.

Aldo Vagnozzi, who recently called for a disclosure of the reasons behind Smith's forced resignation, indicated he would drop the issue.

The unexpected resignation touched off a deluge of petitions demanding to know the reasons for the board's about-face after signing Smith's contract.

VAN AMEYDE, 58, came to Farmington from Southfield in 1957 as assistant superintendent of instruction, a position he held until named deputy superintendent in 1972.

He has been an elementary and secondary principal and holds degrees from Eastern Michigan, Wayne State and

the University of Michigan. "I would like to finish my career as a superintendent," he once said, and was one of the applicants for the superintendency when Dr. Smith was picked.

Since he took over as acting superintendent, the central offices have been completely reorganized.

Former Harrison High Principal Lewis Shulman has been promoted to assistant superintendent of secondary education.

Present plans are to eliminate his old post of deputy superintendent, Van Ameyde said, instead of appointing assistants at a much lower salary level for William Prisk, business manager, and Shulman.

This puts considerably more authority in the hands of the two assistant superintendents, which he hopes will put decision-making at a lower level.

"WHAT I AM trying to eliminate is what I call 'white collar lag'—that's the tendency to put off making a decision because you are trying to feel

out what all the other people are thinking first."

"The only real education takes place between the teacher and the student," he added. He feels the changes in administration will reduce the tendency for higher-ups, even including the board of education, to become directly involved in administrative details.

He has also rearranged the furniture in Smith's old office which puts the entrance in front of, rather than behind, his secretary. "It fits my style," he said.

"I feel the changes I have made have already been greeted with real enthusiasm," he said.

"VAN AMEYDE has a depth of knowledge in curriculum and instructional matters unmatched in the district," Perrin said.

"For many years, board members and staff have turned to him for advice, and he has given it in full measure."

Formal action on the appointment will take place at the next board meeting Feb. 6.



MARINUS VAN AMEYDE

'Fantasticks' Senior Play

Farmington High School will present the "The Fantasticks," a musical play, on Feb. 8-10 at 8 p.m. in the school auditorium. Tickets are \$1.75 in advance and \$2 at the door.

Directed by Ves Spindler, drama teacher, and Kim Nymshack, a senior, the play focuses on two young people

and their fathers conniving to get them married.

Brad Allen and Liz Braus have been cast as the lovers. Ron Devroy and David Bruce play the fathers.

Other cast members will be Tom Williams, Mike Brennan, Judy Caplia.

City's 150th Is Planned

In March 1824, Arthur Power and his family arrived in Michigan. The area they chose to settle in is now known as Farmington.

Civic, business, and government leaders of Farmington gathered this week to begin planning for the sesquicentennial anniversary celebration in March 1974. Lasting until the Founders Day Festival in August 1974.

SPEARHEADED by the Farmington Historical Society, the celebration will depend on the full cooperation of everyone in the community, said Bill Van Wageningen, society spokesman.

Members of the historical society have traveled throughout Michigan investigating other centennial celebrations in preparation for Farmington's.

Plans are already in the making for a costume ball in Botsford Inn, a paper bound publication of Farmington history and sale of postcards depicting the area's history.

Other anticipated activities are an ice cream social, a quilting bee, construction of a log cabin, and a beard growing contest.

'Y' Beginning Fund Raising

Roger Bisschop, chairman of Farmington YMCA's Invest in Youth campaign, has set \$14,500 as the fund raising goal to keep "Y" projects healthy in Farmington.

"Farmington has long established the fact that it is a YMCA community. Now the time has come for expansion to keep up with the growth of the past few years," said Bisschop.

He gave three reasons why it is essential that the campaign goal be reached: the money is necessary to underwrite the cost of membership services to the youth; "Farmington has long demonstrated that character development through YMCA activities can't wait! The YMCA makes Farmington a better community in which to live.

Planner Talks

A newly-reappointed member of the Farmington Township planning commission explains his past voting record in the 'Reader's Forum' on:

Page 3A

Park Supported

The Farmington Naturalists are opposed to the sale of a five-acre park. Their reasons are given inside.

Page 3A

New President

A Farmington woman is the new president of the Oakland County Republican Women's Clubs. We have a story of her installation in the Women's Section today.

Page 5A

Breaking Precedent

Five talented young Farmingtonians will be breaking a long-established precedent this week, and they'll be doing it in style.

Page 10A

'Hot Letters'

Parents are starting to reply to Tom Donoghue's columns on 'Parents vs. Kids' in the world of hockey. For the responses and all the area sports news, flip to today's sport pages.

Page 8A

Amusements	10A
Bowling	8A
Churches in Action	6, 7A
Classified Want Ads	Sec. B
Deaths and Funerals	7A
Focus: Suburbia	Sec. C
Letters to Sports Editor	8A
Spotlight on Women	5A
Sports-Prep and Pro	8, 9A
Turf Tips and Quips	9A

FOCUS: Suburbia

TAX BURDEN

INSTANT RELIEF



FARMINGTON HIGH will present "The Fantasticks" beginning Feb. 8. Back row: Stephen Bruce, Ves Spindler, Liz Braus, Brad Allen, Judy

Caplia and Don Devroy. Front row: Richard Brennan and Tom Williams. (Evert photo)

Woodcreek Councilman Critical Of Charter

By STEVE BARNABY

David Goldman, Wood Creek Farms Village councilman, made a four pronged attack on the proposed city charter that would consolidate Farmington Township, Quakertown and the village into the City of Farmington Hills.

Ordinances, council wages, taxation power, and zoning were his target when he addressed the final public hearing of the charter commission Wednesday in Farmington High School.

"I prefer to suffer with the ills we have," he said.

OBJECTING TO the section of the charter that says four councilmen make a quorum, he objected, claiming this meant three councilmen could pass an ordinance.

Funds raised from the election of a seven member

council elected at-large and on a non-partisan ballot.

Fred Lichtman, charter commissioner and township trustee, rebutted Goldman's claim, pointing out another section of the charter made it mandatory for at least four votes for the passage of an ordinance.

Goldman also blasted the section which allows councilmen to raise their own pay six months before their reelection.

Councilman are slated to be paid \$1,200 a year.

Lichtman again retorted, saying the salary issue has been blown out of proportion and was "silly."

"It is ridiculous to think that gorging councilmen are going to wax fat off of \$1,200 or \$1,500," Lichtman said.

GOLDMAN called the charter tax rate limit a step-up system.

"This taking a slice a year is the bolagna technique," he said.

The commission projected that needed expenses will

Mini-Fair At Sorrows

Our Lady of Sorrows Junior High School Student Council is sponsoring a "Mini-Fair" on Feb. 3 from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Feb. 4 from 1:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Funds raised from the fair will go for the financing of

extracurricular activities such as athletics and clubs.

Featured activities will be a pie-in-the-face booth, a duck pond and other games. There also will be food. Admission is free, with games costing 10 and 20 cents.