

the farmington enterprise & observer

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

Wednesday, September 19, 1973 * 15¢ a Copy

Kenbrook School Closed By Fire

Kenbrook Elementary School, 32130 Bonnett Hill, will be closed for "several weeks" following a \$200,000 blaze that gutted four classrooms early Monday morning.

Farmington Hills police have in custody two Farmington youths charged with setting the fire following a spree of vandalism and burglary at the school over the weekend.

The two, aged 13 and 14, will be charged in juvenile court, according to Ronald

Holko, director of public safety.

The 520 students who expected to start classes Tuesday, following the settlement of the teachers strike, will be bused to Bond, Highmeadow, Eagle and Fairview, according to Supt. Marinus Van Amyde.

Kindergartners, fifth and sixth graders are scheduled to attend Bond; kindergartners, third and fourth Fairview; first and second grades will go to Highmeadow; and fourth grade to

Eagle until repairs are completed.

Police also have three additional juveniles in custody, charging them with burglary and vandalism at the school, Holko said.

The school was broken into Saturday and Sunday night, band instruments were stolen, and papers strewn around.

Sunday, matches tossed into the papers apparently set the school on fire.

Firemen from all four volunteer units in the Hills, the City of Farmington and West

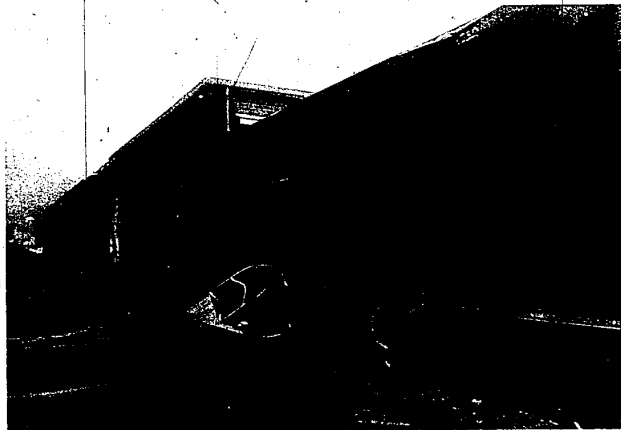
Bloomfield Township answered the call at 12:30 a.m., leaving the scene at 3 a.m.

The southeast side of the building was demolished, including critical heating and electrical systems, Van Amyde said.

The school district expects to begin classes in "several weeks" in the smoke-damaged portions of the building.

"The rest will take months," Van Amyde said.

"You know, I was just feeling good about the settlement, and now this," he added.



THE NORTH END of the school was gutted by the blaze. The fire began in the band room.



THE TEACHERS' LOUNGE was one of the four rooms severely damaged by the blaze.



STATE FIRE inspectors reviewed the damage before determining the cause was arson.

Get 5.6 Per Cent Raise

Teachers Back To Work This Week

By DAN McCOSH

to work after a meeting later in the day.

Ratification of the contract by both parties is expected soon.

The settlement gave teachers a 5.6 per cent across-the-board pay hike, and the board also agreed on a "cap" on class sizes in the elementary schools.

The 5.6 per cent does not include a contract for the Farmington Education Assn. and the school board early Sunday. The teachers agreed to go back

grades 4-6. Secondary classes will be limited to an average of 26 the first year of the contract, dropping to 25 the second year.

Wages and the class size limit were the main issues still on the table when the walkout began.

Additional increases agreed on before the strike included increases in life insurance packages and other fringe benefits.

The settlement forestalled a pending court suit against the school district by irate

parents of football players attempting to clarify the board's position on practice and games.

A hearing before Judge Frederick Zeim, of the Oakland County Circuit Court, was dismissed, last week but had the effect of returning the coaches to football practice.

Michigan athletic rules mandate 14 days of practice before a school can participate in a scheduled game.

The parents said the players were denied the use of a

school bus for the teams and anticipated returning to court Monday, when the strike was settled.

The football suit was the only legal action in the strike, as the board of education took a "hands off" posture while negotiators met.

The negotiators agreed to a three-year contract, also a "first" for Farmington.

The contract allows a "cost of living" increase for each of the next two years, of between 3½ and 6 per cent, according to Roger Al-

len, executive secretary of the FEA.

The scale, based on the Detroit metropolitan area figures established by the Federal government, guarantees the teachers a minimum of 3½ per cent raise, but limits it to six per cent.

Schools will open on virtually the same schedule they were on originally, but two weeks late, according to Marinus Van Amyde, superintendent of schools.

Elementary schools began a full day of classes

Tuesday, and high schools began registration on Wednesday.

"We will have to schedule school for the full 181 days required by the state," Van Amyde said.

Exactly what this will mean in re-scheduling is still being negotiated, but he anticipated a shortened Christmas vacation and the remainder made up by extending the school year in the spring.

Teachers salaries last year

started at \$9,400 for a BA degree, up to \$14,364.

The new contract calls for \$8,870 up to \$15,168.

The old masters schedule called for \$9,200 up to \$16,648. The new schedule is \$9,715 to \$17,580.

The settlement is expected to add approximately \$300,000 to the school budget this year, a figure already included in the budget approved by the board, according to Business Manager William Prisk.

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Seminar Is Rescheduled

After a week's delay due to circumstances beyond the control of the Observer Newspaper group, the first annual publicity - press relations seminar will start tonight (Wednesday) in the new Observer building, 36251 Schoolcraft Road in Livonia.

The opening session was postponed last Wednesday in late afternoon and all registrants for the Sept. 12 meeting were notified by telephone. That program will be held Wednesday, Sept. 26 and all registered are invited to attend.

To take care of those who registered too late for either of the first two gatherings, arrangements have been made for a third panel on

Thursday, Oct. 11. More than 60 had to be notified they had registered after the seminar quota had been reached. These names will be registered for the third program.

All programs start at 8 p.m. with registrants meeting in the Observer cafeteria for a welcoming address. They then will be assigned to one of the three discussion groups that will make up the seminar. There will be three parts to the program with groups moving from one to the other after 30 - minute sessions.

The format will be the same for all clinics. Discussion panels will be headed by News Editor Tim Richard and Chief Photographer Rob-

ert Woodring; Observer women's and church editor Margaret Miller and Southfield women's editor Loraine McClish, and the third by Executive Editor R.T. Thompson and Assistant News Editor Fred Delano.

Those registered for the Sept. 12 program, which was postponed, are urged to attend on the new Sept. 26 date. There isn't room for additional registrants since the class already numbers 80. That's as many as the

Observer can handle with its limited seating capacity.

You do not have to register again. We have the names and the original registration blanks. That's enough to take care of all who were disappointed last Wednesday.

OU Celebrates 'Fall Weekend'

Oakland University will hold its "Fall Weekend" celebration for the university community and public on Friday, Sept. 21-Sept. 23. A carnival and a concert will highlight the activities.

The carnival will be held in parking lot M directly behind Vandenburg Hall from 6 p.m. to midnight, Sept. 21, from noon to midnight Sept. 22, and from noon to 6 p.m. Sept. 23.

A concert with the Ike and Tina Turner Revue will be held at 7 p.m. on Sept. 23 in Baldwin Memorial Pavilion. Tickets may be purchased the night of the concert or at the Student Organization's box office in the Oakland Center.