

# School committees revived; probe asked

By DAN McCOSH

The Farmington school board reinstated three committees on a provisional basis Tuesday, reviving a long-standing political issue on the board.

The 4-3 vote came at the conclusion of a three hour session, during which the board had successfully passed two items: approving an assistant to the business manager and the committee motion from Trustee William Corliss.

Trustee Elizabeth Brennan accused Corliss of a "violation of the code of ethics" during discussion of the com-

mittees, and Trustee Gary Lichtman countered with a similar charge against Mrs. Brennan.

The day following the meeting, Mrs. Brennan said she would press for a "personnel session" to discuss the ethics question.

Mrs. Brennan said she "didn't understand" what Lichtman was talking about. Corliss said he "didn't have any idea" what Mrs. Brennan was referring to.

The confrontation stemmed from a motion by Corliss to establish three committees: operations, policy and cur-

riculum, effective until July, to be reviewed in June.

The suggestion, which revived a committee structure which has not been active since last year, was opposed by Trustee Mrs. Emma Mackinen, Mrs. Brennan and Trustee Mrs. Kathryn Stirling.

Mrs. Brennan blurted to Corliss during the discussion, "Did you discuss this with your staff?"

After the meeting, she apologized for the timing of the outburst, and explained she was referring to a study session where Corliss had de-

layed acting on a personnel matter because, according to her, he had to "discuss it with my staff."

Mrs. Brennan felt the statement indicated he was showing confidential papers to non-board members.

She said she is demanding Board Chairman Dr. Mervyn Ross schedule a meeting to discuss internal board personnel problems, including the alleged actions of Corliss, before the next meeting of the board.

"And if Mr. Lichtman has anything to say about my

conduct, I will stand scrutiny too," she added.

Corliss said he was bewildered by what prompted Mrs. Brennan's comment during the meeting, since it did not appear to be directed to the issue at hand.

"I really can't understand it," he said after the meeting.

"The only thing I can think of is a meeting where I said something like 'I have to do some staff work on this'."

"There didn't seem to be much of a reaction, although Van (Supt. Marinus Van Am-

yde) was concerned I might bring in some kind of consultant to the meeting - I didn't have any intention like that."

The meeting was marked by several lengthy discussions resulting in tabled action.

Board members and administration frequently left their seats while discussion was taking place.

At the conclusion, discussion on another motion by Corliss to add a student representative to the school board was tabled "because of the late hour."

## Senior special debuts

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on Wednesdays," she said.

Like a good many seniors, both Henkes have driver's licenses, but don't drive any more. They either call a cab or depend on their daughters for transportation.

Brown, who has been driving a cab for nine years, said there are a lot of seniors in Farmington who frequently call cabs, "especially when it snows."

Two companies are participating in the senior special,

Livonia Yellow Cab and Checker Cab. The cabs with the sign on the side may either be telephoned or hailed on the street.

The city is subsidizing the project at \$10 a day.

## Farmington Calendar

### NORTH WOMEN

Wednesday, Jan. 16, the Women of North Farmington will hold a luncheon at the Botsford Inn, 2800 Grand River Ave. Ms. Jeff Dailey

from Oakland University will speak on "The Modern Woman". Cocktails start at 11 a.m., and lunch at noon. For reservations, contact Mrs. William Wright, 32501 W. 13 Mile, or Mrs. Edwin Werny, 29511 Fox Grove.

### STORY HOUR

Tuesday, Jan. 29, at 10 a.m., the story hour at the Farmington District Library for pre-schoolers begins, at the branch at 23333 Farmington Rd. Registration is now taking place by phone, for four or five-year-olds not attending kindergarten. The child must be able to stay with the story teller unaccompanied by a parent.

### the farmington enterprise & observer

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