

# Board closes Bond school

By SHELLEY EICHENHORN  
A major casualty of the recent millage defeat will be the Bond Elementary School. It was decided by the Farmington School Board Tuesday night.  
In a unanimous vote before a large audience of emotional parents, teachers, and administrators, the board approved the school closing as a method of saving the system an estimated \$100,000.  
This savings will be necessary to offset an estimated \$1,000,000 deficit for the coming school year. Bond elementary school is on Thirteen Mile Road and Orchard Lake Road. Over 350 children attended last year.

DR. MERVYN B. ROSS, board trustee, was not present at the board meeting to vote.  
"This move is in no way going to improve education in this district," Vice-President William R. Corliss said.

"Like other actions tonight, the only reason they are being taken is that we must save money," he said.  
Because of the size of the audience assembled to hear proposed budget cuts, the meeting had to be moved from the administration building to the Farmington High School auditorium.  
"I wish we'd had this many turn out for the millage election," Board President Gary L. Lichtman said.  
The board gave several reasons for its decision:  
• A vacant building on a main street would be easier to secure

against vandalism than one secluded in a subdivision.  
• The site would become a safety hazard as traffic increases on Thirteen Mile Road.  
• With the population shifting and growing toward the west end of the district, the savings could be applied to the cost of a new school in the proposed growth area.  
The age of the school was also cited as causing high upkeep costs. Bond is 52 years old.  
"There was great emotion and strain involved in making this decision. But, we had to look at the total district needs," Lichtman said.  
Brian Sprague, president of the Oakland Homeowners Association protested the action.  
"THIS decision is penny wise and pound foolish. This represents the reversal of the precedent of the neighborhood school concept," he said.

Preliminary board plans for former Bond students involve splitting them among three other elementary schools.  
The Fourteen Mile and Farmington area children in West Franklin Estates will probably attend Eagle Elementary.  
In the northeast, the Woodstream area will attend High Meadow Elementary.  
Children in Canterbury Commons west to Farmington Road will attend Woodcreek Elementary.  
Bus transportation, which is subsidized by the state, will be provided to youngsters affected.  
There was assurance from the board that no further upheaval of Bond area children will occur once the new attendance pattern is established.

# Officer loses bid for reinstatement

By CARL STODDARD  
FARMINGTON HILLS — Captain William Kelly lost his bid to be reinstated by the Farmington Hills City Council.  
Kelly, given a six-week suspension by the police appeals board, wanted the suspension overturned by the council. His attorney, Norman Lippitt, made the appeal at a special meeting of the council July 29.  
But at its Aug. 5 meeting, the council voted 4-0 to uphold Kelly's suspension.  
Lippitt said Tuesday Kelly had instructed him to appeal to the circuit court if the appeal failed.  
In making its decision, the council noted that there was ample evidence brought forth by the police appeals board to support the charges.  
The council said that it affirmed the board's decision in its entirety.  
KELLY WAS charged by Farmington Hills Public Safety Director Ronald Holko with interfering with the embezzlement investigation going on within the department.  
Holko further charged that Kelly wrongfully took the case to the state police and involved the press and an attorney.  
Voting to uphold Kelly's conviction were council members Keith Deacon, Joan Dudley, Robert McConnell and Mayor Frederick Lichtman. Councilman William Ortmann abstained.  
Kelly and Lippitt were absent when the announcement was made, and Kelly could not be reached the next day.  
His attorney said they would make an appeal to the circuit court. Lippitt said he had expected the council to act as it did.  
"I would have been shocked if it had been any other way," Lippitt said. "Three of the people on the council were on the appeal board."  
He lashed the council decision "a rubber stamp" and pointed out that at Kelly's appeal the council members had not even asked questions.

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