

Trustees' Rift Poses Threat To Final OK

Schoolcraft College has an official budget for the 1968-69 totaling \$3,819,503 for general operating and a restricted operating fund budget of \$118,000. It was approved by the Board of Trustees only after a hearing that threatened to leave the college without funds for the period beginning July 1.

Schoolcraft's fiscal year begins July 1. That means the college begins operating under the new budget at that time.

The state laws provide that a budget must have five approving votes to become official—and Schoolcraft found itself in the embarrassing position of having only four affirmative votes with two against when the matter was presented to the Trustees.

It all happened when Trustees Charles Oldenburg and Secretary Paul Matlack left on vacation and indicated they would be unable to attend the all-important session. All of which left the Trustees with only six in attendance.

The budget summary recap, prepared by Vice President Kenneth Lindner after numerous sessions with the Board, was presented and a hearing scheduled.

During the hearing Trustees James Boswell objected to the budget including the recent tuition hike—\$2 per hour for resident students and \$4 per hour for non-residents—which had been approved by a majority vote of the Board in June.

Office Help Okays Pact At College

A new office personnel contract containing a number of improvements was approved Wednesday by the Schoolcraft College Board of Trustees.

The contract includes across-the-board wage increases averaging \$104 per year, according to Vice President Kenneth Lindner, in charge of business. Office personnel salaries will range from a floor of \$4,650 to a ceiling of \$7,592, Lindner said.

Other contract changes for the six classes of secretaries, clerks, and telephone operators include:

1. The Office Personnel Association will be allowed to meet once each month beginning one-half hour before the end of the workday. Previously, no time had been allowed for meetings.
2. The work week will be reduced from 40 to 37 1/2 hours and the work day will be reduced from eight hours to seven and a half hours. In addition Good Friday and one floating holiday will be added to the holiday schedule.
3. The College will now be permitted to hire an office personnel "trainee."
4. Each employee will be allotted three personal business days instead of the previous two.
5. Severance pay for employees after 10 years of service has been increased from \$800 to \$2000. Maximum severance payment was raised from \$800 to \$2000.
6. Provisions were made in the contract for the Mobile TB Unit to visit the campus once every fiscal year.

Trustee Dr. George Martin expressed objections to some of the items indicating he thought the administration had not cut out some of the fat.

When the call for a vote came, Boswell and Dr. Martin voted 'no' and automatically tossed out the budget since only four 'yes' votes were available.

After considerable discussion, Chairman Harold Fischer finally influenced Dr. Martin to change his vote with a 'gentleman's agreement' that the Board and administration would resubmit the document for possible trials.

This agreement was made by all present and the budget received approval by the necessary 8-1 margin with Boswell maintaining his negative attitude.

THE BUDGET CALLS for a tax levy of 1.77 mills which will bring in an estimated \$1,573,889. The higher tuition rates will raise \$649,000 from resident students and \$976,160 from non-residents for a total of \$1,225,060.

Other fees will net \$22,150 for a total of \$2,104,703 revenue from local sources.

Vice President Lindner listed \$1,476,800 from the state making the total revenues \$3,581,503.

The budget calls for capital expenditures and plant extensions to be considered separately and approved expense to be charged against the 1968 building and site which has been done for the past four years.

It provides for 40 new employees as follows: two administrators, 20 faculty members, two librarians, two counselors, seven and a half secretaries and clerks, three custodians, one maintenance worker, one security officer, one matron and one half systems analyst.

It spreads \$618,094 in added monies with \$530,104 earmarked for salaries and \$87,990 for non-salaries.

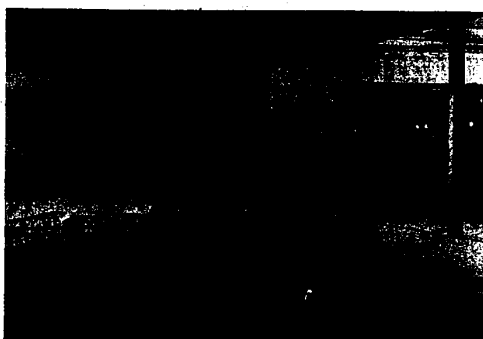
The budget provides for the opening of a new classroom building, of 32 rooms, of approximately 40,000 square feet.

It takes care of 600 new Federal Technical Education students and a total of 97,000 credit hours.

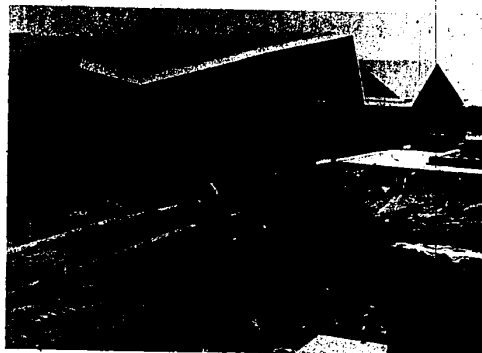
It services a new bond issue requiring approximately \$287,491.

OTHER ITEMS include: updates the data processing function and upgrading of supervisor to manager provides \$26,229 of local funds to support a federally financed restricted program; reflects newly negotiated contracts with the secretarial and physical plant in addition to six other employees not covered by these bargaining units; and contains \$82,887 of individual contract adjustments and increments granted to faculty under terms of the 1967-68 master faculty contract.

Following the adoption of the budget, Chairman Fischer called the Trustees into a closed executive session. There was no public announcement of what took place but it was rumored that Dr. Martin had written letters to each of the Trustees rapping the administration for some of its actions and the Chairman wished to settle the issues in the privacy of the chambers rather than in an open public meeting.



LIBRARY EXPANSION — A \$43,800 remodeling project is underway in the Schoolcraft College library and is expected to be completed in time for the opening of the fall semester. The view above shows a portion of a new stack area created by the removal of four classrooms formerly housed in the building.



BUILDING NEARS COMPLETION — The 32-classroom liberal arts building above is nearing completion on the Schoolcraft College campus and will be ready for occupancy when the fall semester begins late next month. Built at a cost of \$1,009,285, the building was financed by a federal construction grant, a state capital funds allocation and college district funds derived from a \$3,000,000 bond issue sold in 1966.

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