

Farmington education unlike Nashville's, candidate says

By SUSAN AVERILL

FARMINGTON—Jacqueline Hill said she realized education here wasn't up to par when her child had no homework to bring home after school.

But being busy with a pregnancy, a broken leg and then a small child kept her from doing something about it until now.

Mrs. Hill, wife of Robert Hill and mother of six, decided this year to run for the one school board position open on the June 9 ballot.

MOVING TO Farmington a year and a half ago from Nashville, Tenn., Mrs. Hill became concerned when her oldest child, now seven and a half, had no homework to do.

"I am a firm believer in homework. When we were in Nashville, the children would bring home hours of homework each night. But after we moved here, they had nothing to do. That's when I realized education here wasn't what it used to be in Nashville," she said.

"Every grade was working with books a grade level below them. It was lower than the children were used to in Nashville. They are capable. I don't understand why they are put back like that."

Born in Whitesboro, Texas, Mrs. Hill moved to Nashville with her husband. While there, she worked for a real estate company where she "had a lot of fun and earned a lot of money."

Her salary was used to keep her children in private schools, where they would be safe from busing, a prospect she is strongly against.

"The busing issue will come up here, and people will have to face that. Farmington will be included in (Judge DeMascio's) decision, and that scares me."

"I'm not a pessimistic person, but I have a bad feeling about busing, maybe because I saw what it destroys, and students being killed."

"THAT'S WHY I went back to work—to keep my children in private schools. They were never bused."

Mrs. Hill said she also would be opposed to a student representative to the board of education.

"Having a student on the school board has nothing to do with education, and that's what our board is there for. I'm opposed to it very much. There's no need for it."

Innocence, she said, is bliss, and the less you know as a child, the happier you are.

Unions like the Farmington Education Association worry Mrs. Hill.

"My husband is not a union man, and I don't like them. I realize what they're for and I respect them. But I don't think they should make unreasonable demands."

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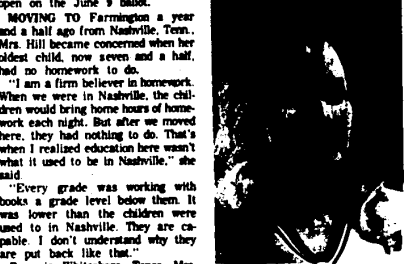
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JACQUELINE HILL

"The children should come first in the contract," she said.

Last Tuesday's board meeting also was the first she has attended. She was both upset and pleased at what she saw.

"I wish they (the board) would stop bickering. I was upset the other night when they were talking about adopting the new books."

"They have heard around about purchasing the new books and finally just approved them. But they didn't order them, so the students probably won't get the books by September."

But when it comes to communication, the board is very good, she said.

"YOU CAN actually participate, get up and ask a question about anything you want (during board meetings). I'm really sold on this."

Yet the opportunity to question can lead the board off the track, she said.

She would like see the board devote more time to reviewing library books so they can be sure they are buying wisely.

"Before I would allow the school board to purchase books, I would like to make sure they have to do with the education of the children and they would be used by at least 75 per cent of the students."

To prepare herself for the campaign, Mrs. Hill has reviewed the minutes of board meetings from past five years.

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Parenting sessions set

SOUTHFIELD—Innervisions, a Blue Cross approved mental health clinic, will hold a series of group sessions on Parenting.

In four sessions of three hours each, the small parent groups will tackle problems of raising and relating to children.

Mira Bakhle will conduct the sessions. She is an instructor at Wayne State University, staff member of the Child Development Center, Southfield Public Schools and graduate of the Merrill-Palmer Institute Human Development program.

She will use lectures, group discussions, films and audio-visual aids to help achieve the goals of more aware parents, child management, dealing with children's emotions, and interactions with children.

The cost of the four sessions is \$300, available under Blue Cross for those who have the out-patient, psychiatric rider. Groups will be limited to 10-12 persons.

One group will meet mornings starting Monday, June 23, another morning starting Tuesday, June 24, and a third evening beginning Monday, June 23.

Innervisions is in the Travelers Tower, 38555 Evergreen Road.

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