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# Clarenceville's costs means bigger tax bite

By DENNY COFFMAN

Clarenceville School District residents may have to pay a few dollars more to pay for its educational programs this year.

The school board will hold a public hearing on the proposed \$4.7 million budget at 8 p.m. next Thursday, Oct. 23, in the administrative offices, 28830 Eight Mile, east of Middle Belt.

The slight increase in the operating levy would mean that residents with a \$30,000 house would pay about \$13.50 a year more in school taxes.

The proposed rate is 33.9 mills, or \$33.90 per \$1,000 of state equalized valuation, up from the 33 mill rate for the past year.

THE \$3.9 levy was approved by voters in 1969 but the rate was cut four years ago as the tax base increased.

In the proposed budget, estimated revenues are up to \$4.7 million an increase of \$400,000 over the past school year.

There is an anticipated surplus of only \$25,000 this year, compared to \$100,000 last year.

Clarenceville expected to get most of its income from \$2.9 million in property taxes and other local sources, up \$200,000 from last year.

State aid income will amount this year to \$1.5 million, up \$100,000 from the previous budget.

Slightly over \$100,000 comes from the federal government, with another \$68,000 from the Oakland County Intermediate School District.

According to official enrollment figures, the district reported a 2.76 per cent drop in attendance this fall.

"We dropped 91 students at the elementary level, but picked up a few at the high school level," said Edward Salisz, business manager.

The headcount showed the district has the following enrollments: elementary, 1,600; junior high, 512; senior high, 1,093, for a total of 3,205 students.

THE DISTRICT will receive a slight increase in state aid per pupil but that will be offset by the decline in enrollment.

About \$1.3 million will come from state aid in '75-'76, about \$2.8 million will come from local property tax (millage) revenue.

The district has experienced an increase in state equalized valuation (SEV) to \$78 million this year.

"State aid has become a lesser portion of our total budget," said Supt. David McDowell.

He said the teaching staff will be reduced by six persons and the custodial staff by two, because of attrition (retirements, deaths or persons leaving the district).

Teachers salaries account for about 60 percent of the district's expenditures, operation of plant and equipment accounts for the second largest outlay—about 10 per cent.

Administrative and transportation costs are major expenditures. Administrative costs were slightly more than \$200,000 last year and are expected to be about the same amount this year.

However, transportation costs are expected to skyrocket. Last year, the budget allotment for transportation was about \$140,000. It is expected to climb to \$170,000, mainly because of the increase in the cost of fuel.

"Just a couple of years ago, we were paying 10 cents a gallon for gasoline (wholesale)," said Salisz. "But this year, that gallon costs 40 cents."

## Woman's club needs UNICEF volunteers

The Farmington Hills Junior Woman's Club has UNICEF canisters and information leaflets for use by Farmington area groups.

If interested in having your children collect for UNICEF on Halloween night, contact Mrs. Darlene Knight, 34214 Old Timber Road.

This is the 25th anniversary of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund.

The juniors also have order forms for UNICEF Christmas cards and other items offered by UNICEF to help them finance their operations.

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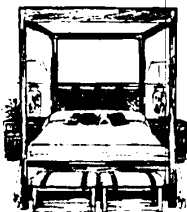
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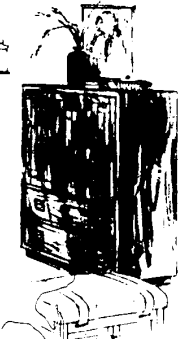
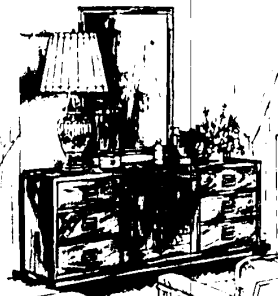
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