

Stark School Parents Just Presented The Facts

EDITOR:

In answer to a letter which appeared on July 9 regarding Stark School.

The people who spoke before the board and those many others who helped research and work on the presentation are involved in community activities, and are interested in serving the local community.

Members of our committee include people who have given of their time to work on Junior Achievement, FFA, candidacy for public office. We too are interested in working to better our community, but one cannot be a member of every organization, committee, or study session.

We are concerned about education in Livonia - all Livonia. That is why we refuse to sit back and allow this to happen to our children. Other parents have spoken before the board over the transfer of their children from school to school. We do not want this to happen to our children or any of Livonia's children.

As for our research being slanted negatively -- we presented the facts that are available to the general public. We could do no more. There is

nothing positive about opening new schools when funds are not available to operate the schools we now have.

JOHN BERGIN
34367 CAPITAL, LIVONIA
MRS. ELEANOR BIRCH
LIVONIA
JOHN HAYDEN
33949 SLEEPY HOLLOW,
LIVONIA
MRS. MADGE WOOD
LIVONIA

Makes Four Points For Sex Education

EDITOR:

Sex Education is getting to be an explosive and popular topic of conversation. The John Birchers are accusing educators of "corrupting" our youth. Educators in turn are getting hot under the collar that people are questioning their program. Before it gets to be an issue so emotionally laden that someone listens to anything, much less reason, I would like to make four points.

1. Something is wrong with the way sex is being transmitted now. A society which produces the astounding number of sex murders and deviates,

READERS' FORUM

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psychologically impotent men and women and profanity in most public restrooms is not successfully transmitting the sexual mores of our society to all individuals.

2. Many parents assert that they are successful in instructing their own children. This is great if they realize the importance of this and also have the lines of communication open to their children. What about their peers however? Peers have a great deal of influence during this time. Are these parents as positive the same peers have received the right information? I remember hearing a lot of sexual garbage from those "in the know".

3. Every young person has to be reached. Some parents might

say leave it to each set of parents. All parents have not accepted this responsibility. One set of parents failed not too many years ago. They raised a child who has sexually mutilated and taken the lives of six young girls just 40 miles from here.

4. I am not saying the proposed program for the schools are the answer. It is a step in the right direction. Before you condemn it, think, think of the whole picture for the whole community.

See the proposed program. If it does not answer the needs then help work out something that will realize that something needs to be done.
MARY BRENEMAN
FARMINGTON

straight in view of the ignorant, outrageous behavior of the mob that was assembled at the July 8 meeting.

MRS. MARGE LOGIE
Livonia

Are New Pools Really Necessary

EDITOR'S NOTE: It should be remembered that the school district and the city government are two different units. The city of Livonia collects the school taxes, but has no control over how the money is spent. Likewise the school board has no say in how the city taxes are spent. The pools and ice rink referred to in the letter are being financed by a bond issue floated by the city's recreation department. It is not a school project.

EDITOR:

May I comment on Livonia and its budget allotments? With the yearly increase in tax payments by citizens, what mayor or city council could something needs to be done.

sider but the expensive indoor ice rink and costly pool (in a city with private pools and subdivision pools are everywhere) while letting the education of future leaders suffer? What can these people be thinking?

They threaten the voters with half-day school sessions in an attempt to force us to pay more money. Certainly we want our children to have the best education possible, but there is just so much money brought home in each paycheck.

In five years my husband's pay has not increased 20 per cent but our monthly payments (taxes etc.) have increased more than 20 per cent.

Three of my four children are in school. As yet none will be affected by these half-day sessions but it does not change my way of thinking towards the mayor and city council.

The citizens rebelled and voted down the millage increase. Did our city leaders allow us to vote regarding ice rinks and pools? Absolutely not. We

would have been more intelligent about spending our money on such extravagances.

MRS. WILLIAM R. COLLINS
LIVONIA

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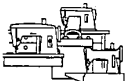
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Makes Apologies For Crowd Actions

(Editor's Note: Following is a letter sent to Dr. Ira Polley and members of the State Board of Education. The writer addressed it to the Observer with a request that it be published.)

EDITOR:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter I wrote to Mr. J. O'Neill, member of the Board. Perhaps it is a little too strong in some respects, but it is exactly how I feel.

I think you, Dr. Polley, at the July 8 Board meeting, conducted yourself admirably and with constraint in view of the circumstances.

In as much as we were all informed at the beginning of the meeting that the sole purpose of the meeting was to hear the Advisory Committee's report, and for the State Board to ask questions, I feel that the crowd should have remained silent and allowed the Board members to ask their questions.

As it was, they drowned out questions and answers and we were only allowed to hear James O'Neill who was more interested in giving a political speech and attacking Dr. Polley.

It may be there were a good many parents really interested in facts, but for the most part, they were an unruly mob, led in part by some members of the John Birch Society.

Many of us in Livonia feel we had a very rewarding program in our pilot courses, and I hope the members of the State Board do not overlook our facts and figures in preparing their guidelines for the future.

I must say, if all of the members on the State Board of Education were as opinionated as Mr. O'Neill, I would most certainly fear for the future type of education my second grader would receive.

We parents do not have the money or organization that the John Birch Society has, but we intend to do all in our power to fight them in the future.

In closing I would like to commend the majority of the Board for using so much con-

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