

Low enrollment, low morale?

(Continued from Page 11A)

ing enrollments has had no effect on students' performances.

But 25 percent of curriculum administrators said it did while only 12 percent of principals agreed that performances have been affected.

ONE AREA all three groups of school officials agreed was that enrollment declines has had a serious negative impact on curriculum.

But curriculum leaders and principals were more sure of that position (88 percent in each group) than superintendents (63 percent).

The school officials said that the losses were mostly reported in junior and senior high schools.

The changes were mainly in the areas of foreign language, art, music and other electives.

Superintendents were more concerned with curtailment of "highly visible high school course offerings such as honors physics, advanced math and special music programs."

But curriculum officials and principals were more concerned that all course offerings have been affected by enrollment declines.

ON THE QUESTION of teachers' morale, all curriculum leaders and principals said they have seen a change because of fewer students. Seventy-five percent of the superintendents agreed.

In specific comments, the officials said that there is a "high degree of insecurity and apprehension among staff."

"One building principal pointed out a unique problem in that as decline had occurred there was a number of building consolidations necessary."

"He reported that he and his colleagues believed that there was a great deal of difficulty in blending two school

staffs together. There is a tendency for the two groups of personnel from the different buildings to form cliques and to fail to work as a team for a substantial time after the consolidation.

"One superintendent mentioned that

he believed it was extremely difficult for teachers to take a global look at their responsibilities because they were worrying about transfers and layoffs.

Bedell joined the Livonia district as a junior high school teacher in the mid-

1960s and later moved into administration.

He worked on the thesis for several years and recently received his doctorate in education from Wayne State University.

Exams vital in oral cancer battle

Cancer of the mouth is one disease that can be treated easily if found early, says Dr. Michael J. Brennan, President and Medical Director of the Michigan Cancer Foundation.

"However, since the disease rarely produces early symptoms such as pain, many people remain unaware of its presence until the disease is advanced," Dr. Brennan explains.

"This is why two-thirds of the more than 24,000 Americans who are expected to get oral cancer this year are expected to die from the disease within five years," he says.

To help improve the survival and cure rate for oral cancer, the Cancer Foundation provides oral cancer screening examinations in various community locations.

More than 4,300 oral cancer exams were conducted from May 1979 through June 1980. Of these, only 220 patients were referred for biopsy examinations. A total of eight confirmed cancers and 11 pre-cancerous conditions were detected.

"The vast majority of individuals examined were found to be completely free from any sign of disease," says Linda Ross, manager of the Foundation's Oral Cancer Detection Center.

"Many of them expressed a great feeling of relief and appreciation for having the opportunity to learn that their mouths were healthy and normal."

The examination is a simple, painless procedure which takes 10 to 15

minutes. It is conducted by a specially trained dental hygienist who volunteers 12 hours to the foundation's clinics in exchange for the 15 hours of oral cancer training he or she receives.

"Since our training program began last March (1979), we have trained over 150 dental hygienists who conduct cancer screening exams in Michigan Cancer Foundation clinics. It is believed that they also conduct these exams in private dental offices where they work," says Ross.

Detailed examinations are done by observing and feeling various structures in and around the mouth and neck region. If the hygienist finds any departures from normal, the patient is referred for examination by an oral surgeon at the Cancer Foundation. The

oral surgeon decides whether a biopsy examination is needed.

Oral cancer occurs most often in men over 40, but may strike men and women of any age, Ms. Ross explains. Examinations are especially important for people who smoke pipes, cigars or cigarettes, chew tobacco, use snuff, drink alcoholic beverages, or do these in combination.

Monthly oral cancer examinations are given at the Meyer L. Prentiss Cancer Center, 110 East Warren, Detroit, and Service Centers in Royal Oak, Dearborn, Grosse Pointe Woods and Detroit's Northwest side. To make an appointment at a clinic near you, call the Oral Cancer Detection Center at 833-0710, ext. 202.

The Michigan Cancer Foundation is a Torch Drive-United Way agency.

Junior theater is new at the Y

A new program for children is being added to the fall program at Northwest YWCA, 25940 Grand River, junior theater.

The program for 6-12 year olds will meet daily after school from 3:30-5:30 p.m. in the Y building.

Registrations are being taken now, and classes will begin the week of Sept. 22. All aspects of theater will be encom-

passed: costumes, make up, dance and drama.

The eight-week term will end with a variety show, during the last week of class.

Registration information for all YWCA programs will be given by calling the Y, KE 7-8500.

The YWCA is a Torch Drive Agency.

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A free Contour Analysis screening test is also being offered for people with acute or chronic pain in the chiropractic office listed below. People who suffer with backache, bursitis, arthritis, neuralgia, nerve pain, neck pain, muscle pain, bone pain, etc., are also invited to receive this free examination.

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