

Deficit attacked

Walled Lake approves record budget

The Walled Lake School District's 1981-82 \$25.8 million budget includes a \$1.08 million deficit.

The board of education approved the budget 4-2 last week. Revenues are projected at \$25.731 million and expenditures are pegged at \$26.811.

The district plans to make up the difference by digging into its fund equity (savings), account which is expected to be approximately \$1.547 million at the end of the 1980-81 school year.

At the end of 1981-82, the fund equity is projected to be \$567,000.

Trustees Kenneth Tucker and Janet Callahan voted against approval.

They centered their opposition on the inclusion of a clause which permits the superintendent to authorize transfers between accounts of up to \$50,000 "for purposes of meeting emergency needs."

The clause also states that the superintendent shall report the transfer at the next board meeting and that the board shall authorize the action taken by the superintendent.

Assistant superintendent for business Harry Carlson said the budget was one of the "toughest" in the last 14 years.

"I don't know what the state will do (in terms of additional cutbacks in state aid) and I don't know what the outcome of negotiations (with school employee unions) will be," he said.

"OUR LOCAL revenues are up \$3 million but our state aid is down almost \$2 million because we're an out-of-formula district," he said. "When the local effort increases, there seems to be a corresponding loss in the effort from the state."

The revenue portion of the 1981-82 budget anticipates \$22.169 million from local sources, \$983,325 from the state, \$833,400 from federal sources and \$1,745 million from incoming transfers and other transactions.

The largest single area of expenditures is classified as "basic programs" (the K-12 instructional program), which is budgeted at \$11.37 million. Of that \$11.37 million is budgeted for special education and \$1.679 million

for instruction-employee benefits.

FISCAL SERVICES, school plant, plant operation and maintenance and pupil operation will receive \$5.762 million.

Tucker expressed reservations about the fund equity being reduced to \$567,000.

Carlson noted that the vast majority of the fund equity account will be in fleet amortization (\$475,000) and the

workman's compensation fund (\$86,000), leaving just \$6,000 in available cash in the fund equity account.

In response to Tucker's questions about the small fund equity account, Trustee Robert Cooper noted the board had reached a decision several months ago to use the fund equity to balance the budget as opposed to the alternative of asking for more millage or cutting additional programs and personnel.

Frisbee contest slated for fesitval

The American Cancer Society and Coppertons will sponsor the first annual Flying Disc Fair (Frisbee contest) on Saturday, July 25.

We welcome and encourage participants from all age groups. The event

will be held at OCC/Orchard Ridge Campus from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. as part of the Farmington Founders Festival. The contests include: distance, accuracy, and golf disc throws.

Pledge sheets and registration forms are being distributed through area YM/YWCA's, ACME Sporting Goods Stores and Big Boy restaurants. The entrant who collects the most money will win the Grand Prize donated by Key Tours, Windsor, Ontario: "A Toronto Mini Vacation for Two."

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