

Jack Cotton

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the continued stability of our excellent educational program.

How would you attempt to contain public education costs?

The State of Michigan has one of the most equitable methods of funding public education in the country. Unfortunately, very little state money accrues to the Farmington School District. Therefore, much of the district's funds are raised by local taxation. Being conservative by nature, and somewhat steeped in the traditional, rural background of the Farmington community, I find no fault with the financial strategies of the district. Constant surveillance and good management of programs are the qualities that insure fiscal proficiency.

What are your feelings about Farmington Hills' proposed use of the Tax Increment Financing Act (TIFA) along the 12 Mile commercial corridor?

I am in agreement with the proposal to improve conditions of the 12 Mile corridor. Unfortunately, the Farmington School District derives its monies from three separate governmental agencies. I think it would be inappropriate to use voted school millage from West Bloomfield to improve road conditions in Farmington Hills. In all honesty, one cannot be a member of a governmental board and support proposals that would threaten its financial integrity. Therefore, I do support the position taken by the Farmington School Board in December 1984 which rejected the TIFA Proposal.

If elected, what would be your immediate goals as a school board member?

We must remember that 70 percent of the residents in the district do not have children in our schools. Consequently, we must be ever-mindful of all educational endeavors that we need the total support of this segment of our population. It is a known fact that good schools enhance property values and good school management

is the key in sustaining their excellent support.

Our schools have an excellent record in endeavoring to meet the needs of all students. I would hope we would be ever-mindful of the needs of that majority of students who are in the middle of the educational spectrum. Finally, as we look ahead to when our declining population figures arrive in our high schools, I hope our quality educational standards do not diminish because of this unique and temporary problem.

How do you perceive the role of school board member?

The public school district is the fourth division of government. Each community is given broad powers to operate its own schools in accordance with its needs. The school board is the forum through which the taxpayers' wishes and the professional interpretation of need are molded into an acceptable program. The chief responsibility of a school board member is to make decisions based on state law which will accomplish those programs.

In your opinion, what issues will be facing the school district in the next four years?

The outstanding strength of public education is that it is constantly changing and many problems are cyclical. In the near future, school districts will be faced with the need to recruit teachers. This will not be an easy task because the competition for quality people will be arduous from other school districts and business and industry.

I was pleased to read that the new contract with the Farmington Education Association reflects a concern for this pending program and will place this district in a positive, competitive position. As mentioned previously in Question 5, we will have to maintain a delicate balance of quality course offerings during the years when our high schools enrollment is low. We must sustain our quality of individual opportunity so that no student is deprived of educational advantages in our public school atmosphere.

Notify post office if you plan to move

Undeliverable-as-addressed mail, a costly problem for the U.S. Postal Service and an inconvenience for mailers, is intensified during summer months when there is an increase in the number of people moving to new homes. "It happens every year," Farmington Postmaster Kenneth B. Harris said. "People move and don't notify the post

office and the people and businesses with whom they correspond."

He stressed the need for people moving to give the Postal Service proper notification of change of address and to provide their regular correspondents — such as friends, relatives, magazine and newspaper publishers and organizations — at least four weeks advance

notice of the impending relocation.

The Farmington/Farmington Hills post offices offer a free Change-of-Address kit to persons and businesses planning a move, Harris said.

"The kit contains a supply of post cards — one to send to the post office, and the other to send to credit card companies, doctors, department stores,

J. Tom Buck

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I am opposed. Farmington Hills is an ideal location for almost any business. Those incentives are not necessary to get businesses to locate in our city. The impact on school budgeting is adverse. If elected, what would be your immediate goals as a school board member?

Become informed to the fullest extent on school operation. Seek out business resources for use in the schools. Attempt to establish a cooperative program with businesses to hire teachers during the summer on a voluntary basis, to gain industrial experience which could be shared with the school system through enhanced programs that are career-focused.

How do you perceive the role of school board member?

They are the people responsible for

successful operation of the school system. They should insure all parties are heard on any problems/opportunities/decisions so that well thought-out actions can be taken to maximize the effectiveness of the system. They should be the policy setters and direction providers, not the day-to-day supervisors of school operations. They should be auditors to insure the schools are run appropriately. They should be responsible to the public for school system operations.

In your opinion, what issues will be facing the school district in the next four years?

Shifting student enrollments. Educational quality. The difficulty in keeping up with a society where technology is moving forward rapidly and where internationality is becoming increasingly important.

Joan Brown

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board member would be to encourage the board to continue to meet the needs of students in our constantly changing world. The high standards of the Farmington School District must be maintained. This can be done by the board being alert to new ideas and open to new innovations in teaching.

How do you perceive the role of school board member?

I perceive the role of the school board member as a guardian of public education. They should strive to maintain high standards and to deliver the best possible educational opportunities.

In your opinion, what issues will be facing the school district in the next four years?

The issues that will be facing the school district in the next four years are:

- Searching and finding high caliber teachers to fill positions in Farmington. Because the average age of teachers is 45, retirements will become increasingly more frequent.

- To be aware of new classes that should be added to our curriculum and teachers that are capable of teaching these classes.

- Technology and needs are constantly changing and we should meet this challenge.

- To increase foreign language programs and insure that bilingual students are graduating.

- To meet the challenge that in the complicated world of continual change students have access to counselors that do counsel and who have time to meet the needs of these students.

- Most of all, to maintain the high standards which Farmington now has and to continue to deliver the best possible educational opportunities.

Maxine Harwin

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- Institute more critical reading and creative writing skills on all levels.

- Posting of open school board meetings in all schools so the community can become more aware of what is being discussed. The public would also be able to voice their opinions on proposed changes.

How do you perceive the role of school board member?

I see my role as a leader in the community and one who desires the best possible education for all children. I feel a school board member

should listen to the community more regarding what they want from their schools. I would be your voice.

In your opinion, what issues will be facing the school district in the next four years?

I see a possible stand on the TIFA issue. I feel everyone has a place in society, and programs should be geared to each child. The schools should continue their cooperation with latch-key. A decision should be made concerning foreign language in the middle schools since it was tabled after the February 1985 board meeting.

Jean Moran

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I am opposed to this measure. The Farmington District residents will be forced to pay higher school taxes because of this measure.

If elected, what would be your immediate goals as a school board member?

Work to continue community involvement with the schools. I would continue to learn about the schools and the direction they are going. I would begin to influence the decisions made about the direction in which the schools are headed.

How do you perceive the role of school board member?

Policy making. Shaping the future course of the system.

In your opinion, what issues will be facing the school district in the next

four years?

- Declining high school enrollment.

- Continuation of the emphasis on education brought about (or emphasized by) "a Nation at Risk."

- Providing a good education while continuing to emphasize good budgeting.

- Foreign language exposure to lower grade levels.

- Preparation of students to meet job market needs. This is a continuous process as job skills are being updated.

- Providing quality education for all students. Trying to meet individual needs of the student population.

- Hiring new teachers as teachers in the system retire.

- Hiring new administrators when the present administrators retire.

Pat Girbach

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Included in this would be a graduation requirement in Fine Arts and perhaps one in technology.

I would also like to see ability grouping in mathematics as well as reading in elementary school.

How do you perceive the role of school board member?

The role of a school board member is to guide policy, monitor finances, and most importantly, try to assess the will of the community regarding

the role of their schools. I feel I have the time, energy and ability to perform this service.

In your opinion, what issues will be facing the school district in the next four years?

The major issues facing the school district in the next four years will be: attracting quality new teachers as that need arises; maintaining the quality of education to combat the attractiveness of private schools; and keeping the district on its current sound financial footing.

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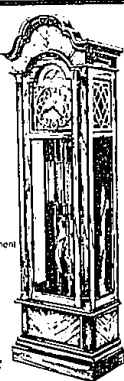
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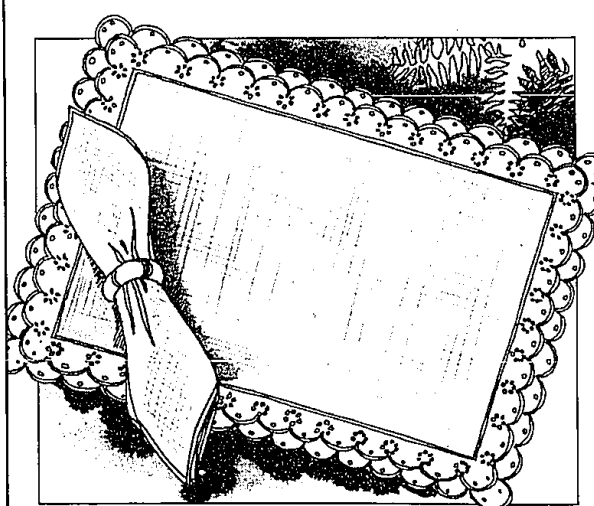
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