

1969-1970 In Review

NEW REPORT CARDS, moving away from grade letters toward a more descriptive assessment of learning, were tried and approved at elementary level.

HIGH SCHOOL ADDITIONS made possible curriculum expansion in areas of swimming, dramatics, and vocational education.

FLEXIBILITY WAS ADDED to high school English and social studies, new course selections being enthusiastically endorsed by students and faculty.

FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION committees, composed of parents, teachers, and administrators made comprehensive studies of substance abuse, human sexuality, and minority understanding submitting proposed guidelines to the Board of Education for consideration.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION department recruited community experts to advise committees on distributive education, vocational machine shop, nursing arts, occupational welding, and vocational drafting.

CO-OP PROGRAM gave on-the-job training to approximately 200 students with high commendation from many employers.

CONSTRUCTION MOVED AHEAD on Wood Creek Elementary School scheduled to open September, 1970 and incorporating such educational concepts as team teaching, cluster classrooms, and a media center accessible to all.

HARRISON HIGH SCHOOL, also in process throughout the year, was planned to accommodate 1100 ninth, 10th, and 11th graders during its first year, ninth to be phased out thereafter.

WILLIAM GRACE FACULTY and students were thrilled with the opening of a new 3800 square foot Library Learning Resource Center whose activities were formerly confined to a crowded section of the lobby.

GIRLS' ATHLETICS became an established part of extracurricular events.

FOUR NEWLY TRAINED reading specialists, bringing the total to six, were added to the junior high school reading program.

AN EXHAUSTIVE STUDY of junior high curriculum and procedures was carried on throughout the year by a committee of parents, students, teachers, and administrators.

TEACHER WORKSHOP DAYS were devoted to special interests, giving teachers a rare opportunity to meet with colleagues for productive learning sessions and exchange of ideas.

HIGH SCHOOL CAREER DAY hosted 54 specialists in as many different fields for guidance of students in determining futures.

BUILDING ADDITIONS at Shiawassee, Longacre, and Larkshire received green light. Consideration is also being given to expansions at Wooddale and Gill.

DISTRICT APPROVED pilot program in counseling at elementary level to be conducted at four schools during the coming year.

IN ANOTHER PILOT project, sixth graders toured high school to learn about variety of course selections available through vocational education.

NEW TRANSITION approaches for sixth graders entering junior high were initiated at Farmington Junior High on trial basis.

DISTRICT READING specialists hosted first annual Young Authors' Conference to stimulate interest in creative writing.

DRUG PANELS were conducted at junior and senior high schools. One informative three-part series was sponsored jointly by junior high schools and area Jaycees.

BOARD APPROVAL was given to one mill reduction of district's debt retirement levy for one-year period.

A Message from Your School Board

Each new school year brings a challenge to all involved in education to improve on the past, to meet the needs of the present, and to plan for the future. It is with this charge in mind that the Farmington School District begins the 1970-71 year.

One of our first tasks will be to acquaint the community with the results of the state testing program held last year in grades four and seven. The results indicate that Farmington School District students scored well in the tests. At the same time the test results indicate that there are some areas where improvement is needed. Your school board will work to make these improvements.

The area of financing public education still lacks the equity and consistency which we hoped we might achieve in the current session of the Michigan Legislature. Your school board will continue to work for a system that reduces the dependence on the

property tax and provides a more equitable distribution of state funds.

Our primary responsibility, of course, is to prepare our students for their role in a democratic society. While working in this direction we must not minimize the need to meet the problems of today's students—problems which flow from the accelerated pace of life style.

Your school board administration and staff cannot succeed in meeting these challenges if we don't have the cooperation and the assistance of the community. Toward that end we are in the process of forming citizens' advisory committees to give the feedbacks so necessary in today's communications-conscious society.

Working together we can overcome the problems of the past, meet the challenges of the present, and begin to plan for the yet unknown educational demands of the future.

Signed:

John M. Washburn III
President

Mrs. Kathryn Stirling
Secretary

Aldo Vagnozzi
Trustee

Kenneth Perrin
Vice president

Richard Peters
Treasurer

Gary Lichtman
Trustee

Ronald Emmitt
Trustee



OUTGO

Local Taxes	57.23%
State Aid	40.45%
Federal and County Taxes	2.32%
Total	100%

INCOME

Instruction	77.15%
Operation and Maintenance	13.74%
Administration	3.09%
Transportation	2.65%
Miscellaneous	3.37%*
Total	100%

*includes attendance and health services, fixed charges, capital outlay, and community services.