Pilot school gets high marks from parents

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week show Highmeadow Common Campus parents give the Farming-time that the control of the

and categories, but did include a margin for error in his survey. There was not a clear cutoff date on ac-cepting responses to the surveys; the deadline was extended to allow further responses, which could skew re-

ther responses, which could skew re-sults.

The survey is part of an evalua-tion of Highmeadow Common Cam-pus, which opened in the fall of 1988. The school offers not only a core cur-riculum but also enrichment and ad-

riculum but also enrichment and advanced courses.

Students in 'grades one through five from throughout the district were selected by lottery to attend the school. The school was designed to offer new programs and to ease overcrowding in the district.

THE SURVEY'S PURPOSE is two-fold: To guide Farmington School District officials as they look at the programs future and to determine how the Highmeadow population will be handled in an ongoing elementary achool boundary study. Judith White, the assistant superindent coordinating the reader to consider the continuity of the continuity

Most concurred that the pilot pro-gram would continue through June, when the district will decide its fate. Direct parent involvement has to affect the figures, said trustee James Abernethy. "There has to be a plus. That item is part of the reason for the success of the the rest of the

"There's an element of newness and excitement there that shows here. It would be nice if that could go on forever."

"MY CONCERN Is, how do we maintain the delirtum?" asked trustee Janlee Rolinick, who said she supports moving ahead with program in future years.

Each household with children at Highmeadow in grades two through live were sent surveys, with 174, or 66 percent, of the households returning the questionnaire With the exception of one question involving special culculation neces, 50 percent or more of the questions had positive re-

sponses by 90 percent or more of the

sponses by 90 peacent or more of the parents.

Also surveyed was 12 percent of the households with children in other elementary schools to determine the quality of the overall elementary program; about half of these, or 6 percent of the total population, participated. They were slightly less enhusiastic, with most of the answers having 80 percent or more positive responses. A major concern by this group of parents was the lack of opportunity for their children to learn from those at other age levels.

THE SURVEY is the first part of the Highmeadow evaluation project, which will continue throughout the school year — the second year of a two-year pilot. Using 44 questions, the survey altempted to address sev-en key areas: academic program,

curriculum, instruction, parent par-ticipation, special student popula-tions, student attitudes, social envi-ronment and total elementary pro-

ronment and total economistry pro-gram.

Trust days inch became agitated at Bauer's apparent inability to the aurory further. Bauer had compared the results of the two sample groups of parents without explanation as to the significance of each. One Highmendow parent sold he would "caution interpreting the results further." He added that only two things quarantee success; parental involvement and the attitude of teachers.

tal involvement and the attitude of teachers.

Based on discussion last week, it appears the elementary boundary study committee will be directed to consider Highmeadow a successful program when considering various school attendance areas.

Gifted education forums set

A committee studying gifted education in Farmington Public Schools Nov. 9, at East Middle School is seeking community ideas for the direction of the program.

13 pm. Tuesday. Nov. 28 at Lewis

A 38-member committee has been appointed to gather information and study gifted education issues. The group is scheduled to make presentation and recommendation for any changes to the school board Feb. 6.

Public meetings on gifted issues are scheduled for:

 Elementary school level: 7-9
p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 7, at East Middle
School, Middlebelt, north of 10 Mile. · Secondary level (middle and

Announcing...

Building Scene

Nov. 9, at East Middle School.

• Overall meeting for both levels:
1-3 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 28 at Lewis
Schulman Administrative Center,
2500 Shiawassee.
The group is studying issues such as general curriculum, counseling,
extracurricular options, advanced
language arts at middle school level,
gifted pullout program in the elementary schools, and advanced
classes at the high schools. Staffing,

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facilities and other gitted-related ideas also will be considered. The study committee has representatives from the school board, administration, curriculum coordinators, teachers, gifted coordinators, parents and students.

The committee is chaired by gifted coordinator Barbara Rebbeck and parent Bob Kopicko.

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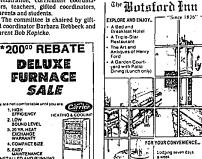
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