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Goals Of Education Vague

125 Citizens Take Part In State Board Hearing

By KATHY MORAN

Some people believe Michigan's educational system is not all it could be. And 125 of these citizens turned out for a public hearing Thursday on the development of goals for Michigan education which was co-sponsored by the Livonia Board of Education and the State Board of Education.

The state board has drawn up four tentative goals for redirecting education and is in the process of holding public hearings throughout the state to get feedback from the public on them.

Thursday's meeting drew parents and educators from neighboring districts as well as Detroit and Lincoln Park.

Prior to breaking into small discussion groups, James O'Neil, state board treasurer, explained the goals to the audience.

O'Neil said the first goal of "citizenship and morality" entails developing "self-respect, respect for others and respect for the law."

"I think the alternative to it is anarchy," he said. Making education relevant is one step in attaining the second goal of "democracy and equal opportunity."

"We can't justify irrelevancy," O'Neil said. Included in this goal is involving parents more in the educational process, he said.

"Lack of participation of parents is one of the major missing links in education."

The last two goals of student learning and educational improvement are linked because they are concerned with students having a good attitude toward school.

In their tentative form, the goals are vague. Livonian Supt. R. H. Upton said, "They are almost a shrug."

"They have their roots in every classroom around," he said. "But how do you teach them? That's another story."

The morality and citizenship goal drew the most skepticism from parents who wanted to know "Whose morality?" and "Whose citizenship?" will be taught.

It was agreed that what one person considers good citizenship and morality is likely to conflict with other views.

"I have a very strong feeling we should not be in the position of telling parents what values should be."

"When you get down to the nitty gritty, which values constitute good citizenship?" asked one man.

PARENTS were concerned about the testing methods used to evaluate students, particularly the state assessment tests in which fourth and seventh graders were asked to respond to

personal questions regarding socio-economic status.

"We've heard enough to know it needs to be changed," O'Neil said.

While parents agreed in general with the goals, the

implementation and financing of them were a major concern.

"Implementation is the key thing — and the finances to go along with it," one person said.

O'Neil soothed doubts about the implementation of the goals leading to regional and eventually state control of the schools by saying: "I'm for local control — and I'm for local involvement."

With the formalization of the

goals, performance objectives will be agreed upon and assessment programs will be formed to help school districts determine how well they are meeting the educational goals.

Explorer Road Rally Set May 8

The Detroit Area Council of Boy Scouts has pioneered the Explorer Road Rally and this year will hold it May 8. It is open to the first 100 teams to register.

The rally team must have at least two and a maximum of three Explorer post members to include one qualified driver, navigator and observer. Girls who are participating members of an Explorer post may enter the event.

Reservations for the Explorer Road Rally can be made at the Detroit Area Council Service Center at 1776 W. Warren.

Every car entered must pass a safety inspection to be held on the morning of the rally. Each team must also attend a rally school which will be held on Tuesday, April 27 at the Ford Central Office Building in Dearborn.

The success of the Road Rally has caught the interest of the National Council, Boy Scouts of America and has resulted in a Grand National Explorer Road Rally being held here in Detroit during 1969-1970 and is again scheduled for fall of this year.

Some 275 councils across the country conducted rallies in 1970. The top 36 teams competed in the Grand National Rally in Detroit last year. The top three teams received college scholarships. In addition, the first place team was given the use of a car for one year.



AT LADYWOOD — Students at Ladywood High School are busy with rehearsals for "The Sound of Music," to be presented March 26, 27 and 28. The unsuspecting nuns (left to right) Mary King, Marian Gillis, Bonnie Harris and Pam Young, have no idea what a problem Maria, played by Mary Ann Skiba, will turn out to be. Showtimes are 8 p.m., with a matinee Sunday, March 28.

Dems Recognize Candidates' Groups

Supporters of all Democratic presidential candidates for 1972 will have equal access to the Democratic party machinery under a proposal recently adopted by the 19th Congressional District Democratic Organization.

Under the proposal official recognition will be given to "bona-fide committees representing those candidates whose state and/or national organizations request such recognition."

The announcement was made by Aldo Vagnozzi, chairman of the organization. The 19th district includes Farmington, Livonia and Redford Township.

TO RECEIVE recognition, the candidate must submit an application with signatures of at least 10 residents of the district.

Recognition of the 19th district organization entitles the committee to "reasonable access to mailing lists and general information available to all candidates."

The organization will provide a forum for the candidates or their representatives and "shall encourage local clubs to do likewise." It will also assist in promoting the appearance of the candidates.

The organization also adopted a resolution denouncing President Nixon's suspension of the Davis-Bacon Act as a "punitive step aimed at workers and not at stopping inflation."

Nixon's action "depresses the wage-rates of building trades workers," according to the resolution.

"By moving against labor

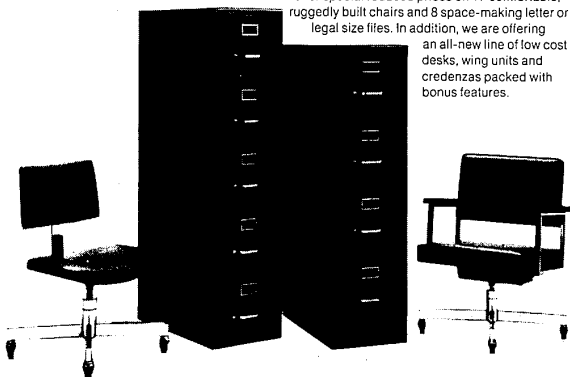
Insurance Unit Finishes Move

R. L. Jones & Co., insurance agents, has completed its move into new headquarters in the Hillside Plaza at 2630 Five Mile, Livonia. The move is designed to provide the firm with streamlined sales and administrative facilities, announced Eugene F. Lee, treasurer.

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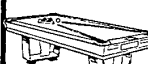
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