Portfolios from page 13A

Each portfolio is required to carry three major beadings: academic, personal management and team-work skills.

Farmington's program will move to the elghth grade level in 1993, when the district will also investigate the use of technology in a sort of "electronic portfolio." Future years will see the program expanded into other grades.

It is estimated the Farmington program will cost a total of \$6,704 this year with the largest amount going for portfolio folder purchases. Other items include file cabinets to hold the folders and training the

Portfolios can include everything from academic test acores and writing samples, to letters of commendation from teachers, coaches, employers or community leaders. Verars of adding to the purtfolio and building accomplishments are expected to help students write resumes and focus on possible careers.

District assessment director Frederica Frost said Farmington's portfolio program came about after a one-year study chaired by district Language Arts coordinator John Borrett and North Farmington High School counselor Jenno Wal-kowicz and Including a number of

other educators, administrators and

a parent representative. "We hope through portfolios, stu-dents will develop a habit" of logg-ing their accompilishments, Frost said, and "develop their own specif-ic type of excellence."

ic type of excellence."

Barrett explained that the program is student driven. "The whole concept is to hulld your own portfolio — take charge of your future," be said. In Longuage Arts, the district has had a similar program in place for several years, keeping various writing samples in a folder which carries into future years.

The Farmington district has "a considerable lead" in putting such

a program into place, he added.

Each high school will form a portfolio committee this year to monitor
the program, and staff will be
trained on the program concept.
The initial effort will be evaluated

next June. - Some of the information, specifically academic items like test records, will be kept in a confiden-tial portfolio until the student

tiol portfolio until the student leaves the district.

Several school board members voiced concern over who would have access to the other information, but Frost assured them it would be only the perent, student and a district career development coordinator who

Martin Gene, Hillel Day school board president, was pleased with the vote. "It was ratified strongly," Gene said.

Fifty-five teachers at the school on Middlebelt Road are represented by the Hillel Teachers Association, an affiliate of the state and national Federation of Teachers union.

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Settlement from page 13A

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They originally asked for a three-year agreement with an 8-percent raise in the first year and 6-percent raises in each consecutive year. The average teacher at Hillel — a private Jewish school and one of the state a few non-public schools with

a teachers' union - earns \$27,000 per year, according to a union state-

ment.
The school board had originally offered a three-year pact with 4 percent raises each year.
Tuesday, Feldman added that she'd like to see more financial support from the dewish Federation, an umbrella group, because Hillel is a cummunity school.

The teachers' two-year contract expired Aug. 31.

Some 650 students in grades kin-dergarten through eighth were to have started classes on Sept. 1 when the teachers went on strike.

Wages and medical coverage were stumbling blocks, Feldman said.

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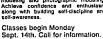
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