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Farmington Public Šchools Superintendent Bob Maxfield (left) receives an update on the Farmington High/Eastern Michigan Uni-versity Partnership from John Barrett, FHS assistant principal, and

Jim Myers

FHS principal.

Benefits for both

Farmington High, EMU praise partnership



Noa in its vermal soir. the Farmington Public Schools Community Farmington Public Schools Consecutive Advisors Consecutive Advisors Consecutive Schools and bead businesses of Secutive Schools Community Relations, at 489-3419

When the Consociate Schools Partnership Agreement was signed in November, personnel of Farmington Public Schools and Eastern Michigan University were sure they had the makings of dynamic partnership. Six months into the partnership, they know the Market Farmington High John Harrett, Farmington High

assistant principal and partner-ship coordinator, said, "Our part-nership with EMU has and will continue to provide us with the

resources for continuous improvement in teaching and learning. It is an exciting opportunity with benefits for both institutions."

Proximity and educational ties contributed to the development of a strong relationship between the school district and EMU. Leaders and faculty from Farmington High School and EMU's College of Education spent a year planning, discussing and conducting pullot projects before the formal agreement was signed.

Maintaining this partnership has demanded a major commitment of time and energy. Representatives from FHS and EMU meet monthly to discuss long-term plans and brainstorm new ideas. The team developed and introduced several mutually beneficial activities this year:

BA counseling program gives practical experience to EMU graduate students as they counsel high school students and adults at FHS. Professional counselors oversee this program, which will continue next year.

BA graduate class on restructur-

ing schools was team-taught by Farmington Public Schools personnel and EMU professors. Teacher interest will determine other graduate classes to be offered.

B A program to structure and enhance prestudent teaching observation was piloted. EMU students observed FHS classes with specific objectives in mind. Group debriefings on compus and individual discussions with FHS teachers followed the observations. As a result of the success of the pilot, EMU will incorporate the program with other school districts in the state.

EMU is available to help Farmington High determine the best use of a recently awarded technology planning grant of \$50,000.

B FHS and EMU are helping each other with individual accreditation processes.

Farmington High staff members are able to call on EMU personnel for expertise in developing strategies to meet target goals. FHS staff will help EMU to assess and evaluate EMU steacher preparation program.

In addition to continuing many of these activities, the planning committee has proposed several additional activities for the 1994-95 school year including:

so school year incusting.

Technology link — investigating a possible cable connection between FHS and EMU. This would open the door to many exciting possibilities of interaction between students and staff of both.

Assessment — exploring alternative ways to assess student teaming at FHS and EMU.

Resources for reform — coordi-nating efforts to bring together the resources of personnel, money and time needed for meaningful reform.

reform.

Belining curriculu — working together with business to seek the best ways to prepare students for work or college or both.

While staff members of Farmington High School and Eastern Michigan University are realizing the opportunities this unusual partnership has given them, it is the students of both who are the

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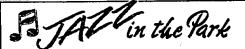
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