

DISTRICT

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districts to do this," Maxfield said. "It's pretty common. Only Paul Bucher, director of fine arts, Flanders Elementary Principal Mary Joyce Readler, Lanigan Elementary Principal Marva Turner, Carl Gippert, the band director at North Farmington High, and Dodie Herter, a fourth grade teacher at Hillside Elementary, will retire. "We didn't expect any retirements this year," Maxfield said. The district offered an early retirement

incentive last year. Layoff lists are produced according to union contract requirements; the district has sent layoff notices to 18 teachers, but personnel director Dave Ruhland said it's anticipated everyone will be called back soon. Monies allocated to buildings for elementary after-school building activities will be reduced. Affected will be payments to staff to chaperone dances, perform Saturday testing, Saturday detention and other after hour activities. The savings is \$18,150. This fall, the district begins a limited Out of District School

of Choice program by opening up to 20 slots in William Gree and Flanders Elementary schools for K-3 students. Officials anticipate revenues of \$80,000. "The additional students gained through this program will help to fill the empty slots within these two schools without adding any additional costs to educate these 20 students," Reynolds said. The district hopes for a \$615,000 savings through supply and purchased service budgets for various departments. A new Federal Title III Bilingual Grant will be used to offset some program

costs, saving \$103,000. In the fall, Maxfield said the district will look at three inter-related areas: ■ program maintenance (what features must be retained to keep this a quality district) ■ efficiencies ■ additional sources of revenue "Sometimes when you are very close to these issues, you wonder, 'Wow, why did you ever take this on?,' Maxfield said. The forum will be shown on TV 10. ■back2eehomecommnet (248) 477-5450

MOVERS AND SHAKERS

NEW FUNDRAISING FIRM

Howard Newman, J.D. of Farmington Hills recently established Third Sector Group, L.L.C., a fundraising consulting firm. Newman, who served the past 11 years at the Detroit Medical Center, most recently as senior vice president of development is president of the newly formed company. Third Sector Group provides expert consult in campaign planning and management, major gift solicitation, board recruitment and training, and staff development.

SPECIALIST

Bryan Burnstein of Farmington Hills recently became a certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist by the National Strength and Conditioning Association Certification Commission. The CSCS certification is designed for professionals who design and implement strength training and conditioning programs for athletes in a team setting. Burnstein is the head athlete trainer for Canton High School as part of a clinical outreach program with Plymouth PT Specialists in Plymouth.

Administrator's job falls to budget cuts

BY SUE BUCK STAFF WRITER

Barbara Chereem tried to lighten up talk about her job situation. In September, her position as Director of Evaluation, Assessment and 8 Special Projects for the Farmington Public School District won't exist. Hers was the only administrative position eliminated in the proposed 2003-2004 budget. "I'm the sacrificial lamb," Chereem said. With the increased federal and state mandates of No Child Left Behind and Education Yest the district wants to place more emphasis and attention on the school improvement and accountability, she said. Farmington Public Schools Superintendent Bob Maxfield has expanded Kris Gekler's former position of administrator to assessment and evaluation to include school improvement and accreditation. "A second person in the assessment and evaluation office can't be supported," Maxfield said. "Barb is much more the researcher and she has done a great job."

DIFFERENT EMPHASIS

"Bob has been gracious," Chereem said. "There's different feelings and different challenges." Chereem's job involved program evaluation for projects like all-day kindergarten, inclusion, reading recovery, and student assistance coordinators, who are school psychologists. She coordinated the high school graduate surveys, looked at block scheduling, summer school and the math academy. She would have evaluated progress of the senior project, which is now offered as an elective and, had a later school start time gone into effect, she would have determined how well that was working. Chereem also assisted with the middle school mentor program at East and Power Middle Schools. She's exploring other options including teaching for the Farmington Public School District. Before coming to her position in Farmington more than six years ago, Chereem was a professor for Spring Arbor University. As a lead teacher, she explained learning methods, reasoning and development. She could return to that university, which is west of Jackson, but she resides in Ann Arbor. "I could do some off campus teaching at the Dearborn Center," Chereem said. The district's economic climate is different from when she was hired in Farmington. In order to balance the budget, officials have had to rely on reserves. "This year we dipped into fund equity," Chereem said. That won't be an option in future years and other administrative positions may also be eliminated. "It means more people do more with less time," Chereem said. Right now, the good jobs are scarce and applicants may wait almost 18 months to land a job, she said.

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