

Are More Community Colleges Slated for This Area?

Every individual in Wayne County should have the opportunity for an education beyond high school at a community college which has adequate local tax resources and an enrollment sufficient to meet individual needs. Community college districts would equalize educational opportunities and form a most essential foundation for an enlightened citizenry ready to cope with the complex problems of our atomic age.

Recent legislation (Act 298 of the Public Acts of 1963) places authority with boards of education to designate the areas of a county where elections should be held to establish community college districts. Dr. Robert Keene's study provided the Wayne County Intermediate Board with data to determine the most efficient organization of community college districts in the County of Wayne.

Four of Wayne County's 43 school districts were not included in Dr. Keene's study. Garden City, Plymouth, Livonia and Northville school districts comprise the Northwestern Wayne Community College District. They have their own Board of Trustees and are operating Schoolcraft College. 1200 students presently attend and already crowd the existing structures to capacity. The remaining 39 districts form the basis of the current community college study.

Combinations of the 39 eligible school districts in Wayne County were studied in nine separate plans. The combinations in each plan were investigated for potential enrollment and financial revenue from local tax sources.

After analyzing nine plans upon completion of the study, only four plans met the required criteria of adequate enrollment and sufficient financial resources. The four school district plans would be in the following areas in Wayne County: Plan "E" (Detroit-Northwestern school districts plus the Southwestern-Downriver school districts); Plan "H" (Detroit—all 39 other school districts); Plan "J" (all 39 school districts); Plan "K" (Southwestern-Downriver, Detroit-Northeast and Dearborn-Redford groups).

One of these four plans will be selected by the Intermediate Board of Education before November 10 as the official organization for community college districting in Wayne County.

Each of these four school district combinations were examined and evaluated as to "how" and "why" they could presently qualify as community college districts. Financial and enrollment data for each of the plans was carefully charted.

Plan "E" or the Detroit-Northeastern group (Harper Woods, Grosse Pointe, Highland Park, Hamtramck and Redford Township) plus the Southwest-Downriver school districts would have a total potential community college enrollment of 31,753 full-time students. A one-mill levy on the state equalized valuation of these two groups would amount to \$881 per full-time student. Each of the plans qualifying under the enrollment and financial criteria suggest the establishment of seven college campuses.

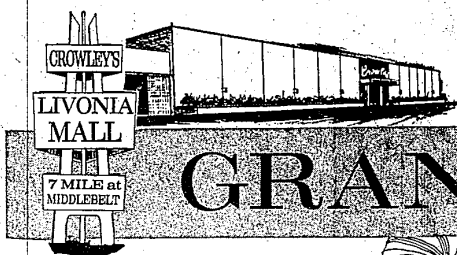
Plan "H" (Detroit, plus all remaining 38 districts in Wayne County) is a second form of community college organization. This plan establishes Detroit school district as a separate community college district with four strategically located campuses to serve the urban area. Dr. Keene's study admits that the physical relation of Highland Park, Hamtramck, Harper Woods, and Grosse Pointe to the other downriver districts is a structural weakness of plan "H". However, this plan qualifies from an enrollment and financial standpoint.

Plan "J" places the 39 school districts in three large groups: Dearborn (Dearborn, Dearborn Heights and Inkster) — Redford Township; Detroit-Northeastern; and the Southwestern (Wayne, Belleville, Sumpter, Romulus, Huron Township, Inkster, Nankin Mills) — Downriver (Scarsdale, River Rouge, Lincoln Park, Allen Park, Melvindale, Trenton, Wyandotte, Riverview, Woodhaven, Flat Rock, Taylor Township, Grosse Ile, and Gibraltar).

Potential enrollment and financial support for school districts in the Detroit-Northeastern group has been stated and meets recommended standards. The Dearborn-Redford group of districts would have 4500 potential students with a financial base of \$231.72. The Southwest-Downriver group could count on an enrollment of 7,245 full-time students. The one-mill levy would provide \$235.00.

The final plan to qualify in Dr. Keene's study combines all 39 districts into one large community college district.

Plan "I" has the highest financial support and the best potential. 31,844 full-time students | thirty-nine school district plans | allied valuation of this area | sent time. Seven separate campuses for the students through-out the 39 district area.



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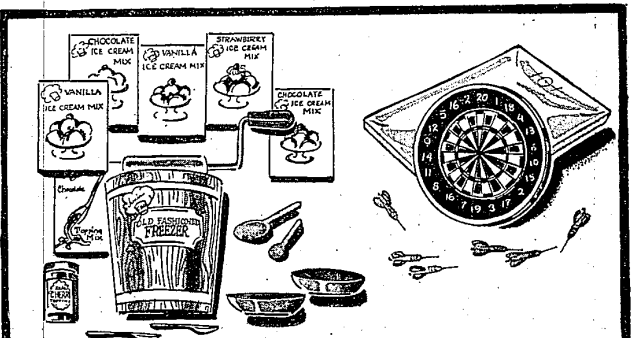
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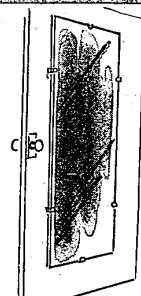


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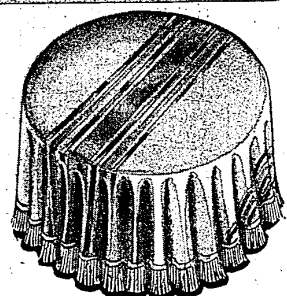
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