

School closing is considered as district reviews cost cuts

By DIANE HUBEL
FARMINGTON—It might be necessary to close one elementary school if the millage is defeated again, administrative officials told the school board at a special study session Tuesday night.

Lawrence Freedman, assistant to superintendent, said that the cuts made were only considerations and that no definite action was taken by the board at that meeting.

"These were only suggestions made by the administration." "There will be many more discussions and all the ideas mentioned will be thoroughly explored before the board takes any definite action on them," he said.

FOLLOWING THE defeat of a millage request the board scheduled a special election to be held on July 30 which would ask voters to reconsider the millage.

The study session was held by the board to consider cuts and changes must be made to balance the budget should the millage request fail.

Freedman said the closing of one elementary school would reduce costs by eliminating the need for a principal, one secretary, noon aides, some of the teachers, one librarian, and the custodial staff.

He said the students would be relocated in four other schools if the closing were adopted. No specific school was mentioned. He said that other reductions in the elementary area included: a reduction in teaching size, which would mean larger classes, an elimination of the elementary art program, a reduction in the funds used for textbooks and supplies and a reduction in the amount of money spent for pilot programs, math programs, and reading specialists.

SUGGESTIONS FOR changes in the secondary schools included the elimination of five special reading teachers, two librarians, and a reduction in the total cost of funds spent for texts and materials.

Another suggestion was that one third of the cost of athletic programs could be cut, and that all field trips, both elementary and secondary could be eliminated.

Freedman said that many suggestions were made concerning the cuts in the business end, including the elimination of all public relations funds, the reduction of funds spent for data processing, and the elimination of all site improvements, building repairs, and equipment replacements.

Even if all the cuts suggested were adopted the school district would still be \$200,000 shy of a balanced budget.

"THE COMMUNITY must realize what they are throwing away," Freedman said. "We have been able to make up for the austerity cuts we were forced to make three years ago."

"In the last three years Farmington has been able to build itself up from a mediocre school district to one of the leading districts in the country."

"If that millage is defeated it will wipe out all of the gains we have made in the last three years."

J. Andrew Ditzhazy seeks Dem support

FARMINGTON HILLS — J. Andrew Ditzhazy Jr., 37990 Tralee Trail, Northville, has announced his candidacy for Oakland County Commissioner for the 27th District.

Ditzhazy is a graduate of Detroit Country Day School and Michigan State University where he received a B.S. degree in criminal justice in 1972.

He has also attended graduate school at Cornell University in New York and Wayne State University while pursuing a Masters of Public Administration degree.

He received an honorable discharge from the United States Marine Corps in 1971.

He has served as a Research and Development Analyst and Sparms Team Analyst for the Criminal Justice Institute.

He was also a research director for the Safety Division Policy For-

mulation Project at Cornell University.

In 1972 he was in charge of developing a college youth campaign for the committee to re-elect the president.

In October of the same year he resigned "due to disagreements over the Dita Beard/I.T.T. affair, the Watergate situation and a various "free" services from Michigan Bell telephone," he said.

He served as a national staff member of the Humphrey for President campaign from March 1972-August 1972.

He has also served as a member of the University Committee of Public Safety, the Military Education Advisory Committee and as an assistant to the Director and as Director of Security of Michigan Artrain.



J. ANDREW DITZHAZY

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