

# Dover approves hiring half-time teacher, hears non-grading system survey report

By JUANITA ABEL

Donna Moore, elementary school coordinator; Daryl Badertscher, East School principal, and Don Marshall, Park School principal, apprised members of the Dover board of education of several items of special importance at Monday night's meeting.

Miss Mopre and Badertscher submitted a request for a half-time teacher at East School to assist two teachers at the intermediate two level.

A written report submitted to the board stated, "The enrollment at this level has increased from 61 to 71 since the opening of school.

"The class size has reached a point where it is difficult to handle many of the learning situations in the most desirable method. Normally the pupils and teachers are encouraged to engage in more student centered activities and lessons. The large number of students now almost mandate a lecture type instruction.

"Due to the large class size it is difficult to provide for the various levels of instruction required to meet the needs of the students. The size of the classes also limits the personal contact between student and teacher.

"The proposed plan calls for a half-time teacher to accept the responsibility for the instruction of a group of students in the language arts (reading, spelling, writing and English). This will allow the remaining students to be reassigned into more teachable groups. The remaining portion of the part-time teacher's time would be used to assist the students and the present teachers in other instructional areas."

**THE BOARD** concurred that since the primary concern of the board and teachers is to provide the best possible educa-

tion for all students, a half-time teacher will be employed to begin work in January.

Marshall reported on a survey made concerning the non-graded system. He noted that in a survey made during parent-teacher conferences at the four elementary schools, 72 per cent of the parents said they were satisfied with the non-graded system.

The survey questionnaire was prepared by a committee after a discussion by members of Park School PTA concerning the preference for non-graded report cards or those using the letter system.

Several board members and administrators expressed the opinion that the non-graded method is better for the student since it puts each on his own level of advancement rather than on a comparison basis. A comparison with brothers and sisters, it was noted, many times gives a child a feeling of inferiority which is a detriment to his incentive.

**ANOTHER TOPIC** brought to the board's attention was that of freshmen students attending high school dances and social functions.

Senior High Principal Robert Schrock and Junior High Principal Charles Wilson said they had not made a firm rule concerning the matter.

Board members expressed the opinion that it is a matter for the parents to decide and was not a matter for action by the board.

Supt. Bill Kinneer reported briefly on a National Vocational School conference in Atlantic City where it was pointed out that some items, such as machine shop equipment, required a waiting period of a year for delivery after an order has been placed. He also noted that one specific item needed in Dover schools and

ordered from a catalog published the beginning of the school year had increased in cost from \$13.75 to \$17.

He cited the cases as problems of availability and increased costs which will be facing the board in the operation of the school.

**IN OTHER ACTION**, the board, at the recommendation of Kinneer: —**APPROVED** the employment of Mrs. Manjul Khasat, 27, of Bolivar as an elementary school teacher at Dover Avenue. Mrs. Khasat, who has degrees from the University of India and Kent State University, will replace Mrs. Roberta McGlothlin who has taken a leave of absence.

—**APPROVED** appointment of Geraldine Newell as an aide to substitute for Kathryn Studer who is recuperating following surgery.

—**ACCEPTED** the recommendations of Schrock and Wilson to increase the stipend for an interscholastic tennis coach from \$200 to \$400; to give Judith Vasbinder a \$200 stipend as assistant girls track coach on the senior high level, and to give Lois Miller a \$150 stipend as freshman girls basketball coach.

—**APPROVED** the reduction of the price of milk from 10 cents to five cents a half-pint. It was noted that on Dec. 1 the school began receiving a four cents a half-pint reimbursement from the state.

—**AUTHORIZED** home instruction for one student.

—**APPROVED** naming Dixie Lee Hilton and Margaret Marquand to the substitute teaching staff.

—**APPROVED** attendance at professional meetings for a number of members of the administration and staff.

The meeting was recessed to Dec. 28 at noon for the annual end-of-the-year meeting.