

# Stadium and school improvements, levy renewal outlined at Dover

By KAY WILLIAMS

Financial matters — borrowing money for buildings improvements and the need for voter passage of an operating levy renewal in June — were discussed by the Dover board of education Monday night.

Prior to presenting the items, Supt. Bill Kinneer commented on the increase in current real estate tax statements. He said the schools will get only 3.2 per cent more money this year, compared with

1974 receipts, despite the big increase in property valuation and tax bills.

He explained that a reduction in personal property taxes will partially offset the increases in real estate taxes.

"People are asking what we are doing with all that additional money, but the truth is that we're not getting it," Kinneer said.

He presented figures showing anticipated local tax revenue for 1975, with the 1974 figure in parenthesis:

Real estate — \$1,302,260 (\$1,185,890 in 1974).

Personal property — \$855,570 (\$904,961 in 1974).

"In view of the current 12 per cent inflationary rate, our 3.2 per cent from local taxes isn't even keeping up with expenses," the superintendent stated.

**DOVER SCHOOLS** have two operating levies which will come up for renewal in 1975. They are in the amounts of 6 mills and 2 mills, reduced to 5.17 and 1.73, respectively by the millage reduction following property reappraisal.

The board was informed by a letter from their financial advisers, Squires, Sanders and Dempsey of Cleveland, that it will not be possible to combine the two levies for voter renewal at the June primary.

Although the board did not take action Monday night, Kinneer recommended that the 5.17-mill issue be placed before the voters in June.

"This is not additional money," he emphasized. "If it does not pass, that would mean we would have \$431,000 less to operate our schools in 1976."

"There is no way we can offer the current level of quality program with almost a half a million dollars less to work with," he added. "If the issue fails in June, we would have to come back and ask again in November and if it doesn't pass then, we would make provision for a special election in December."

**THE BOARD APPROVED** a resolution authorizing the issuing of five-year notes amounting to \$83,000 for capital improvements to the high school and Crater Stadium. A capital improvements tax issue was defeated last November by the voters.

Ohio law permits school boards to borrow up to one-tenth of one per cent of the school district's assessed value without voter approval. Dover's current valuation is \$83,395,000.

The money would be used for:

Improvements and expansion of the visiting team locker room and the women's restrooms at Crater Stadium; electrical and lighting improvements in 17 classrooms at the high school at an estimated cost of \$1400 per room, and future renovation of part of the industrial arts area which will be vacated after the Joint Vocational School opens.

Board members felt that, in view of rising costs, it would be more practical to borrow the money now and get the work done, rather than to pay for the improvements out of the operating budget over the next few years.

In other business, the board:

— **ESTABLISHED** a \$1500 "service fund" for 1975, as required by Ohio law.

— **ACCEPTED** — resignations from teachers Suzanne Davis and Roberta McGlothlin for home responsibilities.

— **HIRED** Kathy Ann Smith as a bus driver for the remainder of the school year and accepted the resignation of Donna Hanks Luthy as a bus driver.

— **APPROVED** home instruction for two high school girls because of pregnancy and for one because of illness.

— **NAMED** Terry Miller and Nancy Pliskonka to the substitute teaching staff.

— **CHANGED** the date of the 1975 baccalaureate commencement program from June 8 to June 1 at 3 p.m. at Crater Stadium.

— **MET** in recessed executive session to discuss current teacher salary negotiations.