

Dover band to participate in Apple Blossom Festival

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DOVER-NEW PHILADELPHIA, OHIO

By KAY WILLIAMS

Plans for the Dover High band to attend the 1976 Apple Blossom Festival at Winchester, Va., were outlined for the Dover board of education Monday night.

Director Fred Delphia reported the band had been invited to the festival, which he stated was music-oriented and included field, concert and marching competition, and the board granted permission for participation.

Delphia explained that attendance at the April 29-May 2 festival will mean the band will be unable to compete in state band contests scheduled for the same weekend.

"HOWEVER, THE quality of judging at the Apple Blossom Festival is extremely high," Delphia stated, "and the experience of competing musically with bands from other states should be valuable. At present, the Dover Band is the only one from Ohio scheduled to participate."

Richard Kleine, vice-president of the Dover Band Boosters, reported that he and two other members visited Winchester last weekend to check on facilities and arrangements.

Delphia estimated that the trip would cost close to \$10,000, but indicated that most of the money was readily available from the Band Boosters. "We will probably ask for a small amount of expense money from each band member, but we should be able to finance the trip without a major fund-raising project and with no burden to the community," the band director said.

He also pointed out that because of the 90-member limitation in state band

competition, not all band-members are able to participate in that event. "This is something they can all attend," he said.

Eighteen states and Canada will be represented at Apple Blossom Festival and band members will have an opportunity to visit Sky-Line Caverns and Antietam Battlefield.

ON RECOMMENDATION of Supt. Bill Kinneer, the board hired Merle Whitis, 6th grade teacher at South School, as high school guidance counselor for the remainder of the school year. Whitis will fill the vacancy created by the death of Lorn McCartney last week.

Kinneer reported that Whitis has a master's degree in counseling and two years experience on the junior high level.

It was reported that only five persons had attended the Senior Citizen lunch program instituted at Park School. Kinneer said, however, that the program would be continued and expanded in the future to provide lunch, at minimal cost, for residents over 60 at all elementary schools.

Tentative plans were discussed for a community drug seminar, possibly to be held in January by Self-Help, Alternatives, Growth and Youth Services (SHAGYS), a federally-funded agency which deals with drug abuse. The board previously met with representatives of the agency.

The seminar, which will be outlined for teachers at an in-service meeting, would be open to interested members of the public.

DONNA MOORE, elementary coordinator, reported that Dover schools

had been selected to participate in the Directive Teaching Instructional Management Systems (DTIMS), an Ohio State University project for educably mentally retarded and learning disability classes.

"It is an honor to be selected for the program, which is aimed at providing specialized instruction in our special education classes," she said. Dover schools were chosen because they met the instructional and program requirements, she said. There will be no cost to the school system.

She also reported an average 93 per cent parental attendance at recent parent-teacher conferences and said the text-book selection committees were examining new math and music texts. "Some of you will be glad to know," she noted, "that the trend in math instruction is to go back to more traditional methods."

IN DISCUSSION, board members expressed some concern over the Ohio open meetings (sunshine) law which goes into effect Nov. 25. Member Laverne King distributed copies of a pamphlet, "Don't Get Burned by Ohio's New Sunshine Law," which he received at last week's session of the Ohio School Boards Assn. in Columbus.

"We were advised we would have to be very careful," King said. "For instance, if two board members are in a restaurant together and a third member comes in, that constitutes a majority of the board and any discussion of school matters could be considered an executive session."

He also stated that violations could result in court injunctions and removal from the board.

Mrs. Isable Moore, board president, commented that the Ohio Legislature, which passed the law, had itself been in "flagrant violation" of the intent of the law, by holding closed sessions. "In certain aspects, this is an asinine law," she said.

Kinneer noted that, in compliance with the law, the news media would be informed of all special and regular meetings of the board.

Mrs. Moore asked for a clarification of the policy on usage of the athletic department car, which is leased by the school. She said she had received a complaint that a football coach had been seen with the car at an Ohio State football game, after the end of the Dover football season.

Kinneer re-stated the policy, which is that the football coaching staff has access to the car from August to November, and it is turned over to the basketball staff from December through March. The policy states the car is not to be available for personal use of the coaches.

IN OTHER BUSINESS, the board:

— **RESOLVED** to comply with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex.

— **Hired** Mrs. Marjorie Allen as part-time kindergarten aide and Mrs. Judy Ann Caudill as educational aide, both at Park School and named three persons to the substitute teaching list.

— **GRANTED** approval for members of the high school advanced biology class to participate in an aerial field trip to observe conservation and ecological practices, if parental permission is granted.

— **NAMED** Lois Miller as an interscholastic girls reserve track coach.

— **CHANGED** the date of the next meeting to Dec. 15, when representatives of the high school vocational department will discuss changes resulting from the Buckeye Joint Vocational School.