

Dover school budget 'very tight,' says Kinneer

By SANDY STEWART

The Dover board of education Monday night approved 1977 appropriations of \$3,824,735. Broken down the total represents \$2,458,000 in general property tax; \$1,100,000, state foundation money; \$55,000, miscellaneous, and \$211,735, carryover balance.

The estimated income on general property tax for operation is based on a 1977 tax rate of 4.4 mills inside the 10-mill limitation and 20.4 outside the limitation. In addition bond retirement is 1.5 mills for a total school tax millage of 26.3. Assessed valuation of the district is \$99,113,028.

Of the total appropriation, \$2,791,316 has been budgeted for personal service or salaries. Specifically, \$102,900 is for administrative; \$2,341,736, instruction; \$15,930, coordinated activities; \$124,000, auxiliary agencies; \$193,500, plant operation; \$10,250, plant maintenance, and \$3000, special.

Other budget classifications are supplies, \$214,100; maintenance materials, \$13,000; equipment replacement, \$27,000; contract and open order service, \$168,300; fixed charges, \$573,693; contingency, \$24,160, and capital outlay, \$12,500.

Supt. Bill Kinneer, who presented the budget to the board, termed appropriations "very tight." He noted, when asked by the board, that the January heating bill was over \$15,000 and only \$45,000 has been budgeted for the year.

DON GLENN of Marr, Knapp, Crawfis Architects-Engineers Inc. of New Philadelphia suggested that the board dissolve a joint contract it has with his firm and George A. Fiedler & Associates of Dover for architectural services because there no longer is an architect associated with Fiedler.

He presented a revised contract for the board's consideration, noting that there is no retainer's fee.

Margaret Osburn and Catherine Dill, cafeteria personnel, discussed purchasing patterns. They presented comparison prices from firms in Dover and from those out of town. It is the board's position that supplies be purchased from local firms if their prices are competitive.

KINNEER EXPLAINED to board members that area superintendents of schools are trying to keep their school calendars similar to that of Buckeye Joint Vocational School. He asked if the board would support a change in the 1977-78 calendar should the vocational school adjust its calendar for a five-week mid-term break. Classes would begin in August and end in June.

Board member Ed West said he felt the board would back such a change. Kinneer explained that it has been estimated the Dover district could save from \$10,000 to \$12,000 if schools are closed from the week before Christmas

until the end of January. Costs which would be cut would be for substitute teachers, buses, gasoline, natural gas, etc.

Kinneer is to meet with a faculty committee Wednesday night to explain the proposal.

The board recessed to discuss curriculum with the science, English and guidance departments.

PAUL KOVAL, director of curriculum, said, "I think the people of Dover have no real cause for concern (about the teaching of evolution). The members of our science department are 'believers'."

A number of instructors questioned how evolution is being defined. Don Keller suggested that problems could be created because of definition. "If everytime I say something that sounds evolutionary I must come back with the creational viewpoint problems could be created."

He continued that if objections are being raised by parents to the "man vs. monkey" aspect there is no problem because that is not taught. Keller added that if a student raises a question on creation, it is discussed in the classroom.

Ted Martin said he doesn't feel evolution is a problem in the classroom. He added that when questions on creation arise, he refers students to their ministers and by making the referrals apparently is not adhering to board policy of giving equal treatment in the classroom to the opposing creational and evolutionary views.

It was suggested that a religion course be taught as part of the social studies program. "I think science should be taught in science class and creation in a religion class," said Tom Kane Jr. "I think it's a mistake for people to try to make a science out of

religion. Creation is a belief, not a science."

IN OTHER business the board:
—HIRED Mary Jane Hadley of New Philadelphia as a learning disabilities instructor.

—NAMED Sue Ann Spring to the substitute list for home economics.

—RENTED Crater Stadium to Central Catholic High for games Sept. 24, Oct. 8 and Nov. 5 at \$80 per game.

—APPROVED home study for Robert Beller, a junior.

—GRANTED approval for Gertrude Herz to conduct a trip to Germany for eight students over spring vacation. Cost is \$549 per student plus air fare to New York.

—OKAYED professional meeting requests from staff member for a total cost of \$2092.