

Verdict on Dover elementaries expected in April

By SANDY STEWART

Parents opposed to the proposed reorganization of the Dover elementary schools still have time to find a alternative plan to present to the board of education.

At its Monday night meeting, the board indicated it would have to make some decision on the proposal by the end of April when teachers must be notified if their contracts are not to be renewed.

When the proposal first was made, Supt. Bill Kinneer had suggested that if the board favored the plan it should be approved by the end of March. A group of parents formed the Citizens Committee for the Study of Reorganization in the Elementary Schools to find an alternative to the reorganization plan, but has been unable to develop one.

Monday night the committee chairman, Donna Dunlap, asked if the board still will consider other proposals and was assured it will.

Although the proposed reorganization was not listed on the meeting agenda, more than an hour was spent discussing it.

Nearly 50 people, including school personnel, attended the session held in the high school cafeteria. With the exception of one question, all discus-

sion from the floor related to the proposal.

ONE PARENT, Jack Peters, asked for figures on average costs per pupil. Kinneer said for the 1975-76 school year the estimated state average was \$1250, while the average in Dover was \$1097. For 1974-75 average for the state was \$1141 and for Dover, \$958.

Jim Gee, a member of the citizens' committee, explained he was presenting questions for parents who were unable to attend the meeting.

The first was whether a cost analysis on the school will be conducted as recommended by the citizens' committee. Kinneer explained he does not know if there are any reputable organizations that conduct such studies, but will inquire at a Buckeye School Assn. meeting in Columbus on Friday.

Kinneer stressed that the board has made "no definite decision as to anything" when responding to Gee's second question: "Why are you not willing to make cuts in the administrative group when cutting teachers?"

The superintendent added: "The board has looked at guidance people doing some teaching. They also have looked at administrators doing some teaching.

AT A MEETING with committee representatives last week Kinneer said he does not feel there are too many administrators in the school district. He noted that there is one fulltime principal in each elementary. He also pointed out that the four are involved in curriculum, textbook study, teacher supervision and teacher selection.

"One of the reasons that Dover has a good school program is that you have adequate administrators at the elementary level," he said.

He continued that the North Central Assn., an evaluating organization of which the Dover schools is a member, requires three principals in schools the size of the junior-senior high, which is operated as two schools in one building.

He explained that in addition to the two principals, Robert Schrock and Charles Wilson, there are two assistants. He added that Ed Moeller, junior high assistant, also has teaching duties and that Larry Baker, senior high assistant, is athletic director, "which is a very time consuming job in Dover."

"One of the things you hear we have is poor discipline," he told the committee. "I do not consider the discipline in Dover High poor by any means, but I can sure tell you one of

the ways to improve is not to provide less principals."

RENA ERICKSON asked if the board and the administration were going to consider the parents' requests and the reorganization question further, to which Shirley Miller, board president, responded:

"We are certainly pleased to see this group here tonight and we're pleased to work with the parents. But, we were elected by the community to do the best for each child. Our responsibility is to see that each child has an equal opportunity to the best possible education."

Wilbur Youngen asked: "Why is this board so opposed to split classes? I think that's narrow-minded." (The five board members had said they were against split classes.)

Isabel Moore answered for the board, explaining that split classes are fine for children who are easy achievers, but they are not good for the low achiever — "he'll get lost in the shuffle."

Kinneer also stated that copies of the district's budget are available in the administration office for those interested.

Russ McGlothlin and Tom Kane, guidance counselors, explained a

booklet, "Guidance Handbook for the Dover Public Schools." The book, an outline of guidance services and the coordination of services, was adopted by the board.

IN OTHER business the board:

—**APPOINTED** Mrs. Marjorie Allen of 207 Brookside dr. as a trustee to the Dover Public Library board for an unexpired term ending June 30, 1979. She fills a vacancy created by the death of Mrs. Anne Harvey.

—**ACCEPTED** resignations from Beryl Scherein as assistant for cross country, effective for the 1977-78 season; James Fox as bus driver, effective March 4; Joyce Archer and Beverly Kirkbride, both on leaves of absence, effective March 10 and March 9, respectively, and Susan Armstrong Lloyd for girls' track, effective Dec. 23 when she was granted a leave of absence.

—**APPROVED** a disability leave of absence for Sandra Hill, effective March 8 through the end of the 1977-78 school year. The board also approved payment of health and life insurance premiums for one year.

—**GRANTED** home study for Amber Ann Hupp, 10th grade; approved employment of two tutors, Doyle Kinser and Ronnie J. Ludwig at \$6 per hour for a combined maximum of five hours a week for home instruction for

Robert Beller, a Dover High student attending Buckeye Joint Vocational School, and approved substitutes Leah Kissick and Lillie Mayle to provide home instruction for students needing the aid.

—**NAMED** the following to the substitute teaching list for the remainder of the school year: Jane Gerber, grades kindergarten through 3; Jill Ann Minnich, grades 1-8; Susan Beard Hagloch, library; Patricia Ann Richard, grades 1-6; Ellen Stewart, grades 1-8 and special education, grades K-12, and Dorothy Partridge Goodman, elementary.

—**HEARD** a recommendation from Don Peters, administrative assistant, and hired Gary Limbacher, a substitute bus driver, to work on buses on an as-needed basis for \$5 per hour.

—**OKAYED** rental of the Dover High gymnasium to the Indian Valley Schools for a Dec. 28 basketball game between Indian Valley North and Indian Valley South highs.

—**APPROVED** professional leave requests totaling \$1584; payments on supplemental contracts for football totaling \$725, and payments on supplemental contracts for basketball and wrestling totaling \$1367.

—**CHANGED** its April meeting from the second Monday (11th) to the third Monday (18th).