

## No decision made on levy

# \$124,019 deficit projected in 1977 Dover school budget

By SANDY STEWART

The Dover board of education Monday night adopted its proposed 1977 budget, which shows a deficit of \$124,019, but took no action on whether an additional operating levy will be placed before voters in November.

Anticipated receipts for the year are \$3,715,230 or 2 per cent less than estimated 1976 receipts of \$3,785,935. Expenditures for next year are estimated at \$3,839,250, up 4.6 per cent from 1976 estimates of \$3,668,592.

According to Supt. Bill Kinneer, one of the reasons for the deficit is a decrease in carryover balances. In 1975 the district received a "one shot" state supplement of \$126,303, which in part was responsible for the large balance (\$310,771) at the end of that year. Year-end balance for 1976 is estimated at \$117,342.

Kinneer pointed out, however, that it is extremely difficult to prepare a budget covering the remainder of 1976 and to project for 1977.

"The tax relief bill that just passed without the governor's signature probably will have some affect on the amount of tax money that we will receive for the operation of schools in 1977." He also noted that he contacted the Ohio Department of Education last week, but was unable to learn what the state support form will be for the 1977 fiscal year.

"IT IS POSSIBLE that we will receive more in 1977 than the \$1,050,000 I have indicated," he told the board. "But on the other hand, it depends on whether there is a 2 per cent reduction in state funds or a 3 per cent reduction, as to the exact amount we will receive."

The superintendent explained that on Monday afternoon he talked with Don Levensgood, county treasurer, who was unable to project tax collection figures for the second half.

Noting that it is not a particularly good time to ask for additional millage, Kinneer pointed out that Dover school district has the next to the lowest tax rate in the county — 26.3 mills. Garaway has the highest, 30.9, and Claymont, the lowest, 25.7.

Kinneer explained that if the board should ask for a 2-mill operating levy, which would be the first request for additional operating millage in six years, and voters would approve it, millage would increase to 28.3 or the same as Newcomerstown.

"In view of the new method of state financing and equalized funding for all school districts in the state, we cannot run a quality program with having the next to the lowest tax rate in Tuscarawas County," Kinneer concluded.

**THE BOARD** must determine at its August meeting if it will place the 2-mill levy, which would cover the anticipated deficit, before voters in November to comply with state election time regulations.

In addition to the carryover balance, anticipated receipts for 1977 with 1976 figures in parentheses are local tax, \$2,504,000 (\$2,378,275); state foundation, \$1,050,888 (\$1,053,888), and miscellaneous, \$43,000 (\$43,000).

Anticipated expenditures are administration, \$154,650 (\$144,600); instruction, \$2,465,700 (\$2,315,588); coordinated activities, \$14,900 (\$14,700); librarians, \$77,000 (\$78,897); transportation, \$139,000 (\$146,000); auxiliary, \$498,000 (\$472,103); operation school plant, \$356,000 (\$338,000); maintenance school plant, \$93,500 (\$96,859); capital funds, \$38,500 (\$59,793), and debt service, \$2000 (\$2000).

### IN OTHER business the board:

—HIRED Steven Miller of Orrville, business department; Beth Yockey of Dover and Terry Immel of Sugarcreek, both elementary, all limited contracts.

—NAMED Clara Mae Harmon to the non-certified staff as a bus driver, Sharyn Mobley as a guidance secretary and re-employed Geraldine Newell as a library aide. Mrs. Newell had resigned because her family was moving from the area, but they will be remaining.

—ACCEPTED resignations from Jennifer Lammers, Judith Becker and Renee Gold Sattler from the certified staff and from Susan Armstrong Lloyd as assistant girls' basketball coach and Russell McGlothlin as 7th grade football coach.

—APPROVED a year's leave of absence for Patricia Powell for further education.

—REAPPOINTED Walter Pretorius as Dover Public Library board trustee for a seven-year term which began July 1.

—AGREED to use of school buses by the Dover recreation department for summer recreation program field trips.

—OKAYED a one-year service contract with Educational Electronic Equipment at \$825 for maintenance of the driving simulator.

—PASSED a resolution approving the use of the cooperative special education unit for a supervisor for the Educable Mentally Retarded Program in Tuscarawas County. Cost is \$92.32 per unit for a total cost of \$481.60.

—APPROVED purchase of music texts in the amount of \$9120 for kindergarten through 6th grade. Included are students' books, teachers' books and records.

—AGREED to rental of the high school gymnasium to Strasburg-Franklin schools for the Eastern District Class A sectional volleyball tournament Nov. 2 and 3 and for the Class A district tournament Nov. 10.

—APPOINTED board members Shirley Miller and Isabel Moore delegate and alternate, respectively, to the annual business meeting of the Ohio School Board Assn., to be held in Columbus in November.

—ACKNOWLEDGED receipt and acceptance of the Dover Public Library proposed 1977 budget which shows anticipated receipts of \$107,315 and anticipated expenditures of \$107,306.

—AUTHORIZED Kinneer to have an independent insurance expert go over board policies and offer any suggestions as to coverage, appraisals, etc.