

Three schools in program

Three Regina public schools will participate in the education department-financed community schools program next fall.

Kitchener and Connaught Schools will participate fully in the program, designed to improve educational services for native people in neighborhoods with large percentages of natives.

Albert School will offer the nutrition program only.

Trustee Susan Currie, moving at the board's weekly meeting it participate in the program at the three schools, noted this year's and last year's boards pioneered in encouraging native parent participation in school programs.

The board also agreed to her suggestion the nutrition program at Albert School be re-

viewed at the end of the 1980-81 school year.

In other business the board and the Regina Public School Teachers' Association Monday signed their 1980 local agreement.

The settlement provides for an 8.5-per-cent increase in allowances for department heads, noon-hour and playground supervisors, and program consultants, compared with an eight-per-cent increase in such areas last June.

It also increases the teachers' professional development fund by \$17,000 to \$186,000.

Local agreements cover issues of local interest which vary from one school board to another, as opposed to items such as teacher salaries negotiated province-wide and already settled earlier this year.

Request will be studied

The board turned down a Saskatchewan Housing Corporation (SHC) request that it review its recent decision to close Victoria School.

The SHC said it has started an "urban infill" program in the cathedral area of the city where the school is located, involving building new houses on vacant lots and expects an influx of several hundred school children as a result.

Board administrators said in a report that Davin and Connaught Schools are within a half-mile walking distance for most children north of 13th Avenue where the increase is expected.

"If this proves not to be the case, relocatable classrooms could be attached to one of the schools."

A parents' petition has prompted the Regina board of education to consider improving the front lawn at Birchwood School in south Regina.

The petition by 83 residents of the area, presented to the board at its weekly meeting Monday, supported a letter from Andre Lalonde, an area resident.

In the letter, he protested the fact only half the front lawn of the school is watered, and the other half is rough, unwatered grass.

"Does the board of education have a specific policy regarding the upkeep of the grounds located in the front of their schools," he asks. "If there is a policy, why is it not being enforced at Birchwood School?"

Board facilities superintendent Vern Gross said the board doesn't usually put in lawns covering all school property because of the additional cost.

Board chairman Mary Hicks asked administrators to look into the situation at Birchwood, however, and report back on the feasibility of seeding the rest of the lawn.

Lalonde told the board Monday the lawn has been a "source of complaint" to residents for years, with some watering and cutting the rough grass themselves during the summer.

Multiply handicapped will enter public

Multiply handicapped children will join Regina's public school system starting next fall.

The Regina board of education agreed at its weekly meeting Monday to take over responsibility for developmental centres, day institutions for severely handicapped students aged 3 to 21 from the Regina Developmental Society, a board of parents and others now running them.

The board has been purchasing services from the society since it started the centres several years ago, as part of a province-wide program to get multiply handicapped children out of institutions.

Board will take over

Under the new arrangement the board will take over administration of the 10-month day school program the society operates in public school classrooms scattered through the city.

The society will be responsible for running a summer program for the students whose disabilities range from low IQs to paralysis, emotional and other problems.

The board will assume the cost of its portion of the program, receiving "high cost funding" grants from the education department covering most, but not all, expenses, at no cost to parents.

Alex Robb, the board's superintendent of programming, said the new arrangement will mean a lower per-student cost for the board and other school boards paying to educate multiply handicapped children from their districts than the former setup, where it purchased services from the society.

That's mainly because it will be providing services on a 10-month basis, in-

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Advisory committees to be set up

Parents of Regina Catholic students now have a new vehicle for providing input into school affairs.

The separate school board at its weekly meeting Monday approved guidelines for setting up local school advisory committees at schools throughout the system.

A brief to the board by a feasibility committee said advisory committees, authorized under the new Education Act, are designed to "facilitate communication and promote mutual understanding between the school and the community"

The advisory committee will also provide a continuing organization through which the opinions, concerns and

proposals of the electors may be brought to the attention of the board of education."

Among the guidelines for setting up the committees:

- Electors must first establish a local home and school association or parent-teacher association;

- A majority of electors, parents or lawful guardians of students present at a meeting of either association may vote to form a local school advisory committee, with from five to 11 persons, and

- Once recognized by the board, the committee is to advise the local school administration or board of education.

Duties may include, among other things:

- Studying educational objectives and programs and how they relate to community goals;

- Promoting school-community and parent-teacher communications, and

- Participating with the board in planning and developing educational services for the division.

The board of education's Harrow de Groot School is the only school in the city with a local advisory committee so far.

Injured girl recovering

An eight-year-old girl who suffered head injuries in a car accident Friday evening was reported in good condition in the General Hospital.

Pamela Sparvier of 2929 Winnipeg St. was struck by a car in the intersection of Atkinson Street and Victoria Avenue at about 6:30 p.m.

Ray arrested

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — John Larry Ray, brother of convicted assassin James Earl Ray, was arrested in Madison County while walking along a highway, the FBI said.

An FBI spokesman said Ray escaped last year from a medical centre for federal prisoners at Springfield, Mo.

Robert Davenport, special agent in charge of the Spring-

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