Orders 8 New Vehciles

School Board Striving To Ease Bus Problems

Brunswick County Board of Education members, expressing great concern about overcrowded school buses here, took affirmative action to help relieve the problem at

\$

\$

\$

\$

\$

STYRO-FOAM

FANS

2-SPEED

ICE CHESTS

GALVANIZED 20 GAL.

TRASH CANS

20" BREEZE BOX

Monday night. The board unanimously

eight school buses, which have already been ordered.

Delivery of the new buses is expected in six to eight their regular meeting months. Supt. Ralph C. King told

authorized the purchase of members that the board

\$1 00

\$327

would save about \$8,000 by ordering the buses now instead of waiting until later. The price of a new 54passenger bus is now \$7,000. But the price of the same bus is expected to increase \$1,000 in the months to come, the superintendent said he has been informed by state

officials. The Division of Transportation, which recently conducted a survey of the county, said the buses were needed to help eliminate some, but not all, of the standees being transported in Brunswick. The same survey said it

would take 16 buses to completely eliminate the standee problem in the county. But still more buses will be needed in the future, based on the rapid growth of the school system, it was noted.

"One of the biggest complaints I get is about students standing in school buses," Member William Sue said. Supt. King announced that two spare buses will be placed into service within the next two weeks to serve Southport Middle and Bolivia schools, where the standee problem is the worst.

The board unanimously voted to request the state to pay \$56,550 to teach driver's training in the county during the 1974-75 school term. Funds for the program come from the state.

Supt. King said the fund request includes money to hire a fourth driver education instructor next year. He said he felt the new instructor will be needed next year because the program will have a projected 675 students. If the state does not ap-

prove the request, he suggested that the board considered placing funds in the school budget to pay an instructor with local money. The board decided to

postpone final decision on the 1974-75 school budget. It was decided that the board will hold a special exclusive budget meeting Monday night at 7:30 p.m. Chairman Wilbur E. Rabon said the board wanted to present the budget to the board of commissioners as BACON soon as possible. But he said he felt the board needed to devote one more meeting to finalizing the budget. Board members expressed the hope that the final school budget can be presented to the commissioners on May YOUNG The board moved behind closed doors to discuss HEN "personnel" during the meeting. Following the routine open meeting, the board decided to hold the closed executive session to "review and approve instructional pesonnel INSTANT (profession)." According to reports, the closed executive meeting last about three hours. Chairman Rabon, who announced the closed meeting without objection from the other members, said it was only the third executive meeting the board has held during the four years he has been chairman. The board spent a great deal of time discussing the access road and vehicle paving needs at the new elementary school in Southport with Department of Transportation officials. Division Engineer Ted Funderburk, who served as the spokesman, District Engineer Robbie Robinson and Assistant District Engineeer Bobby Powell BAIH represented the department at the meeting. Division Engineer Funderburk told the board that the cost of the project to pave BABY BEDS from the existing pavement to the school and parking With Mattress areas has been placed at around \$67,000. The problem,

he said, is that the Secondary Road Division has appropriated only \$30,000 in

funds for the project. Board members and the state engineers discussed the project and looked over maps of the area. It was pointed out that the project cost could be cut to around \$65,000 if the street was not widened. After more discussion of

the project, the board decided to contact State Secondary Road officials and find out if the \$30,000 appropriation can be supplemented to cover the high cost of the work.

Following the presentation, the board asked Assistant Supt. John J. Hicks to take the highway engineers to the school site and to look over the project.

The board unanimously voted to authorize bids to purchase an electronic accounting mini-computer. The computer, which will be used for bookkeeping purposes, is expected to cost about \$25,000. The Division of School Planning recommended that the Brunswick County board purchase the mini-computer during a

recent survey. Supt. King, who presented the request, reported that 75 percent of the schools Aug. 26 until June 5. Mem-

systems in this part of the state use a mini-computer. The board unanimously voted to grant school credit to

a group of ten students, who plan to attend a French seminar in Paris this summer. Mrs. Cheryl Blackburn,

language arts teacher at South Brunswick, said in a letter to the board that four North Brunswick students and six from South Brunswick plan to attend the seminar sponsored by the American Institute for Foreign Study. They will leave June 27 and return home July 24.

Associate Supt. Robert C. Elkins said he had checked on the matter with the state office and other counties. He said that granting credit is a standard procedure.

Supt. King told the board that a special bookkeeping law covering only Brunswick County was repealed in the closing days of the General Assembly.

The superintendent presented the board tentative school calendars and the annual schedule for principals and staff. The calendar shows that the student school year in 1974-75 will run from

bers were asked to look over at the next regular meeting. the material and take action

The meeting was presided

over by Chairman Rabon and all members attended. In addition, King, Associate Supt. Elkins, and Assistant Supts. Hicks and P.R. Hankins were present.

Mrs. Elizabeth Young, assistant principal of South Brunswick, attended the meeting as a special guest of the board.

I thank the people of Brunswick County for their strong vote during the primary, and sincerely ask their continued support in the November general election.

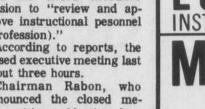
Herman Strong





The State Port Pilot, Southport, N. C., Wednesday, May 8, 1974-7





NEW ORGANIZATION An organizational meeting of Planned Parenthood, in association with the Brunswick County health clinic, will be held Wednesday, May 15, at 10 a.m. at the Southport library, Mrs. Billie Frankum announced. All interested residents of the Southport and