

The Warren Record

Educator Urges Four Grades In New Warren High School

A veteran state educator has urged the Warren County Board of Education to make the new consolidated high school one that would accommodate grades nine through twelve rather than limiting the student body to those in grades ten through twelve.

Beaver told board members that the national trend is back towards a 9-12 high school, with less emphasis being placed on the old junior high concept. He said an optimum number of students in a high school would range between 1,000 and 1,500 students.

"With a high school of this size the school can serve as a home base for all types of learning experiences," he said. He said the number of elective courses, particularly advanced courses not now being offered,

could be increased if the school population is large enough.

Beaver said "today's ninth grader is much more mature now than was the case 15 or 20 years ago." The ninth grader seems to fit best in a high school setting, he said.

The Raleigh educator spoke of the frustration which occurs when ninth graders have to repeat a grade, and he said this could partially account for the 30,000 students who drop out of schools in North Carolina annually. Beaver said the dropout

rate for the state is 8 percent, while in Warren County the figure stands at 6.1 percent. Warren County has one 9-12 high school at Norlina and one 10-12 high school at Warrenton.

He argued that by giving "earlier access to vocational education" that a student might be encouraged to stay in school.

Beaver called this an "exciting time for educators" and said plans for the new high school should be developed "step by step." He cautioned educators not

to try to do all the planning for the school in one year, but to systematically determine what they want the institution to become.

Beaver acknowledged that reasons exist to limit the new school to sophomores, juniors and seniors, but he failed to list many. Most, he said, relate to how 14- and 15-year-olds relate to their peers.

The board questioned the advisability of beginning with a three-grade high school and in a couple of years adding the ninth grade to the

student body. However, they took no action in the matter, agreeing to table until their July meeting the question of consolidated high school composition.

In other business the board was told that the Department of Transportation will reimburse Warren County schools \$30,000 for construction of the bus drive and parking area and paving the bus drive at the new high school.

Superintendent Mike Williams told the board that it will cost \$50,000 to pave all the drives and

parking areas, with the exception of the three student parking areas, at the new school. He said the J. M. Thompson Company has estimated that it will cost \$15,120 to pave the drive up to, but not including the bus parking lot. Board members took no action in the matter.

Also deferred was the question of whether to rent or purchase telephone equipment now being used in the central office. Williams said the present equipment could be bought for \$10,393. The school system is now paying \$281.15 to rent the

equipment. At this rate, the board learned, the purchase price could be recovered in a period of 37 months.

The board questioned the cost of maintenance to the system, and expressed apprehension over the possibility of lightning destroying the whole system. Additionally, the board said it lacked sufficient funds at present to buy the equipment.

In other action Monday night, the board:

-Approved requests that Lisa Dawn Ayscue (Continued on page 12)

Drewry Robbery Probed

Members of the Sheriff's Department and the State Bureau of investigation are still searching for two black males, around 30 years old, who robbed Fleming Watkins, Drewry merchant, at gun point on Monday morning.

According to Sheriff Clarence Davis two black men, wearing stocking masks and armed with handguns, entered the Watkins Store at 8:45 o'clock Monday morning and told Watkins to turn over his money, which he did.

The two men then ran out of the door, carrying \$402.00; and fled in an automobile. Sheriff and deputies went to the scene in search of clues, and later in the day called the SBI for assistance. SBI Agent Joe Walker came to Drewry and has been aiding local officials in their search for the two men.

Sheriff Davis said that this is the third time that Watkins has been robbed. In the other two cases the criminals were caught by members of the Sheriff's Department.

The night before the previous robbery, Deputy Dorsey Capps had gone to Wise when it was reported that three boys were hanging around a garage at Wise. He questioned the boys and paid particular attention to the car they were driving. During the next morning the store was robbed by three boys and a good description of the car was obtained. This led to the arrest of the three boys.

Monday officers were not able to obtain a good description of the car.



Officials of three fire departments received checks Tuesday morning from the county officials for the purchase of needed fire equipment. Shown left to right are Glenwood Newsome, county manager; A. A. Wood, chief of the Warrenton Rural Fire Department; Jack Harris, chairman of the Board of County Commissioners; Leon Cheek, Warrenton fire chief; Susan Wilson, county

auditor; and Butch Meek of the Norlina Fire Department. The Warrenton Rural Fire Department received \$4,500 for a cab and chassis for a new tanker, the Warrenton Fire Department received \$800 for new fire hose and the Norlina Fire Department received \$500 for air pack rechargers. (Staff Photo)

Term Of Court Adjourns Friday

The June term of Warren County Superior Court, which convened here on Monday morning of last week with Judge Robert Farmer of Raleigh, presiding adjourned late Friday afternoon after disposing of four jury cases and a large number of other cases not requiring the services of a jury. All jury cases were heard by the same jury.

The jury cases tried were:

Plummer Reid, found guilty of a charge of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill inflicting serious bodily injury. He was sentenced to the State Department of Correction for a maximum of three years.

Thomas Nelson Davis, charged with felonious assault, was found guilty and sentenced to the Department of Correction for three years as a

convicted young offender.

Edward Stretcher, charged with discharging firearms in occupied vehicle and injury to personal property, found the defendant not guilty of firing firearm in vehicle, but guilty of the charge of injury to personal property. He was sentenced to six months in Warren County jail. The sentence was suspended for one year and the defendant placed on

Local Officers Attend Confab

Warren County Jaycee President Bobby Choplin and five other chapter officers attended the North Carolina Jaycees Local Officers Leadership College June 6-8 at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

The Local Officers (Continued on page 2)

unsupervised probation provided he pays court cost and a \$100 fine and that he pays \$583.71 to Home Transportation as restitution for damages.

A jury found Bobby Stevenson guilty of killing livestock and converting it to his own use. He was sentenced to serve no less than six months nor more than 18 months in the State Department of Correction. The sentence was suspended for one year provided the defendant pays the court costs, a \$100 fine and pays the owner of the stolen cow \$300 as restitution.

Among a number of cases continued were those of Kenneth Evans, charged with rape, and the Crossan Brothers of Norlina being charged with armed robbery, kidnapping and a number of other cases.

Evans, who had been held under \$150,000 bond,

was committed to Dorothea Dix for psychiatric treatment.

Allen, Howard and Braxton Crossan were each charged with assault with a deadly weapon, kidnapping, felonious assault (two

Four Charges Made Against Vance Man

A Vance County man has been charged with making a false theft report and three other traffic violations after his wrecked automobile was found in the parking lot of a branch bank near here.

Bobby Fogg, 30, of Kirtrell is free under \$300 bond after being charged with the false theft report, careless and reckless driving, speeding and failure to report an accident. He was arrested

here Tuesday night by Trooper W. C. Palmer of the State Highway Patrol.

Palmer said the arrest came after a two-day investigation triggered by an 8 p. m. Sunday report by Fogg that his car had been stolen from in front of the Methodist Church in Warrenton.

Palmer said his investigation revealed that Fogg and two passengers had in fact been riding in the Snow Hill Community an hour before the car was reported stolen. Palmer said Fogg lost control of the car as he rounded a curve at high speed. The car skidded for 512 feet, plunging down an embankment before striking a pine tree. Damage was estimated at \$2,000. No one was reported hurt in the accident.

Palmer reported that he recovered the car on Monday morning in the parking lot of Branch Banking and Trust Company's Ridgeway Street office.

Fogg is scheduled to appear for trial in Warren County District Court on June 27.

Annexation Study Heard By Council

The regular June meeting of the Warrenton Board of Town Commissioners on Monday night was highlighted by an annexation study presentation by Leonard Holden, community development specialist with the North Carolina Department of Natural Resources and Community Development.

Holden presented a basic technical analysis of six developed areas adjacent to the corporate limits of Warrenton which are being considered by the town for annexation. Holden said that all six of the study areas presently meet the prescribed standards and are recommended for further study as to likely costs and revenues associated with feasibility of annexing the areas to the Town of Warrenton.

The purpose of Holden's visit was to bring the commissioners up to date on studies being made for increasing the town limits, with description of areas and estimated population growth in the six areas. Holden gave a technical description of areas being considered for annexation and for alternate areas as well.

Holden told the commissioners that the Legislature passed Monday an act setting aside \$400,000 to be used by towns and cities of the state with annexation procedures. Towns have until July 17 to apply for their share of this fund, which may be used as their part of matching funds for federal grants.

Bill Neal, superintendent of the Water Department told the commissioners that tests on the regional water line had been completed from Soul City to a branch below the Stephen Daniel home and that tests are to be made from Warrenton to this point in a short time.

Mayor White told Neal and the commissioners that plans had been made for representatives from Warrenton, Norlina and the Soul City Sanitary District to meet with the town and county engi-

neers in the Warrenton commissioner's room on Thursday at 10 a. m. to clarify the status of the Warren County Regional Water System.

A traffic light maintenance resolution was passed by the commissioners. Under this resolution the town agrees to pay the cost of maintaining the traffic light and will be reimbursed by the Department of Transportation.

Eddie Clayton, chairman of the street committee, said that the Transportation Department had done a good job in repairing pot holes in the streets and at a cost much lower than the work could have been done by the town. He led a discussion with the street committee on plans to obtain a street sweeper.

Commissioner A. A. Wood, chairman of the (Continued on page 2)

SS Numbers To Be Used

The Warren County Food Stamp Office will begin requiring Social Security numbers for all adults and all household members 18 years and over and those children under 18 years with countable income.

Barbara Kinton, food stamp supervisor here, said the new requirement is mandatory under the amended Food Stamp Act of 1977.

She said Social Security numbers will be used in the administration of the food stamp program to check the identity of household members, prevent duplicate participation and to facilitate making mass changes.

Social Security numbers will also be used in computer matching and program reviews or audits to make sure a household is eligible for food stamps.

"This may result in criminal or civil action or administrative claims against persons fraudulently participating in the food stamp program," she said.



Members of the graduating class at John Graham High School file onto the school's athletic field for their commencement program on

Friday night. Both John Graham and Norlina High School handed out diplomas on the same evening. (Staff Photo)