

Interest charges will bring L-L school to \$6,000,000

Interest charges on the bonds used to finance construction will bring the total cost of the new Lake Elementary School to more than \$6 million, and it is possible that rising costs will force the Lake-Lehman School Board to raise total millage as high as 106 mills in next year's budget.

These projections came out of last Tuesday's Lake-Lehman School Board meeting at which the board explained its building program to the total of about 40 residents who showed up to view slides of the new school and participate in discussion of its necessity.

In response to a resident's computation of the special 15-mill increase for 25 years amounting to over \$6 million, when the project cost had been announced as \$4.2 million, district business manager Ray Bowersox explained that interest on the bond issue financing the school will run more than \$6 million total.

Board president Gilbert Tough said afterward that, with the district tending to require approximately an eight percent millage increase each year in order to meet rising costs, next year's budget "could" require eight more mills.

On top of the 15 already scheduled for financing the Lake School, the extra eight would bring the district's total millage to 106, the highest in the area. It is presently set at 83 mills.

Harveys Lake Taxpayers Association Ben Orfaly criticized the board's plan to build the new school. Taking issue with statements that the board was "conservative" in its policies, Orfaly said, "I can hardly call 98 mills conservative."

He also criticized the establishment of a contingency fund at four percent, predicting that the 4.2 million ceiling would be inadequate and that the district did not have sufficient assessed property valuation to support such a project.

The board announced that it currently has \$4,455,000 in outstanding bonds for three buildings, with bond issues coming due in 1980, 1992, and 1998.

Board member Arnold Garinger defended the new building, scoring the "political infighting and indecision" that he said would only hold back the project and ultimately raise its cost.

He compared the present older elementary buildings to old cars that should be replaced rather than fixed and argued that Lehman is one of the few growing districts in the area and definitely needs a new building.

Garinger denounced as "bull" the statements of those who say the building is not necessary but who have not followed the project, concluding that, because of rising costs, "The longer we wait to build it, the more of a burden it will be."

The new school is intended to replace elementary buildings in the Lake and Noxen areas. Both buildings have been cited for safety violations, with the Noxen building having been closed and use of the Lake building restricted to the first floor.

A slide presentation by architect Douglas Trumbower from Smith, Miller Associates showed the planned new school to

be K-shaped, with classrooms in the wings and a gym and cafeteria in the stem.

He stressed the role of economy in locating, sizing, and constructing the building.

In response to a question about the possibility of a public referendum on the school, solicitor Atty. Charles Lemmond said that the "Taj Mahal Act" provides for a referendum if costs for a new building inch over a limit set by the state. He added that he did not foresee the project's cost reaching such a figure.

The presentation was preceded by a special meeting for consideration of bids for insurance and

sprinkler systems at the Lake building.

Howell and Jones, Inc., was low bidder on the insurance program with an entry of \$12,900. That bid and the four others were referred to the finance committee for tabulation and study.

Y. and M. Contracting was sole bidder on the second part of the sprinkler contract with a figure of \$1,850, while J. L. Turner came in low for part one with \$12,243. Only one other bid for part one was submitted.

Sweet Valley Ambulance fund drive begins Nov. 13

The Sweet Valley Ambulance Association will be conducting a fund drive to help defray the costs of the purchasing of a new ambulance to serve our community and surrounding areas.

The drive will begin the

week of Nov. 13, and continue until everyone is contacted. All donations no matter how large or small will be greatly appreciated. All collectors will have identification. Receipts will be given.



PRETTY TWIRLER—Young majorette Sandy Davenport shows the form that ought to take her up to the varsity during a pep rally at Dallas Junior High. Way to go, Sandy. (Photo by Charlot Denmon)

Parr announces winter term at PSU

The schedule for preregistration and registration for the Winter Term at Penn State Wilkes-Barre has been announced by Dr. Nils Parr, dean of academic affairs.

Preregistration for all second year students will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 7, from 10 a.m. until 2:30 p.m.

Preregistration for all first year students will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 8, from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Preregistration for all provisional, non-degree and other students will be held on Thursday, Nov. 9, from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

All preregistration will be conducted in room 227 of

the Hayfield House on the campus in Lehman.

Orientation and advising for registration will take place on Monday, Nov. 27, and actual registration will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 28, from 8 a.m. to noon in the Laboratory Building.

Local business gets crime seminar

The spiraling threat to business posed by organized crime and official corruption, and the weapons needed in Pennsylvania to deal more effectively with these activities, will be discussed in a day-long seminar to be

held on Tuesday, Nov. 21, at the Gus Genetti Motor Inn, Pennsylvania Avenue and Market Street in Wilkes-Barre.

Sponsoring the meeting are the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce and the

Citizens Crime Commission of Philadelphia.

Michael R. Siavage, executive director of the New Jersey Commission of Investigations will be the keynote speaker.

'Marmalade Gumdrops' to run at Seminary

Wyoming Seminary Players act out one of the scenes in the Children's Theatre production of "Marmalade Gumdrops," to be presented for a three day run at the Harold C. Buckingham Performing Arts Center on Seminary's campus on Nov. 10 at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 11 and 12 at 2:30 p.m.

Marmalade Gumdrops is a play in two acts by Carol

Lauck and directed by Seminary's English and

Drama instructor, Mrs. John N. Moore.

Band Sponsors plan dance

On Saturday, Nov. 18, the Lake-Lehman Band Sponsors Association will sponsor a round and square dance at the high school. Dancing will be from 8 to 11 p.m.

The caller will be Red Jones and music will be by the Back Mountain String Band. Tickets may be purchased from any band member and also at the door.

Lehman CAC reviews budget

The Lake-Lehman Citizens Advisory Council met recently to review the school district budget. Bowersox, business manager, explained the various categories of the budget. In his presentation, he pointed out the means by which the school district obtains its tax revenue.

At present, there seems to be a question as whether the homes in the district are assessed too low, or if the market value is too high. The school district plans to take this question to the State Equalization Board. New homes and homes that have changed owners are presently being assessed at 33 percent. Bowersox indicated that in order to raise more tax revenue, a county-wide assessment would have to take place.

Concern was expressed over the procedure for exonerating persons from the per capita tax and whether or not a thorough investigation is conducted when such a request is received.

A report from the Gifted and Talented Committee has indicated the need for a gifted resource teacher to be obtained possibly through the Intermediate Unit.

Dr. Preston reported the latest developments on the new elementary school. Committee members reviewed the plans.

Due to the Thanksgiving vacation, the next CAC meeting will be on Monday, Nov. 20. Mrs. Charlotte

Ashton, director of food services will present the program.

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MOUNTIES MASCOT—Mountie the mascot of Back Mountain Wrestling Club's elementary team invites all boys interested in wrestling to come to the first practice, Nov. 13, 6:30 p.m. at Dallas Junior High School.

Wrestling sign-up extended

Any boy who did not sign up for this year's Back Mountain Wrestling Club's elementary team may still do so at the first practice

session.

First practice will be held Monday, Nov. 13, 6:30 p.m., at Dallas Junior High School.

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