

# Board Seeks State Funds To Pay For Desegregation

By Robert Albrecht  
Of The Dispatch Staff

Submitting its plan to desegregate the schools, the Columbus Board of Education Friday asked the federal court to order the Ohio Department of Education to pay the estimated \$23 million total cost of implementing the plan.

The board voted 4-3 along racial lines to submit the 265-page plan to U.S. District Court Judge Robert M. Duncan.

**THE BOARD** vote was the same to ask for the state payment and to approve an agreement memorandum with the Columbus Education Association, which is the teachers' bargaining unit.

The agreement, if approved by teachers, will make changes in their contracts that will help in putting the plan into practice.

The desegregation plan, if approved by Duncan, will close eight elementary schools and leave North Side students in five school attendance areas out of the busing program.

**THE EIGHT** schools officials plan to close are Alum Crest, Barnett, Bellows, Fornof, Heimandale, Homedale, Hubbard and Milo.

The students living in the attendance areas of Alpine, Gables, Devonshire, Winterset and Northgate will be involved in desegregation through voluntary student transfers and through future expansion of alternative programs, Dr. Joseph L. Davis, interim superintendent, said.

Those schools are among 21 in the system that will remain racially identifiable as white schools after the plan is implemented, school officials said.

**THE OTHER** 12 elementary schools are Sharon, Forest Park, Avalon, Valleyview, Westgate, Georgian Heights, Binns, Willis Park, Woodcrest, Oakmont, Maybury and Liberty.

Two junior high schools, Ridgeview and Woodward Park, and two senior high schools, Beecheroff and Centennial, also will be racially identifiable as predominantly white schools.

The plan was submitted to the judge four days before the June 14 deadline he set.

**M. STEVEN BOLEY**, board president, stressed that the plan the board voted on is the only official one the board submitted under the judge's order.

Board members Dr. Watson Walker, Dr. David Hamlar and Mrs. Marie Castleman submitted recommendations which, they said, will desegregate all schools, involve a "wider range of social-economic mix," and be the most equitable plan.

Walker noted that the plan needs some refinement by school administrators.

**AT THE** request of the three black board members, their separate set of recommendations for school desegregation were submitted to the court.

The official plan, which is designed to be implemented over three school years, includes estimates that 39,730 students will be bused on an involuntary basis and that 423 more 65-passenger buses must be bought.

A breakdown of plan costs puts transportation, at \$11.3 million, at the top of the list. Other costs and their estimates are:

**EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS**, \$8.2 million; staff development, \$1.7 million; community services, \$1.5 million; and security and other costs, \$300,000. The total is \$23 million.

Davis said copies of the planning document, which weighs one pound, 10½ ounces, will be available for public inspection at all branches of the Public Library of Columbus and Franklin County and each school will have three copies available for inspection.

Under the official plan, the starting times for schools would be staggered to provide the most efficient use of buses, he said. A schedule of four starting times planned now range from 7:30 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.

**ADMINISTRATORS** would be assigned to schools on the basis of qualifications without regard to the racial character of the school, the neighborhood or other administrators, Davis said.

He said involuntary reassignment of teachers will be minimized whenever practical, and those who must be reassigned will get a chance to express preferences.

But teacher assignments will be aimed at the racial balance range established in the 1973 agreement between the school board and the Ohio Civil Rights Commission, Davis said.

**EXCEPTIONS** to the involuntary pupil assignment policy as outlined in the plan include the following circumstances:

- Kindergarten. Pupils will be

permitted to attend the school in their present attendance areas, provided the schools remain open.

• **Graduating seniors.** Because senior high schools would not be desegregated until the third year of the plan, all students in the 10th grade at the start of the desegregation plan would be permitted to graduate from their "home" high school.

• **Columbus Plan students.** They would continue to transfer voluntarily from one school to another under special enrollment guidelines.

• **Babysitter transfers.** Not allowed except under "extraordinary circumstances as determined by the assistant superintendent of administration."

• **Medical transfers.** Also would be denied except for extraordinary circumstances.

**IF PARENTS MOVE**, a pupil would transfer to the school designated for the new residence. If the move occurs during the last six weeks of the school year, parents would have the option of providing transportation and keeping their child at the former school.

Assignments for pupils under legal guardianship or custody would be based on the residence of the guardian.

At present there are six alternative schools operating in the school district. Officials have proposed that 10 more be opened during the three-year phase-in of desegregation.

**DURING THE** first year the alternative schools that would be added are the Gettysburg Environmental Science School, Glenmont Arts Impact School, James Road Career Motivation School, Lexington Informal School, Lindbergh Arts Impact School, Shepard Transitional School, and arts impact schools at Olde Orchard and Marburn elementary schools.

In the second year, Roosevelt Junior High School would become an alternative school, but no program has yet been determined, Davis said. During the third year, North High School also would become an alternative program school, with the type of program not yet decided.

Talking to reporters after the meeting, Boley said of the plan, "As a result of this approach, all racially identifiable black schools are eliminated, as per the court's order, and 63 of the 84 racially identifiable white schools would fall within the court's range of 17 to 47 percent black enrollment for racially balanced schools."

The recommendation supported by minority board members calls for an average 32 percent black enrollment in schools. The desegregation plan the board approved proposes an average 39 percent black enrollment.

**HOWEVER, DR. WATSON** Walker said black board members are not adamant about a 32 percent breakdown.

Board member Virginia Prentice explained the 32 percent racial balance would allow a better distribution of black and poor white students throughout the school system. Of the system's 96,000 pupils, 32 percent are black, 67.1 percent are white, and other races constitute 0.9 percent.

**REGARDING THE** recommendation supported by black board members, Interim School Supt. Dr. Joseph L. Davis said he did not know how much more refinement board members want.

Areas to be expanded upon, Davis said, would include educational programs, pupil support, staff development and service components.



DR. JOSEPH L. DAVIS



PAUL LANGDON

## Hamler Blasted For TV Remark

M. Steven Boley, Columbus Board of Education president, Friday lashed out against a black school board member for a statement made to the news media.

Boley was irritated by a television interview with Dr. David D. Hamlar in which Hamlar said there are two boards, a black one and a white one.

**"THERE IS ONLY one board,"** Boley asserted. "And I speak as its president."

Boley contended divisive statements would "destroy the community when we're trying to keep the community together."

Hamlar said later a reporter asked him if there are two boards. "I said yes. I agreed with that thought," Hamlar said.

**"THERE'S A** complete difference when the board is voting on things which affect blacks," Hamlar contended. "We get 7-0 votes on matters involving education in general. Every time it involves desegregation, the vote is divided. Friday wasn't the first time. We've been discussing desegregation since 1967."

Boley maintained he was fair to the black board members in allowing the minority recommendation to be presented, along with the board's plan, to the court.

"I did not take sides," Boley said. "ON 4-3 VOTES, board differences have been in terms of educational philosophies," he added. "I assume that is the reasoning of the minority. I hope they're not voting together as blacks. But my assumptions are wearing thin."

Boley said the plan the board approved, involving an average 39 percent black enrollment, was a compromise. Three recommendations



M. STEVEN BOLEY

were proposed, he explained, offering racial balances of 42, 39 and 32 percent.

The 32 percent plan supported by black board members, Boley explained, "requires massive cross-town busing and the one-way busing of black children to outlying schools."

**"IT'S A** MASS movement of bodies with no relationship to education," Boley said.

"It would mean transporting Livingston School pupils to Georgian Heights, Olde Orchard to Main and Alpine to Duxberry."

Boley said he is against massive cross-town busing, racial quotas and use of schools to perfect a socio-economic mix.

## School Board Wants State To Finance Desegregation

The Columbus Public School system joined Dayton public schools in seeking to have the courts order the Ohio Department of Education to pick up the tab for desegregation.

The Columbus board, by a 4-3 vote, authorized the filing of a motion in U.S. District Court, asking that the state pay costs estimated at \$23 million. The motion was filed Friday afternoon.

**OHIO SCHOOL** Supt. Franklin B. Walter said Friday afternoon the Dayton school system made the same request. It is in litigation.

"There are no immediate financial sources at the state level for this purpose," Walter explained.

He said it has been pointed out to a state Senate Finance Committee that there is a financial need among schools faced with desegregation or voluntary integration. Walter said he could not

predict if the legislature will help those districts.

**HE SAID** the Columbus request will be turned over to the state Department of Education's legal advisers for review.

The Columbus board voted along racial lines in approving the filing of the motion.

White board members supporting the action were M. Steven Boley, Paul R. Langdon, Virginia E. Prentice and Marilyn Redden. The black board members against it were Marie Castleman, Dr. David D. Hamlar and Dr. Watson H. Walker.

**HAMLAR SAID** later the school system should not ask the state to pay more than half the desegregation costs because both systems had been found guilty of illegal segregation.

## Teachers Still Seek Court OK

The Columbus Education Association (CEA) — the teachers' organization — will continue to seek court approval to intervene in desegregation planning.

The action will be taken even though CEA and the Columbus Board of Education have reached tentative agreement on a memorandum outlining the teachers' role in desegregation.

**JACK BURGESS**, CEA executive director, said an appeal filed with the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati will be pursued. It is an appeal of U.S. District Judge Robert M. Duncan's denial of the request.

"Despite the memorandum, we still feel we have to be involved in the planning," Burgess said. "We don't know if the city or state plan will be approved, or if Duncan will approve another plan."

Burgess said he expected the CEA's building representatives to approve the memorandum. They meet Tuesday. The CEA's board of governors has recommended approval.

**DR. JOSEPH L. DAVIS**, interim superintendent, told the board the memorandum modifies its contract with teachers to assist in desegregation planning.

It provides, he said, for staggered school starting times and that no teachers be required to ride school buses, other than during educational trips. Other provisions are that classroom sizes not be increased and that there be a standard procedure for reassignment of teachers in schools involved in involuntary desegregation.

The memorandum was added to the desegregation plan filed Friday in U.S. District Court.

**M. STEVEN BOLEY**, board president, explained Duncan needed to be informed of the cooperative effort regarding implementation of a desegregation plan.

The black board members, as they did on votes on the plan and on a request that the Ohio Department of Education pay for desegregation costs, voted against the memorandum.

The agreement was approved by a 4-3 vote with white board members voting to support it.

## Callers Keep Information Center Busy

The Columbus Public Schools' telephone information center was swamped with inquiries Friday after the school board voted on a desegregation plan.

Frank Maraffa, who was one of the volunteers who handled calls from after 1 p.m. until the center closed at 9 p.m., said most of the inquiries were from parents who wanted to know which school their children would attend.

Maraffa, executive director of the department of special program development, said a few callers expressed displeasure about the plan.

The center will be open Saturday and Sunday from noon until 6 p.m. Callers should dial 221-3228.

## Flynt Sues Military

By The Associated Press

**Hustler** publisher Larry Flynt said Friday the magazine has filed suit in U.S. District Court at Baltimore, Md., against Maj. Gen. Bobby Presley of the Army-Air Force Exchange Service over his refusal to allow sale of the men's publication in post exchange stores.

Flynt said the action, seeking \$500,000 in damages, charges that Presley acted arbitrarily in his selection of publications for sale in stores on military bases.

## Minority Panelists To Ask Refinement Of Other Plan

The desegregation recommendation put forward by the black members of the Columbus Board of Education consists of pages and pages of statistical data.

The pages list pupil assignments — proposed percentages of black pupils in each school and the number to be bused.

**THE MINORITY** board members will ask U.S. District Judge Robert M. Duncan to order city school administrators to refine the plan, according to board member Dr. David D. Hamlar.

"We're going to ask the judge to subpoena them to finish it," Hamlar said in an interview after the board meeting. Hamlar explained the plan favored by the minority board members is not as detailed as the desegregation plan approved by the board.

"The (administration's) planning committee presented our plan," Hamlar stated. "They put their best foot

forward, but they were never allowed to finish it."

**HAMLAR SAID** HE wanted both proposals developed to the same extent. "Let the community be the judge then," he said.

Hamlar maintained the minority recommendation, rejected by white board members, provides for a greater mix of pupils and involves all schools.

"It wouldn't cost as much as the approved plan. Less, I believe," Hamlar said. The number of students to be bused in both plans would be the same, he added.

**HAMLAR COMPLAINED** the plan approved by the board Friday creates "havens for white flight."

Contending white board members did not want to do a good job on the desegregation plan, Hamlar commented. "They lost the case in court. They're trying to win it in the remedy phase."



DR. DAVID HAMLAR, LEFT, AND MRS. MARILYN REDDEN



MRS. MARIE CASTLEMAN



MRS. VIRGINIA PRENTICE, LEFT, AND DR. WATSON WALKER

## Human Services Will Be Topics For Workshops

A series of human services workshops will be offered this summer by Ohio State University's College of Social Work, officials announced Thursday.

The abbreviated courses, of three-to-five days each, are for social work professionals involved in services to children and in health care, mental health services and counseling.

The courses are to begin July 11. Information about them may be obtained from Bernard S. Weiss in the OSU social work college.

## WTVN-TV Buys Building For New Offices, Studios

By Bud Wilkinson  
Dispatch Television-Radio Writer

WTVN-TV (Channel 6) will move into new offices and studios next year.

Fred Von Stade, WTVN-TV vice president and general manager, disclosed late Friday afternoon that the local Taft Broadcasting station will purchase the building now occupied by Gates McDonald Co. at 1261 Dublin Rd.

**A LETTER OF** agreement for purchase of the 34,000-square-foot building and a three-acre tract of land was signed Friday with the American General Life Insurance Co. of Houston, Tex., Von Stade said.

The actual contract will be signed within a month, he reported. American General has owned the Dublin Rd. site for about four years.

Neither Von Stade nor an American General spokesman in Houston would reveal the purchase price.

**"WE'VE BEEN** looking at properties for about nine months," Von Stade reported, adding that WTVN-TV's present facility at 753 Harmon Ave. will be placed for sale.

The present building has about 21,000 square feet. It has housed WTVN-TV for the last 24 years.

Plans call for the construction of two studios as well as two bowling lanes at the new location. The alleys will be used for the station's weekly program Bowling Classic.

**GATES McDONALD** has six months to vacate the property. Von Stade said construction of the studios — one for news, and one to serve a variety of

purposes — and the bowling lanes will start as soon as WTVN-TV assumes control of the property.

He estimated it will be a year before WTVN-TV's operation is moved to the new location. He said the Dublin Rd. location was chosen because it is zoned commercial rather than industrial and because of its easy access.

## Parents Say Son Home Near Time Of Murders

The parents of a man on trial for a double slaying said their son had a sandwich with them in their Marysville home about 30 minutes after he was supposed to have been at the Columbus murder scene.

Rex Allen Wilson, 22, is charged with the March 12 aggravated murders of Peter Cantu, 21, and David Bopp, 22, both of 6928 Feder Rd.

**PROSECUTION** witnesses Thursday and Friday said they saw Wilson at the Feder Rd. address early in the afternoon of the killings.

Marilyn and Ralph Wilson, the parents of the accused, said Wilson dropped by their Marysville home about 2:15 p.m., roughly 30 minutes after witnesses said they saw him at the Feder Rd. address.

Mrs. Wilson said she prepared her son a bacon, lettuce and tomato sandwich and that he borrowed \$20 from her husband during the stay. The

accused lived on a family farm about 12 miles outside of Marysville.

**PROSECUTION** witnesses said they found Wilson at the Feder Rd. home where Cantu was lying on a couch bleeding from the head.

Another man, apparently Bopp, was taking care of Cantu. Witnesses said Wilson told them the emergency squad had been called, that police were probably coming, and if they had and any drugs on them, they had better leave quickly. Several witnesses testified during the trial that the Feder Rd. home was the scene of drug dealings.

The witnesses who said they had seen Wilson at the scene said they were told that Cantu had injured himself in a fall.

**ON THE NEXT DAY**, March 13, the bodies of Bopp and Cantu were found with bullet wounds in their heads.

Wilson faces a death penalty if convicted of the murders.