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# THE CARLISLE MERCURY

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## Board approves new high school on 3-2 vote

By Pam Shephard

Of The Capital Building Staff

CARLISLE — The Nicholas County Board of Education voted 3-2 to authorize Superintendent Robert Gilbert and School Board Chairperson Louise Zachary to complete the BC-1 (Building and Grounds) application for the planning of a new Nicholas County High School Monday night.

In a related move, the Nicholas County School Board rejected all bids on the construction of a running track and athletic complex. According to Gilbert, all bids for the track and athletic fields were too costly.

The Building and Grounds application is the first step in a four-part process to construct a school building, Gilbert said. The application is, basically, a report to the state concerning the estimated costs of building construction, he said. State officials will review the application to assess if the project, as initially described, is cost efficient.

School member Hooge Hall entered the motion to complete the application at the present time, Gilbert said, the maximum amount of money the school can bond is \$3,375,000. Subtracting handling fees on bonds, legal fees, and architect fees, the amount left over is estimated at \$3,118,761 to be used in the actual construction of the new high school, he said.

Now, the total amount of debt the school pays per year, at this time, is \$251,672. With the added cost of the new bond issue for \$300, Gilbert said the school would pay an additional \$204,305 to make the total annual debt payment by the school \$456,038 per year, Gilbert said.

However, the school has the resources to meet all payments, Gilbert said.

With the Capital Outlay

which was seconded by David Smoot.

In a call vote John Chaves and Sammie Vire voted against the motion while Zachary, Smoot, and Hall voted in favor of it.

Several parents and teachers filed the Nicholas County School Board Office to capacity to voice their opinions on the subject of a new high school as well as on several other pressing school issues. By far the majority of those attending the meeting supported construction of a new high school, although there were also some dissenting views voiced as well.

But before the actual vote on the application motion Gilbert introduced the method by which the school could be afforded.

The figures Gilbert quoted came from Ralph Nall, the Nicholas County Fiscal Agent with First Security of Kentucky Bonding Agency.

Based on the current budget and all available Nicholas County School funding, Nall arrived at the following estimates.

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Fund the school has \$119,610. The local five percent tax rate would generate \$71,340 with no increase in the tax rate. State facility support money adds another \$43,268. The remainder of the money will come from Tier 1 funds at \$280,000 for a total of \$514,794 available in the school budget to meet the debt service, Gilbert said, with \$28,756 to spare to cover unexpected occurrences.

Capital Outlay, the five percent tax, and State Facility Support money all have to be spent on buildings, Gilbert said.

"That money can't be used for anything else," he said. Tier 1 money, however, can be used for anything, he said.

Zachary asked if the board wanted to schedule an open public forum to discuss a new high school.

Vire said he was the voice of the people and needed to know how his district felt about building a new school. Hall, however, put the application up in a motion.

**Problems of old high school outlined**

Greg Reid, Nicholas County High School Principal spoke to the capacity crowd about the various improvements and problems with the present Nicholas County High School.

On the positive side, the school has received new computers for the Industrial Arts and Vocational Agriculture Department, new typewriters for typing and economics classes.

The school lunch program has vastly improved nutritionally with the implementation of a salad bar, he said.

The band classroom is carpeted, there are sinks in the art room and Spanish has been added to the curriculum.

"More has been done with Continued on Page 12



The Carlisle Mercury/Pam Shephard Photo  
Students, volunteer firemen, and other emergency rescue professionals were out in force last Saturday for a hands-on course in automobile emergency victim extraction procedures. In all, about six park cars were scientifically and systematically sliced, shimmied, cut and opened using a variety of manual tools for the job. Emergency Medical Technician Instructor Miles Hughes, with nationally recognized regional and rescue EMT trainer and instructor Del Marsfield of Louisville, in association with Kentucky Tech's EMT training department, spent the entire day going over the basics of safety in emergency extraction procedures.

## Darbro files suit against Education Standards Board

By Josh Shephard

Of The Capital Building Staff

FLENDFORD — A former Nicholas County High School teacher, whose teaching certificate was revoked last October amid allegations of "immoral conduct", has filed a legal suit against the Education Professional Standards board, which made the decision, to regain his status as a Kentucky school teacher.

According to the Franklin Circuit Court case file, Doug G. Darbro, who resigned his post as a Nicholas County High School math teacher in March of 1991, was apparently informed by letter in May of this year that the Education

Professional Standards Board was to hold a hearing on October 6 to determine whether Darbro's teaching certificate should be revoked upon allegations of "immoral conduct".

At Darbro's request, the hearing was to be held in private as was his right under Kentucky statutes.

The apparent result of the hearing was that Darbro's teaching certificate would be revoked for a period of 30 years.

In the suit which Darbro filed last Thursday against the decision of the Standards Board, Darbro charged that the board violated Kentucky

statute when the result and several pertinent factual details of Darbro's hearing were apparently leaked and reported in an article published by the Lexington Herald-Leader.

It is also Darbro's charge that his possible actions, which allegedly involve "associations with female students and a former student", is conduct not explicitly forbidden by any Kentucky law or in any code of conduct for teachers.

Therefore, as 676 suit claims, the suspension of his teaching certificate for 30 years was an arbitrary and unsupported decision of the

Standards Board.

Darbro also claims in his suit that the decision not only violated his own right to a private proceeding by virtue of the board allegedly releasing a detailed account of the proceeding and its decision to the press, but his own constitutional rights guaranteed by the First, Fifth and 14th Amendments of Constitution as well as guarantees of the Kentucky Constitution.

Therefore, his suit claims that the decision of the Board was excessive, arbitrary, and may lack validity to which Darbro may seek relief.

Laussats filed only give one side of an issue.

## Board allocates funds for aides

By Pam Shephard

Of The Capital Building Staff

CARLISLE — Besides a new high school, parents and teachers filed school board chambers Monday night to lobby for the employment of additional school aides in the systems primary school program.

Although the school could not actually hire new aides, board members agreed to amend the 1992-93 elementary school budget to cover the salary of "employee instructional assistants" at a cost of \$866.

The group of concerned parents and teachers which filled the school board room expressed concern over the current situation with K-1 classes in the Nicholas County primary education program.

The ungraded primary program mandated by the

Kentucky Education Reform Act, which involves students technically in grades K-3, has apparently caused tremendous widespread concern all over the state.

From a budgeting standpoint, hiring more aides at the kindergarten level doesn't pay off, Nicholas County Superintendent Robert Gilbert said, because Nicholas County's kindergarten program is an all day program, unlike most schools which carry only half day kindergarten.

"Schools receive money for every student in school and we are paid for a full day. But the state does not pay the same for kindergarten students. Every school system in the state receives half day pay from the state for the kindergarten program," Gilbert said.

From an educational

standpoint, Gilbert said, a full day kindergarten program can be beneficial. So the school system agreed to cover the additional cost of running an all day program, he said.

He also resolves a lot of parent scheduling conflicts, he said.

"Kindergarten students cost about \$4,000 per child compared to about \$2,000 each for other students," he said.

As a whole, though, the group said that neither the kindergarten students nor the first graders were receiving the kind of attention needed to

mentary school and the school board can allocate the money and Gilbert hire the personnel.

Nicholas County High School Principal Greg Reid, speaking in his capacity as the father of a primary age student, said, "Going to the site based council is not the answer. You have a group of

**Correction**

In last week's lead story of the Carlisle Mercury, Rocky Reid was incorrectly identified as a Nicholas County Primary Grade teacher in K-1 classes. She is not a teacher and has never been employed by the school. She spoke at the meeting as a concerned parent, who, with several other parents present at the meeting, has a child enrolled in the Nicholas primary school system.



The Carlisle Mercury/Pam Shephard Photo  
Gladye Shrou and Julie Metzger, Co-Chairpersons of the Carlisle-Nicholas County Tourism Inc. presented Anna Lee Smith with her first place trophy and ribbon on winning the Bicentennial Quilt Show. Ella Ritchie's quilt was winning in the quilt show. The quilt show had 82 quilts and over 150 visitors to the show. Pictured from left to right: Shrou, Smith, and Metzger.