

League Don Tolmach

* Within the limitations of available financial resources
the Oxnard Union High School district is ~~not~~ ^{a good program} providing the
BEST possible program for its students. The incumbent candi-
dates ^{District} have turned down some Federal aid programs and refused
to investigate others insisting that the local property owner
carry the entire burden. The district accepts Federal aid in
the form of the impacted area per pupil money, which incidentally
is the largest amount of money available, --about a half a
million in this years' budget---- and yet it has turned down
Federal impacted area building funds in past years. The Board
turned down Federal aid for language labs and insisted that
~~the~~ local property owner pay for these. I would study each
proposal carefully and accept or reject it not by its label
but on the basis of value to our pupils and our district tax-
payers. Since the local property owner has increased his share
of the cost of education in the past several years from 50%
to nearly 75%, funds from other than property tax should be
welcomed.

In seeking to strengthen the present program, I would

investigate the means of implimenting all the recommendations of the Western Association of Secondary Schools in its 1964 appraisal of Oxnard High School ---specifically ~~in~~ ~~the~~ the suggestion that a director of curriculum be assigned at the district level to encourage continuing curriculum development. This was also recommended in 1962 in the CASSA accrediting of Hueneme High School.

Specifically also the recommendation that the supervisory function of the members of the administrative staff be carefully analyzed in order to give the large number of probationary teachers the best possible supervision. I note that a smaller district (the Ventura district) spends \$11.36 per pupil to accomplish this job and we spend nothing. Many more of the recommendations of this accrediting group need to be studied carefully and ways found to carry them out.

Also I would study ways of aiding the recruiting and keeping of highly qualified teachers since we are recruiting such ~~a~~ ~~large~~ large numbers of teachers and will be while our population explodes. Salary studies would be involved in this as well as the entire procedure for hiring. (These three time consuming

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jobs I have just discussed are at the present time/^{much} being carried out by our ~~over~~ over-burdened principal.)

We need to explore the need for a program for the Educationally Handicapped. I favor the expansion of our vocational programs within each existing school rather than a separate vocational school. There would, of course, be a different emphasis in each school depending on the needs of the students in that community and the total needs of the district. In this way the programs would be more readily adjustable to the changing job opportunities and the changing needs of some students as they mature. We need to strengthen the vocational guidance ~~to~~ to match the change in our non-college curriculum without weakening the total guidance program.

After carefully studying the budget I could not suggest eliminating any programs. ^{That is we spend per pupil is the lowest in the County High Schools} Should ^{we} be pressed financially I would, after being satisfied that each department in each school has trimmed its budget without decreasing the quality of education, recommend an increase in taxes. ^{The amount we spend per pupil is the lowest in County High Schools} This would be possible now since our high school tax rate is about average for districts throughout the State and because taxes have been cut in recent

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years with the understanding that should the need arise they would be increased. I do not think this problem will arise if we seek outside sources of money to help us provide the programs we think are necessary and appropriate for our district.