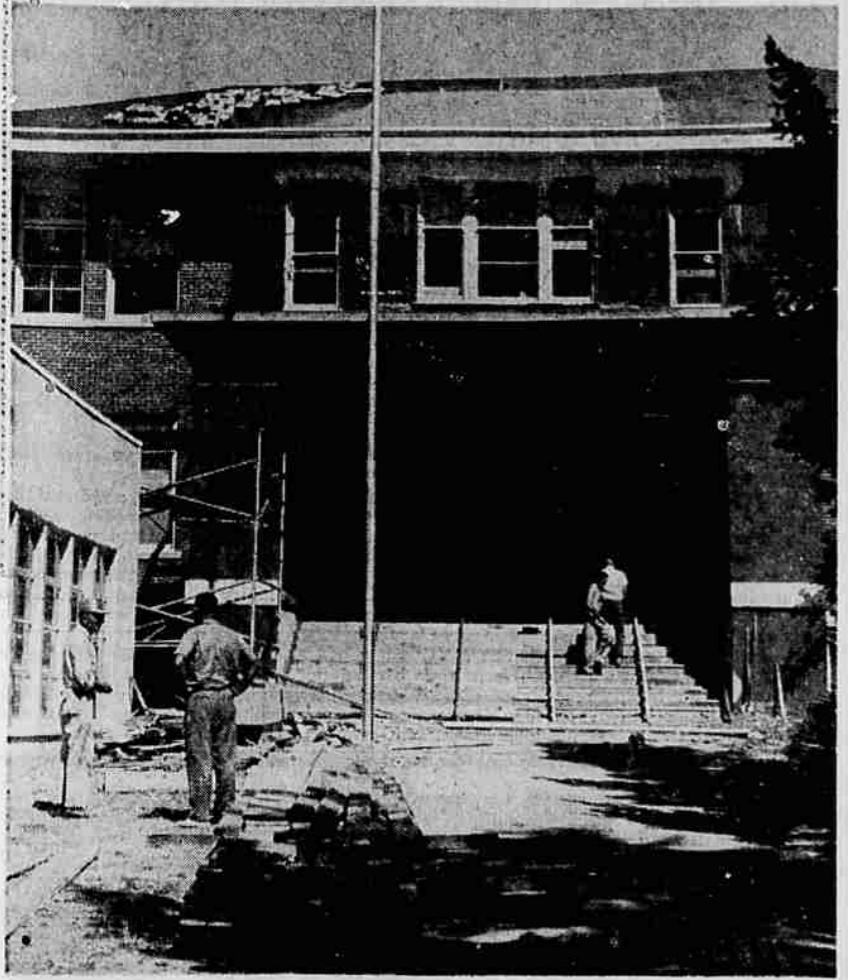


School Budgets Considered Long Before Adoption

School budgets, which are figured on a fiscal year basis from July 1 through June 30, are started early in the calendar year in which the fiscal year starts.

Before the budget committee, which is composed of the school board and an equal number of lay members, is presented a proposed budget, it is reviewed by school officials. The proposed budget includes only those items which are considered necessary to operate a high quality educational program.

Most budget committees in Jackson county school districts have 10 members—five school board members and five lay members, all of whom serve without pay and all of whom are responsible citizens in the district.



SCHOOL REPAIRS—Russ Acheson, (back to camera) assistant superintendent of Medford public schools in charge of buildings, maintenance and transportation, gets a report of progress of repair work at the Jacksonville school. Included in repair work was the removal of the cupola from the main building (over the main entrance above) as a safety precaution. Steps leading to the main entry also are being repaired.

The first stage in preparing a school district budget is in the individual school. Teachers and the school custodians review the previous year's program and its cost with the principal. Then they compose a detailed list of anticipated needs, together with any requests for additional items not included in previous years.

The school's budget request is submitted to the district superintendent, who reviews all of the school's requests, and later discusses each school's needs individually with the principal involved.

Each request is substantiated with facts and information indicating the need. Funds for items which may be postponed or financed through other means (such as a bond issue) will be brought to the attention of the budget committee if not included in the proposed budget.

First Stage in Budget

After the district superintendent reviews the budget requests with individual school principals, totals are compiled on state supplied forms, and presented to the budget committee. This usually is sometime in February or March.

Once budget committee meetings commence, members devote many hours studying requests, questioning items about which they may not have knowledge, comparing the budget with previous years, and comparing it with budgets from other districts, if possible. Some districts conduct tours of district facilities so lay members of the committee may have a better idea of where the money goes.

By comparing the proposed budget with that proposed in other districts of comparable size, budget committee members can determine if proposed expenses are out of line with other districts. If they are excessive or considerably lower than other districts of a comparable size, the complete program is reviewed to see what may be out of line.

Determine Increase

A comparison with the previous year's budget will

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Adopt Budget

If no election is necessary, the school board adopts the budget following the public hearing. If there is an election, the budget is adopted after approval of the voters.

Should the voters reject the amount over the 6 per cent limitation, the school has authority to make any changes necessary to meet the approval of the voters, or to cut the budget to within the 6 per cent limitation, which in most cases would mean undesirable drastic cuts in the school program.

After adoption, the budget is filed with the county school superintendent, who in turn submits it to the county assessor and the state department of education.

determine how much of an increase may be expected in property taxes in the district, the major source of revenue for Oregon school. If the increase appears too great, the budget committee takes another look at the requests and every effort is taken to keep increases to a minimum.

Because of increased costs of services, supplies, equipment and construction, and increased enrollments in almost every district in the state, eliminating some increase in school district budgets each year is almost impossible if the district maintains a standard educational program for its children.

Once the budget committee decides on a budget which it believes will provide the most educational benefits for the least amount of money, the budget is submitted to the school board for final action as prescribed by law.

Call Public Hearing

The school board, when it receives the budget, calls a public hearing, at which interested district patrons may discuss the proposal. In some districts, the board holds public meetings to review the budget with interested citizens.

The budget by law is published in a newspaper of general circulation in the district at least twice before the public hearing. The school board also calls an election on the budget if necessary to get voters' approval of expenditures exceeding more than a per cent increase over the highest tax base of the previous three years.

The latter has occurred each year for the past several years, and school officials have come to accept it as normal when considering the budget.

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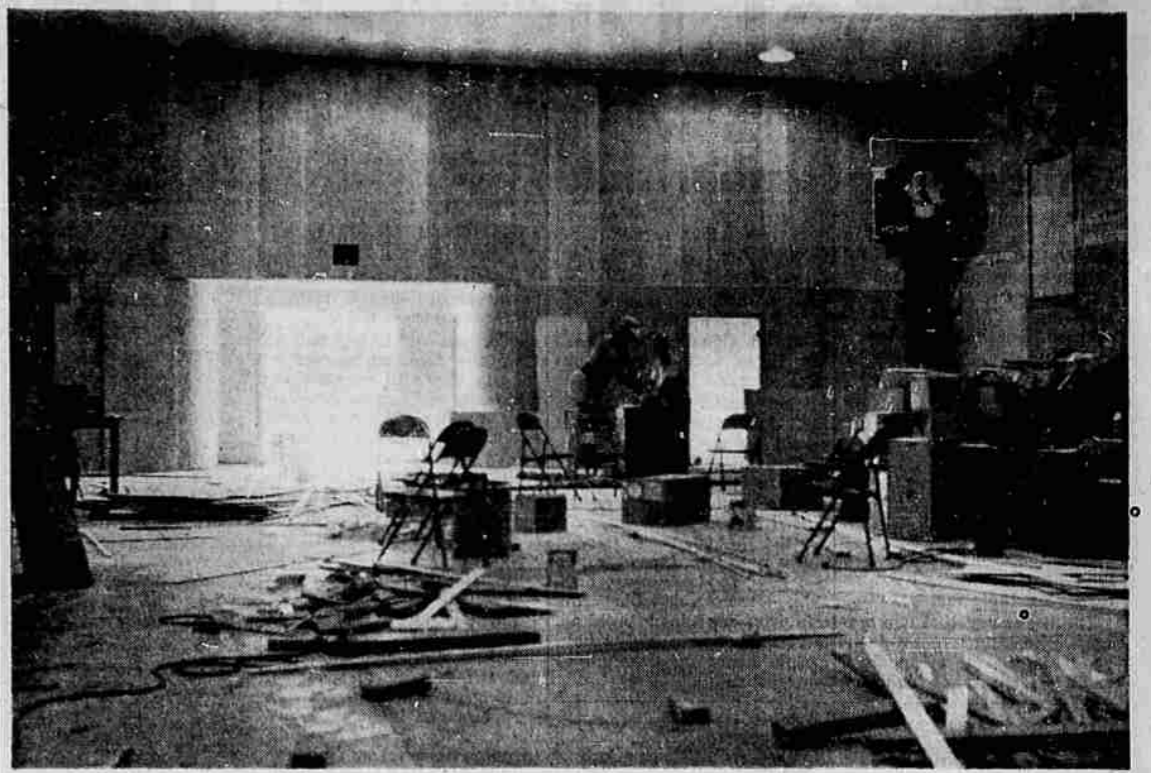
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Lack of Interest

Lack of family interest in learning is sometimes the reason for scholastic underachievement in children of ability. In one study, a group of children who had failed the first grade were put into a special room for the next year. During the period of investigation, teachers visited the home of each child. One of their observations was the lack of any kind of reading material in many of the homes. In others, they found these underachieving children had never visited the public library, only three or four blocks away. The children had seldom traveled outside of the city.

What can be done to help bright underachievers live up to their high potentials? They do say this: the underachiever in high school should be taught the learning skills he failed to acquire in earlier grades. He will probably improve, too, if he has a teacher who is consistently interested in him as an individual, and who accepts him as a bright and able person with a need for special help.



REMODELING—Included in the summer work program for personnel in the Medford school district is remodeling work in various schools to improve and expand facilities. Above, workmen are shown remodeling the gymnasium at Jacksonville into a multi-purpose room.

'Underachiever' Is Subject of Research

Washington, D. C. — If your child is intelligent, but not as successful in school as he should be, he may be what educators call an "underachiever."

As such, he and the thousands of others like him have recently been analyzed, surveyed, researched, probed, and conferred about by teachers, psychologists, curriculum supervisors, and guidance counselors.

Their purpose was to discover why people of similar intelligence often differ widely in school achievement. The National Education Association has been conducting a special project on the academically talented for the past two years. These are some of the things the experts have discovered about the underachieving child, and how he gets that way:

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Back-To-School Dances Popular

As schools open, thousands of youngsters all over the nation have found a pleasant way to say hello to old friends and at the same time make new ones—with back to school dance parties.

The dances set a festive mood that continues throughout the school year, according to surveys conducted by the Recreational Dancing Institute, a public service organization dedicated to furthering social dancing.

Back-to-school parties range from a school-wide affair at the school itself or at a local ballroom, to class dances or dance parties at home. Committees should be formed to make the arrangements for any school-wide dance inaugurating the new term.

In the home, all that's needed for party's success are simple refreshments... a clear space for dancing.

Music can be provided by favorite records or by a student musical combo.

Youngsters say dance parties help them get acquainted with more fellow students; help them know newcomers to the school and help get the school year's social whirl off to a good start!

Registration Set At Ashland Schools

Ashland—Registration for Ashland city schools has been scheduled Sept. 8 and 9, according to Stanley C. Jobe, City school superintendent.

Junior and senior high school students will register beginning at 9 a.m., Sept. 8. Each class will have a different period in which to register. The schedule will be announced later.

Registration for grade school children will start at 9 a.m. and continue until noon Sept. 9. A special registration of first grade children will be held that day from 7 until 9 p.m. for those parents who were unable to register in the morning.

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