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Re-organization, strike threat face township schools

By R. R. Faszczewski
The township's public schools will open for the 1982-1983 school year amid several possible sources of controversy. In the four elementary schools, which will re-open on Wednesday, Sept. 8, some students may be facing the last year in the schools they have been traditionally attending because of a possible re-organization of the school districts by the Board of Education.

Under the present system Valley Road and Henny house kindergartens to fifth graders; Kumpf, kindergartens to eighth graders, and Brewer, sixth to eighth graders. A special meeting of the school body has been scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 9, at 7:30 p.m. at the

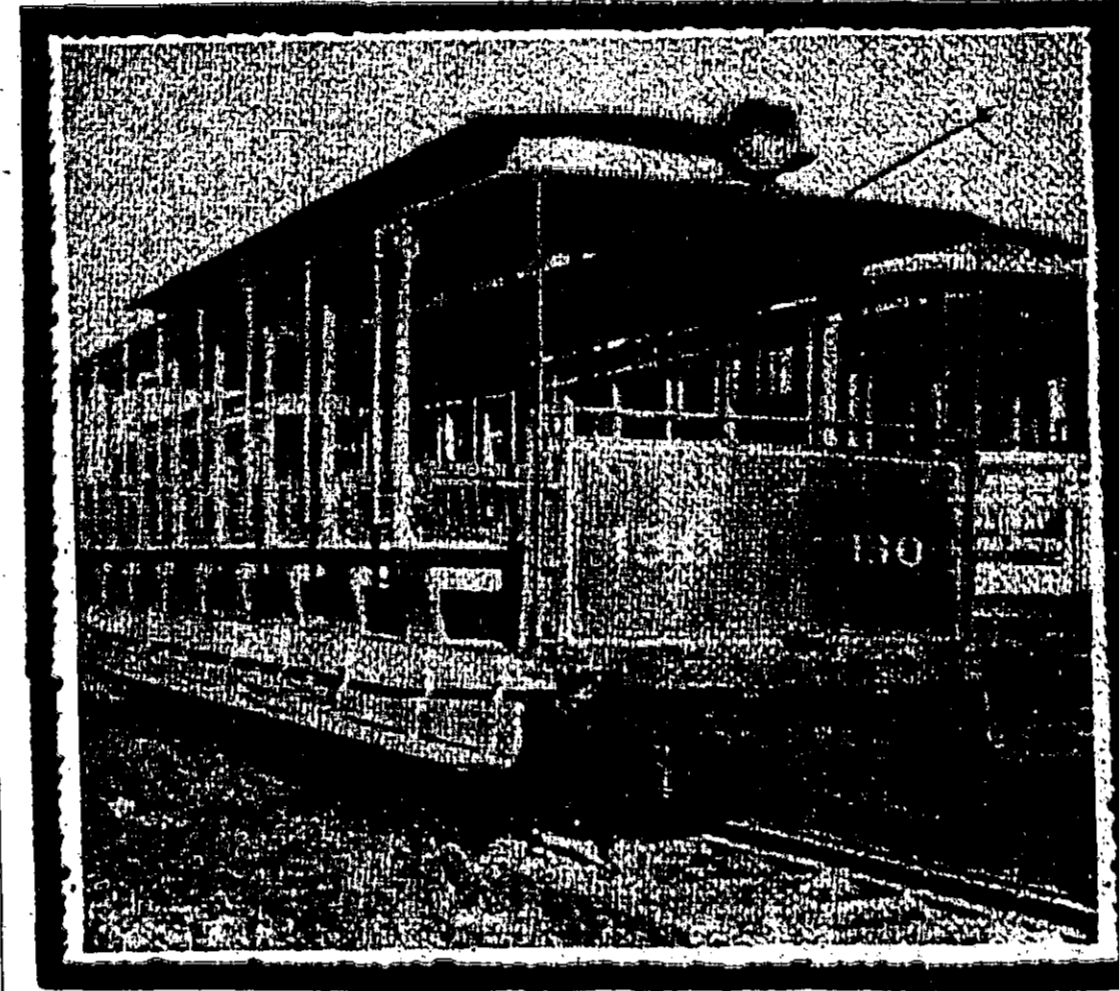
administration building on Schindler Rd. to discuss the alternative plans. The township's high school, Arthur L. Johnson Regional, with a projected enrollment of 1,013 this year, faces the possibility of a strike on the first day of school by its teaching staff, and will be opening the 1982-1983 year with greatly-reduced state aid.

Freshman orientation at Johnson will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 7, with the opening day of school set for Sept. 8. In the Union County Regional High School District No. 1, which includes Johnson, as a whole enrollment dropped from

3,952 last year to 3,675 this year. A newly-formed committee of the district's Board of Education, the "Committee on Future Planning," will study the issue in terms of long-range planning for the district. The state informed the district in early June its minimum-aid allocation of \$1,012,435, which was certified by New Jersey last November, would not be forthcoming. After gaining approval of its current expense budget by voters last spring, the district has recently decided to cut as many budget items as possible which do not directly affect the education of students to make up for the loss of aid, a spokesman reports.

One of the major issues facing the district is the 1982-1983 contract between it and the American Federation of Teachers has not been settled. Although the district spokesman said negotiations are continuing, and a contract could be approved before school opening, the federation has publicized a "no-contract, no-work" position in effect. Therefore, the Board has made contingency plans in the event of a strike by teachers and other staff members on opening day, reports the spokesman. He added, "If a strike occurs, the Board is committed to keeping schools open for students, and to protect

the safety and security of students, working staff and school property and equipment." Among new courses to be offered at the township school this year are: Advanced placement physics to be taught on a college level, a basic-skills improvement program as a required course for one semester for one year for students identified as requiring basic-skills instruction in communications and/or computation and a course in institutional home management and support services in connection with the district being designated as a Local-Area Vocational School District.



REAL AIR CONDITIONING - Open trolleys like the ones pictured at Rahway Junction (Westfield) rolled through Clark on a line which existed from 1901 until June 3, 1928. Clark residents could use the trolleys to go to Westfield, where they could board trolleys of the main line between Plainfield and Elizabeth or ride to Boynton Beach and Keasby.



CHANGING OF THE GUARD - New officers will preside at the first meeting of the Rahway Retired Men's Club, which includes Clark members, on Monday, Sept. 13, after the summer recess. The officers, shown left to right, are John Schmidt, the assistant chaplain, George Black, a trustee and chaplain, Harold Gibson, a sergeant-at-arms, Donald Russell, the treasurer, John Husak, the president, Chester Krulikowski, the first vice



FOUNDING FATHERS - Nine members of the founding Board of Trustees of Union County College in Cranford, the newest public community college in New Jersey, shown left to right, at the organization meeting held on Aug. 17 at the Cranford campus are: Standing, Manuel S. Dios of Clark, James J. Canoy of Westfield, Thomas J. Gallagher of Cranford, Mrs. Mary Alice Pugh of Scotch Plains and Robert D. Youngmans of Mountain-

Budgeting tabled for school aid

An \$11,250 increase in the amount of federal money the Clark Board of Education is to receive for the 1982-1983 school year to help the handicapped under programs mandated by federal law was reviewed by Board members on Aug. 24.

However, because they disagreed with the proposed distribution of the additional aid into various accounts in the 1982-1983 school budget, the Board members voted to table approval of the budget changes.

Also tabled was approval of a staff in-service program to be held early this fall. A \$12,357.43 bid for the Frank K. Henny School central communications system was accepted from Cooksey's Electronic Systems of North Brunswick.

In order to comply with a provision of their contract with ARA Food Services, school body members gave their permission for the appropriation of \$10,000 from free balances for the 1982-1983 school year.

Advanced study grants for this fall totaling \$259,200 each were approved for staff members, Francine Torsietto and Ken Davidson.

Also okayed was transportation for one handicapped student as approved by the school medical officer, and recommended by the Child Study Team.

Approved the employment of Walter Boright as administrative aide for Brewer School for the 1982-1983 school year at a stipend of \$1,100.

Approved the resignation of William McMahon as custodian and head custodian at Brewer School, effective July 15 of this year.

Approved the employment of Edward Vella as a custodian at an annual salary of \$11,670.

Approved the appointment of Barry Wesver as head custodian at Brewer School for the upcoming school year at an annual, pro-rated stipend of \$500.

Granted stipends of \$200 each to Roberto Marf, Mrs. Argentina Navarro and Modesto Navarro for having received their fireman's licenses.

Approved the employment of a supplemental teacher for the class for the perceptually-impaired.

Approved a change from side to supplemental instructor for a first-grade handicapped child.

Tabled a change in the job description for this special program for further information, please telephone the Community Relations office at the hospital at 381-4200, extension 352.

Approved the employment of a supplemental teacher for the class for the perceptually-impaired.



TELEVISION STAR - Kelly Bennett, right, a fourth grader from Clark's Carl H. Kumpf School, talks with Danielle Brasbos of 'Archie Bunker's Place' in the make-up room of the NBC Studios in New York. Richard Bennett, left, Kelly's father, will appear with Danielle Brasbos in a segment of 'Today in New York,' to be aired on NBC in the fall.

Hospital to cite its humanitarians

Rahway Hospital's 10th Annual Humanitarian Award Ceremony is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 14, at 8 p.m. in the hospital's conference room.

This year's ceremony will honor the following: Vita Lee of Cranford, an in-service volunteer and coordinator of the Hospice volunteer program; Shirley Levitzky of Rahway, immediate past president of the Rahway Hospital Auxiliary; Nelson Taylor of Clark, a member of the Board of Governors with 10 years of service to the hospital; Dr. Harry Zur of Millburn, an anesthesiologist on the staff of Rahway Hospital and Auxiliary.

A special award will be presented this year by the Board of Governors to Judge Fayette N. Talley of Rahway, a former president of the board with a long history of service to the hospital.

Relatives and friends of the recipients may attend this special program. For further information, please telephone the Community Relations office at the hospital at 381-4200, extension 352.

