

Garwood school has larger kindergarten enrollment

The start of year at the Garwood School is presenting its typical scheduling problems, but principal John Mader seems to have solved most of them.

Three areas have drawn special attention, and another area still is being scrutinized. Because of the large number of boys and girls registered for

kindergarten, there will be two sessions this year — morning and afternoon — for the first time. That has allowed the school to bring in a new half-day teacher.

The new teacher allows the school to eliminate the combination of elementary classes. Last year, the third and fourth

grade were combined for several periods.

However, two kindergarten classes present a scheduling problem. Because of the state ruling that teachers must have their free, 30-minute lunch period and their conference period together, the kindergarten class will be the last one

dismissed from school. The afternoon kindergarten class won't be let out until 3:15 p.m. while most of the rest of the school lets out about 2:55.

The problem Mader had not solved as of last week was the dismissal time for first and second graders. He was trying to arrange a schedule that lets those two grades out also at 2:55 p.m. instead of at 2:10 p.m.

For students who live near the school, the early-out time is no problem. But if the youngster rides the bus, he or she would have to stay on the school grounds until the bus comes nearly 45 minutes later, and that means someone from the school would have to supervise them.

Also, it appears the school may have a larger than expected first grade enrollment, now expected to be 22. The state ruling is that there must be a teacher for every 22 students. Should one or two more students show up, the school district could ask the state for permission to go beyond the limit.

Or, perhaps if the bus routes overlap, one or two students might be able to attend one of the other two schools in the district that have first grade classes.

Although the regular school day hasn't been lengthened, there is a new 8th period for some. Again because of the state, principal Mader said the new period was added so the school could offer the one-semester computer literacy course for 8th graders. Since Eagle Lake Middle School switched totally to Apple computers, the Radio Shack machines that were used there now are available for Garwood.

Also, several new Radio Shack machines were added. All told, there will be 11 computers available, with each machine used by two students.

The computer course will be taught in Garwood during the first semester, then the machines will be taken to the Sheridan School for use the second semester.

When the computers are shipped out for the second semester, Mader is making good use of the available class

time. One of the many effects legislated by House Bill 72 is that schools have less time for PE and athletics, he said. Therefore, in the second semester, the computer students will be taught health that formerly was a part of the PE curriculum.

New teachers
New on the school's staff this year are:

•Mrs. Gloria Dromgoole, to teach Title One reading.
•Mrs. Betty Janish was the Title One reading teacher for a half-day last year, and also was the half-day kindergarten teacher; she will teach kindergarten full time with the morning session scheduled from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. and the afternoon session from 12:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. Mader commented that it seems most all parents want their youngsters in the morning session, but after consulting with Rice district school

supt. Harold King, they decided the morning session, and the older ones in the afternoon.

•Miss Suzanne Baroe has been hired to teach math and science, and the computer literacy course.
•Mrs. Carmen Wiese will teach 8th grade.

•Veronica Parker, a 1975 graduate of Rice High School, is the new special education teacher.

Overall the school has 10 full-time teachers, a special education aide, two reading aides and a half-day migrant aide. Also, for a half-day weekly, the school has the services of a nurse, counselor, and speech therapist.

Mader not only is the principal, but takes charge of "alternate study program" for students with discipline problems. "Instead of suspending a kid for three days if he is uncontrollable," Mader believes keeping him in school is better. "I found out long years ago that some kids do it cause problems just to get kicked out," he said. The program just isn't a study hall as those assigned there have to bring their books.

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Garwood Kindergarten schedule

Below is the schedule for children in the Garwood area attending kindergarten this year:

Morning session (8-11 a.m.):
Joshua Bures, Christie Cranek, Chianti Pratt, Chad Kallina, Petra Sewell, Zachery Daniels, Joseph Melamer, Adriana Rodriguez, Renee Woods, Luke Gallagher, Norman Henderson, Charles Axel, Bonnie Pfeiffer.

Eric Johnson, Valerie Korenek, Irick Bachtell.

Afternoon session (12:15-3:15 p.m.):
Isley Edwards, Kyle Korenek, Cynthia Stevens, Stephanie Labay, Guadalupe Gonzales, Matthew Popp, Chazara Scott, Amanda Weishuhn, Ryan TIL Shumdrick, Tolliver, Rosalind Bell, Brook Cranek, Brad Wisbert, Roberto Hernandez, Delana Smith.



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What to look for in selecting a career

According to the National Association of Trade and Technical Schools, an educational association representing accredited postsecondary occupational schools nationwide, you should spend time researching and planning your career before deciding what you want to do. The U.S. Department of Labor says over 50,000 career specialists exist today.

Your first step should be to consider the variety of careers in existence today. Contact your counselor, library or state labor department for more detailed information. Then follow your individual interests and consider these suggestions:

Your interests — Identify your interests and translate them into career possibilities. Do you enjoy helping people, working with your hands, working with information, creating, designing, being outdoors?

Salary — What salary can you expect to make in your chosen field? After two or three years of experience? Talk with employers and get realistic estimates on what the return on your investment will be.

Advancement — Is your career open-ended? Where will it lead you? Will it offer you the opportunity to eventually start your own business?

Job demand — Is there a

need for your career specialty or are there more trained people than there are jobs available? Choose a career with a future, making sure you won't become obsolete in a few years.

Job mobility — Where are the jobs in your career specialty? Are they in your locale, or would you be required to relocate or travel?

Working conditions — Find out what your duties and work environment will be like. Don't be unpleasantly surprised on the job.

Educational requirements — Nearly every good job today requires specialized training beyond high school. Find out what kind of training is required for your career.

Career hunting is only half the job. You may find you'll need specific training to qualify for jobs in your field, and one of the best ways to prepare for a good career is at a private career school.

Check to see if the school is licensed by your state's postsecondary school licensing bureau and to see if the school is accredited. Accreditation means the school has passed a thorough examination of its business practices and teaching ability by a U.S. Department of Education approved accrediting agency.

Find out if the courses are up-to-date, well-rounded, and of high quality, and if they will prepare you for your field. Also ask how long training will take, and what the total cost of tuition, supplies, and fees will be.

Check out the school's facilities and equipment, and find out if the school has a laboratory or shop to duplicate a real work environment.

Ask about job placement assistance. Does the school help find jobs for graduates? What types of jobs do the graduates get?

Visit the school, preferably when it is in session. Talk to the students to see if they are happy with their training. If possible, talk to graduates and find out what they think of the school.

For additional information on careers and accredited career schools nationwide, write for a free Handbook of Trade and Technical Careers and Training to the National Association of Trade and Technical Schools, Dept. MS, 2251 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20007.

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