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SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD, N.J., THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 1968

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## Board Names Assistant School Superintendent

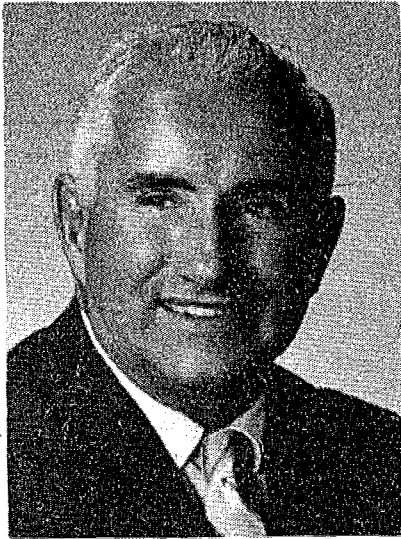
A new assistant superintendent for business, Alfred W. Freeland, was named this week to replace Fred J. Laberge, who became superintendent of schools for Scotch Plains-Fanwood in January. Freeland is presently school business administrator for the Piscataway school district, and will assume the new post on July 1st at an annual salary of \$18,000. Freeland will also serve as secretary to the school board, as did Laberge.

Freeland said "I'm happy to have the appointment and I am looking forward to working for the Scotch Plains Board and for Mr. Laberge. It's an excellent school system and I want to do everything I can to uphold this tradition".

The new assistant superintendent has served in his present post in Piscataway since June of 1967. He was previously assistant superintendent for business in Glen Rock for eight years.

His previous experience includes positions as teacher and principal in the Pocono Mountain Joint School District in Swiftwater, Pa. In addition, he has ten years experience as a tax accountant and auditor with banks. Freeland was a chief petty officer in Naval Intelligence in Washington during World War II.

Freeland holds a BA degree from East Stroudsburg, Pa. College and a master's in educational



ALFRED W. FREELAND

administration from Pennsylvania State University. He has taken additional courses at Rutgers and Penn State in school finance,

accounting, commercial law, and other business courses.

The Freelands now live in Branchburg. The family includes Freeland's wife Betty, two sons, and two daughters. Betty Freeland is active in womens' clubs and church work, and calls herself an "amateur" artist, working in oils. Her husband reports that she has sold several paintings, however, which constitutes a "professional" status to him.

Marie Freeland, 20, is a student at Bethany College in West Virginia. She is engaged to a minister, and will ultimately work in the field of religious education.

Freeland's son Fred, 18, is a freshman at Bethany, majoring in electrical engineering. He is married and the father of a son.

Two other children, David, 14, and Elaine, 11, are students in the eighth and fifth grades, respectively.

## School Board Studies Guidelines for Color Guard Selection

Upon adjournment of the public meeting of the Board of Education last Thursday, April 18, the Board reassembled for a previously set discussion of the extremely tense situation arising out of the selection of Color Guard finalists in the High School competition. This meeting was the latest in a series of discussions which have taken place since February 14, 1968 when Negro students staged a "sit in" to protest the elimination of one Negro girl as a finalist for a position in the Guard. The end result was a charge of racial discrimination.

The Board has remained abreast of the situation and of the discussions being held between the variant groups and the school administration. The Board has, through its representatives, made a thorough investigation of this sensitive situation. The investigation revealed:

1. that no discrimination existed in the selection by either faculty or student judges
2. that there is a need for the revision and expansion of student training practices
3. that it is not advisable to have students involved in the selection of other students

It was within this frame of reference that the Board, together with the administration, reached a joint decision which will provide for remedial action leading to a reconciliation of views and elimination of a recurrence of the Color Guard situation in other school activities.

It is therefore the decision of the Board to support the recommendation of Dr. Perry H. Tyson, Principal of Scotch Plains Fanwood High School, which is as follows:

1. To reinstate the temporarily suspended Color Guard and expand its membership to twenty girls.
2. The membership will include:
  - a. The three Junior girls who were members this year.
  - b. The seven girls who were finalists in the competition on February 14, 1968.
  - c. The ten girls who were finalists but were not selected in the final judging.
3. The officers of the Color Guard will remain as elected prior to suspension of the Guard.

Further, the following actions will be taken:

1. Judging, in future events, will be conducted by faculty members only, and will include Negro and white advisors.
2. An instruction sheet will be issued to all contestants which will include the qualifications and basis for scoring
3. A program of instruction (personnel permitting) will be developed to insure that all applicants receive supervised instruction in the basic fundamentals on which they will later be tested
4. Finally, unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of any contestant will be grounds for immediate disqualification.

The Board recognizes that no solution will be totally acceptable to all groups but believes all students and parents alike are sufficiently enlightened in mind and in attitude to understand that no progress will be made where

two irreconcilable positions have been taken.

The sworn duty of this Board under the laws of the State of New Jersey, is to guarantee that education takes place in an orderly and supporting environment, free from distraction and disturbance. This educational goal must include good citizenship and respect for the rules and regulations governing deportment and conduct. The Board of Education can not, and will not, tolerate less than this. The channels for presenting grievances to school authorities are established and available to all students.

And now, we must "get back to the business of education" which is our primary concern. To do so the School Administration is charged with improving communications and developing programs designed to prevent any recurrence of such disruptive situations.

We ask all parents and students to support this decision, regardless of personal opinions or involvements, so that the much larger obligation - that of providing education for our children - may be met.

## Foundation Plans Drive for Funds

This Saturday, April 27 is "Dollars for Scholars Day" in Fanwood and Scotch Plains sponsored by the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School Scholarship Foundation.

High School students wearing skimmer hats for identification will participate in a house-to-house canvass to raise funds for the organization, formed a year ago to increase available financial aid to graduates of the high school seeking college or vocational training.

Student participation is being directed by the High School Student Council under the leadership

of Tom Denitzio, president and James Bender, vice president with the cooperation of the National Honor Society, Key Club, Interact and other student organizations.

Other chairmen for the drive are: residential, Mrs. Arthur F. Ganss; business and professional solicitation, Fred A. Baser; finance, Robert K. Hornby, and publicity, Mrs. David Beitler.

Contributions from individuals and PTAs made possible awards totaling \$1200 to four students last year.

Among Foundation awards this year is the Robert Adams, Jr. Scholarship, honoring the form-

er principal of the high school, and the Ralph Kehs Memorial Award, given by the Evergreen PTA. Joint PTA funds are also being administered by the Foundation.

Mrs. Franklin M. Spooner, screening committee chairman, reports 61 applications for aid were received this year. The amounts of awards will depend greatly on the success of "Dollars For Scholars Day".

Mrs. Earl Phillips, president asks that you welcome the students wearing skimmer hats this Saturday when they come to call. Invest in the citizens of tomorrow. Give generously.



Left to Right - Tom Denitzio, Student Council President; Scotch Plains Mayor Thomas J. Santo Salvo, and Nadine Kolakoski, Student Council Secretary.

## Chamber Warns of Repair Gyps

The Plainfield Area Chamber of Commerce warned today of itinerant repairmen who quote bargain prices for jobs but later submit exorbitant bills for inferior work.

Harold E. Vogt, Executive Vice President of the local Chamber, said that each year gypsy tool repairmen, house painters, metal replaters or refinishers and other operators victimize homeowners, churches, schools, hospitals, industrial plants, florists, restaurants and public and private institutions.

According to the National Better Business Bureau, with which the local Chamber is affiliated through membership, a band of itinerant tool repairmen using the name of "White" has been the subject of a number of recent complaints to local Business Bureaus in the South.

Using several first names or initials and giving addresses in Atlanta, Savannah, Nashville, Louisville, New Orleans and other cities, the repair gyms quoted low cost estimates but actually charged exorbitant prices for work that involved nothing more than cleaning and repainting the tools. In one case, the charge was far higher than the cost of the tools.