

redistricting is desirable in order to enable schools in sparsely populated areas to improve the scope and quality of education offered to their students.

State action would require constitutional change for method of selecting State Superintendent of Public Instruction and bonding limitations. Present laws on school district formation would have to be changed to create a Master Plan. Constitutional change is necessary in the revenue article.

4. Do you regard the present financing of schools as satisfactory? If not, what are your recommendations?

No.

Recommendations: more state aid should be available to the schools. The revenue needed for increased aid should be raised by a more equitable source and distribution of the tax burden. One unit discussed and felt that a tax referendum should not be necessary when it is clear that a district needs money.

a) would you support a plan that would equalize financial resources throughout the state or areas of the state?

It was felt that equalization was not really possible.

b) Other?

The foundation level should be raised. Beyond that, it was felt that the criterion for further aid should be improving the quality of the educational program offered.

In place of the separate funds, an operational fund and a capital outlay fund for new buildings and major repairs for bringing up to safety code be established. State aid should be given to both funds.

5. Should there be special consideration given to solve special problems?

Yes.

a) To inner city schools, (e.g. East St. Louis, Chicago, etc.) and to areas with disadvantaged children?

The chief difficulty discussed was in finding and keeping adequate teachers for inner city schools. Suggestions to attract teachers to such areas included the following: incentive pay, better working conditions, smaller classes, more and better materials, persons to assist as teacher's aides, and improved school buildings. Decentralization of school administration was mentioned as was the value of parental training especially to reinforce the teaching of young children. It was suggested that this parental training might be coordinated with other existing programs in the city.

b) To desegregation of schools? Explain your answer with specific recommendations.

There was some discussion of desegregation versus integration, and some felt that a sudden shift to a completely new program of integration might cause some disorientation. In general terms, we felt that specific programs to accomplish racial and socio-economic integration with the ideal of giving each child an education of equal value, with the proper balancing of innovation and sound and proved methods.

c) Other special problems?

We could reach no consensus on non-public schools. Some felt that if state aid were given such schools, teachers should be certified as are public school teachers. Others felt that this would force these schools out of the business with no assurance of increased money to take care of the large influx of such non-public students into the public schools.

Rural school districts present a special problem. When consolidation is not possible because an area is too big and too sparsely settled, the state should allow extra funds to improve such schools.

d) Do you recommend extra state funds, if needed, to meet special problems?

Extra state funds should compensate districts when the state insists on increased programs, such as those for special education, or for safety.

Local Program for 1969-70

(to be discussed at Annual Meeting, March 12, 1969)

1. Human Resources and Civil Rights

- Continued Study and Evaluation of the Decatur Housing Authority.
- Continued Study and Evaluation of Human Relations Committee
- Support for provisions for enforcement of the Fair Housing Ordinance in Decatur.

2. Decatur Public Schools

- Support of increased funds to provide quality education and adequate space.
- Study of ways to improve public education in Decatur.

3. Decatur's Water and Sewer Systems

- Study of Decatur's water resources and sewer systems.
- Study of local water

4. Study and evaluation of assessment practices in Macon County.

Note (There is a professional study of assessment practices now being done in Macon County. We are awaiting completion of this study for evaluation and possible action.)

5. Council-Manager Form of City Government

- Support for the continuation of Council-Manager form of government for the City of Decatur.

Note: Items for local program that meet the criteria for proposing (page 2) of Local League Handbook) are considered by the board; a proposed program is formulated and presented to members in the Decatur Voter. They may submit either "recommended" or "not recommended" items. The program is adopted by members after discussion at the Annual Meeting under rules laid down in the by-laws.

any suggestions or recommendations by the Board may be included in the above tentative program listing. This material should be given to the secretary in written form!

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DECATUR

BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT

February 20, 1969

	Adopted Budget 1968-69	Year To Date 1968-69	Proposed Budget 1969-70
<b>INCOME</b>			
Dues (145 members @ \$8.00)	\$1200.00	\$1144.00	\$1160.00
Contributions - members	350.00	189.50	300.00
non-members	1150.00	---	1150.00
Other -(Sub. Service & Macon Co. Bklt. sales)	240.00	330.21	
From Reserves		1150.00	152.00
	<u>\$2940.00</u>	<u>\$2813.71</u>	<u>\$2762.00</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
<b>A. General Administration</b>			
1. President's Expense	25.00	25.00	25.00
2. Board Expense	100.00	35.98	50.00
3. Committees			
a. Resource	60.00	63.35	60.00
b. Public Relations	5.00	2.00	50.00
c. Membership	50.00	35.90	40.00
d. Yearbook	50.00	64.70	65.00
e. Finance Drive	100.00	46.25	50.00
4. Delegates			
a. Convention	400.00	307.72	350.00
b. Other Meetings (State & Regional)	200.00	160.25	180.00
<b>B. Operating Costs</b>			
1. Supplies	75.00	176.22	100.00
2. Postage	85.00	51.02	50.00
3. Telephone & Telegraph	5.00	3.75	5.00
4. Bank Charges	15.00	11.36	15.00
5. Audit	---	---	---
<b>C. Publications</b>			
1. State & National (Suitcase)	---	117.32	---
2. Local (Factsheets on program items - for membership only)	60.00	115.32	60.00
3. Bulletins (Postage included)	300.00	286.79	300.00
4. Other		19.62	
<b>D. Activities</b>			
1. Meetings (Babysitter, refreshments, room rental for Units)	35.00	18.01	50.00
2. Voters Service	200.00	270.90	175.00
3. Action in Community	200.00	24.77	175.00
4. Other	---	1.25	---
<b>E. State &amp; National Services</b>			
	975.00	975.00	962.00
<b>F. To Reserves</b>			
	<u>\$2940.00</u>	<u>\$2812.46</u>	<u>\$2762.00</u>

Explanation of Proposed Budget - expenditures - summary only (the areas where the budgeted amount has been increased or decreased).

- A - 2 Board Expense - Using last year's figures as a guide this amount should be adequate.
- 3 b. - Public Relations - some mailings this year (factsheets, etc.) should have been charged to this area, so with costs in proper area in the future this amount will be needed.
- d. Yearbook - Rising costs
- e. Finance Drive - Using past costs of putting in the drive this amount should be adequate.
- 4 Delegates - Past figures permit some trimming here, but not enough to discourage delegates.
  
- B - 1 Sup. Lic. - Purchase of our own duplicator and paper for it make this increase necessary.
- 2 Postage - This should be adequate - any postage for specific mailings is charged to other areas.
  
- D - 1 Meetings - League now pays babysitters - instead of owners paying.
- 2 Voters Service - Using past years as a guide.
- 3 Action in Comm. - It appears these figures should be adequate.
  
- E - Pledge - This is our pledge according to the formula except the 10%, which for us is \$96.20. This 10% is part of the formula and was agreed upon at the President's Council in December, 1968. The full amount including the 10% would be \$1058.20.