# Trenton Key Club **Begins Eighth Year**

"Understanding Through Involvement" is the theme of the International Key Clubs for the school year. With this Trenton High mind. School's service organization is beginning its eighth year, planning projects to benefit the community as well as the school.

The Key Club is sponsored and guided by the Kiwanis Club of Trenton. Robert Gold, a senior, is the club's president. Mr. Thomas Humphrey is the faculty advisor.

#### To Collect Foods

Plans are being made to conduct a sale of light bulbs, which will be the principal fund raising event. Also in the planning stages is a project to collect canned foods from students at Trenton High School, and make up a food basket to give a needy family at Thanksgiving time.

In the past such service projects as ushering at all basketball and football games. and ushering at the annual Sports Night competition were carried on by the Key Club members. The boys helped in reconditioning and beautifying the Mercer County Child Guidance Center.

The first meeting of the club is planned for Friday at 4 p.m. in the YMCA building. Trenton High School's club is one of 120 in the state. The members of the executive board which will plan the year's a ctivities include Thomas Bartolomei, Nathan Linowitz. David Knott, Scott Kaplan, Robert Orlandi and Richard Sloin, in addition to the president.

Trenton Times, September 21, 1967

# **Durand Leaves WTTM** To Accept State Post

voice of radio station WTTM|Star. A ruling elder of the for a quarter of a century, yes-Prospect Street Presbyterian terday resigned to become pub-Church, he is a member of two lic relations officer of the State committees of the church's sy-Department of Institutions and nod and recently was on a six-Agencies.

on WTTM when it took to the air in 1942, Durand long has been a popular local broadcast personality. He also is a former program director for the station, filling that role until

Durand, 46, will succeed Leonard D. Dileo in the state post. Dileo recently was promoted within the department.

In addition to his disc jockey shows, Durand broadcast numerous Sports Nite events from Trenton High and was heard on election night reports and special events. His wife, Billie also has been a personality on the station at intervals.

The couple resides at 27 Elsworth Ave. here They are the broadcasting in the Near East. a Trenton High soph.

for three years during World merous panels.

Tom Durand, the familiar, War II and received a Bronze week assignment for the World The first voice ever heard Council of Churches to survey



TOM DURAND

parents of daughters Suzanne, a He is a past president of the college sophomore, and Robin, Mercer County Heart Fund. has been an advisor to the Trenton A 1938 Trenton High gradu-State undergraduate radio staate, Durand served with the tion, belongs to the Broadcast Army's 42nd Division in Europe Pioneers and has served on nu-



CAPTAINS — Named to lead their respective teams to victory in Trenton High's Sports Night action in March, 1968 are Sue Gittleman of the Black team and Valeria Singletary of the Red team. Competition begins March 11 and runs throughout the week.

Trenton Times, October 13, 1967

# Sport Nite Captains Chosen

# By MARY ANNA B. GAYDULA

### **Trenton High School**

Valeria Singletary has been elected captain of the Red Team and Susan Gittleman will captain the Black Team as Trenton High School prepares for its annual Sport Nite competition.

The girls, both seniors, were selected by the junior and senior girls for the honor. These girls must be highly qualified to be captain of a team. The requirements for this position are that the girl must be a senior with an average school mark no lower than a C.

The captains have a big responsibility because they must maintain their high grades even though they are always working on the program. Most of the time these girls are out of their classes because they are practicing different numbers for the show. All their work missed each day must be made up.

Valeria and Sue are quite capable of keeping up with their work and participating in this great event. That is why-they were chosen to be the captains. Being captain is not easy, but it is a great honor.

#### **Active Gal**

Valeria, captain of the Red Team, is an active girl. She is a member of the school Color Guard Squad. She is also a member of the Majorette Club. Valeria has been an officer of her homeroom class since her sophmore year, and is now vice president of the Senior class of "68."

From her sophomore year to her senior year Valeria has done her best to do her share of work to keep Trenton High School the great school it is. She "loves Trenton High and is going to miss it terribly when she graduates."

Valeria has a wide range of interests. Sports are on the top of the list, and she enjoys all of them. Her favorites are skating and bowling. She says "skating is great exercise. It's just like having fun while you're exercising."

Usually this exercise routine is dull, but doing it this way "sparkles it up." Valeria likes to dance and is a good dancer. "Social dancing is fun," she says.

#### Likes To Read

Though she is always on the move, Valeria does find time to read. "Reading increases your vocabulary, while it is entertaining you." Her favorite type of reading is mysteries. "These keep a person in suspense, and in a backward way wake up your mind," she adds.

Valeria plans to go to crllege when she graduates, and her choice has been Douglass Collège. She intends to study psychology, and her future dreams are "to teach mentally retarded children." She has an interest in these children and wants to spend her life helping them, taking care of them, and teaching them. Last summer was both interesting and a lot of hard work, as she worked on a program at the State Hospital. Working with these disturbed children, she decided to make it her life career.

#### Talented Sue

Sue Gittleman, captain of the Black Team, is also an

interesting person. She has a wide range of activities and hobbies. Sue studies under an academic course- in High School. She intends to enroll in the American University in Washington as soon as she graduates, to study criminology. She loves law and thinks a great deal about the FBI.

At Trenton High School, Sue's activities are many. She is co-editor of the school year-book, the "Bobashela," and vice president of the Adellogos Society. She participates in the Biology Club and the Radio and Drama Club. She is the recording secretary of the Iota Phi Sorority outside of school. She is also secretary of her homeroom.

#### **Has Doll Collection**

Her hobbies include reading, swimming and collecting dolls. Sue likes to read "most anything." Reading can increase a person's knowledge tremendously, she says.

#### Must Suit Her

Sue has her own opinions of the modern generation. She loves clothes and has many of the new fashions. She wears what looks good on her, not because it's the style, but because she likes it. "I won't wear it just because everyone else is," she claims. She experiments with fashions as long as they suit her taste.

Sue credits her father with helping her with her campaign for captain. He had tags and posters printed for her, but Sue thought of her own slogans.

Sue says "Sport Nite is fun and I intend to have a good time, but my school work will still come first. It's worth all the work even if you lose. I won't say anything to downgrade the Red Team, but I hope to win."

#### Are Good Friends

Valeria and Sue are the best of friends. They don't intend to let Sport Nite come between their friendship. They are in some of the same classes and participate in school events together. They have a good understanding and intend to face Sport Nite with a "mature outlook." Valeria gave Sue a black Socittie dog, and Sue gave Valeria a Red Captain's sweat shirt.

Sport Nite is a chance for girls to compete in doing what they know best. It originated many years ago and will go on for many more years. The girls who participate are mature about the event and hard feelings are the last thing in their minds. To both teams: May the best team win!



Both sides predict victory. The captains for the Trenton High School Sports Nite events have been selected. Susan Gittleman will direct activities for the Black Team, while Valeria Singletary, whose favorite color is red will be in charge of the Red Team.

Trenton Times, November 16, 1967

# Police Break Up Fight At THS

Police cars converged on Trenton High School shortly before noon today after a fight broke out in the school caseteria.

Order was restored quickly and uniformed police withdrew from the building. A few plainsclothesman remained on the scene.

Trenton Times. December 12, 1967

# THS Students Roam Streets

Violence broke out at Trenton High School and spilled out over various parts of the city after classes were dismissed early.

At least 20 persons were reported injured.

Bands of youths roamed toward the center of the city shortly after 1 p.m., breaking windows and assaulting at least two men. More than a dozen THS students also were injured, apparently in violence at the school.

One gang surged up Perry Street toward North

Another large group of students was reported moving up South Broad Street toward State.

A third group milled around East State and Chambers Street two blocks from the high school.

Although for a while it was feared that a major disturbance threatened, police reported things were "under control" near the center of town by 2 pm.

During the peak of the trouber traffic was diverted away from the school. As the students dispersed police closed parts of State Street and other thoroughfares in center city. It was the second straight day of violence at Trenton High School. Yesterday police rushed to the school shortly after noon when a fight broke out in the cafeteria. But order was restored quickly then.

A Dozen Hurt

At least a dozen students were injured in the fighting at the school. They were being treated at St. Francis Hospital and the school nurse's office. Several non-students were treated at St. Francis Hospital and the school nurse's office. Several non-students were treated at St. Francis Hospital and the school nurse's office. Several non-students were treated at St. Francis Hospital for injuries sustained in the violence. Three others were treated at Helene Fuld Hospital.

John A. Guido, 22, of 202

Here treated at Helene Fuld Hospital.

John A. Guido, 22, of 202
Fulton Street was treated at St. Francis for cuts of the forehead and shoulder after he was pulled from his carand beaten at Chambers Street and Walnut Avenue.

A part-time employe of Delehanty's Drug Store, Guido was making a delivery to a Greenwood Avenue physician when a brick was thrown through his windshield and he was beaten by several youths.

He was held for x-rays at the hospital.

He was held for x-rays at the hospital.

Two Treated, Released
Two high school students were also treated and re-leased although hospital spokesmen could not explain how they received their interior.

spokesmen could not explain how they received their injuries.

John Palmer, 15, of 1106

Anderson Street was treated for cuts of the ear and bruises of the forehead at St. Francis and Bruce Ewen. 17, of 886 South Broad Street was given medication for cuts over his right eye.

right eye. School officials said several fights on the school play-ground around noon triggered the violence.

the violence.
The fights spread inside the sprawling high school and police were called at 12:43 p.m.
Dismissed At 1 P.M.
Principal William Walker began a staggered dismissal of the school's 3.300 students at 1 p.m.

The students began milling

Chambers Street two blocks from the high school.

A gang of youths hauled a motorist from his car at Walnut Avenue and Chambers Street and beat him severely.

Windows were broken on both sides of the Trentonian building at Perry and Southard Streets.

Minutes later a group of 25 to 50 students gathered in front of Royal Shoe Store at 305 Perry Street across from the Trenton Times Newspapers building.

A man, apparently the owner of the store, was injured in the head, apparently when slugged by one or more members of the gang. The crowd of students ran off, toward the center of town.

Although for a while it was feared that a major disturbance threatened, police reported things were "under the store of the gang. The possibility of closing th Classes at Trenton High may be cancelled for the rest of the week.

Mayor Carmen J. Armenti, Public Safety Director W. Laurence Bloking and School Superintendent Richard Beck were in conference at the school this afternoon discussing the possibility of closing the school Thursday and Friday.

In the meantime, Armenti called a special meeting of the Board of Education for 4 p.m., today.

Beck wants the two day.

Beck wants the two day cooling off period. He said it would give school officials a chance to meet with student leaders.

PERSONAL CONTRACTOR

about the school after being dismissed and gangs of youngsters began moving toward center city, assaulting pedestrians and breaking store windows.
Police closed off Hamilton and Greenwood Avenues and Chambers Street and rerouted traffic away from the school.
No arrests were made by police at the school. None of the students were believed to have been injured seriously.
Hamilton Township police were put on standby alert.
Armenti At School

Armenti At School
Mayor Carmen J. Armenti
showed up at the high school
at 1:43 pm., a few minutes
after East Ward Councilman
Gerard Naples appeared at
the school.

Gerard Naples appeared at the school.

Armenti spoke with Acting Governor Sido Ridolfi by telephone from the high school tell him of the situation.

Assemblyman S. Howard Woodson Jr. and Albert "Bo" Robinson were touring center city urging young Negroes to "cool it."

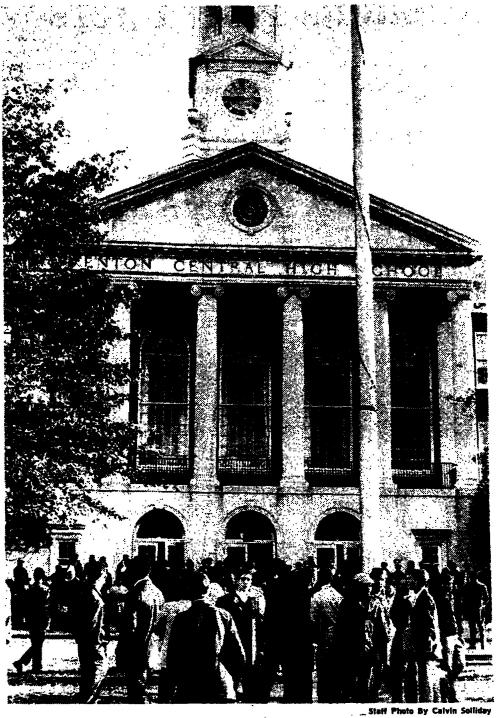
At 2:10 p.m. police formed two lines and moved through a large crowd that built up at State and Broad Streets. The crowd moved northward up Broad Street toward the Battle Monument.

The crowd mived northward up the crowd moved northward with the crowd moved northward shortly before 2:30 p.m.

crowd moved northward shortly before 2:30 p.m. One of the stores on State Street sported a sign reading "Be Open In 10 Minutes.



# THS Calls Off Classes Until After New Year



Students mill around high school long after classes were to start.

Trenton Times, December 20, 1967

# Students' Gripe Session Was Quiet—Then Bedlam

# By HERB WOLFE Staff Writer

The meeting between parents, school officials and students started quietly yesterday.

Then there was bedlam.

Now there are teenagers picketing their school, more meetings and a lot of angry adults making angry accusations.

And things won't be the same at Trenton High School for a long while — if ever.

#### 250 Students

About 250 students, four officials whose duties include discipline at Trenton High, and 16 Negro adults were on hand when the gripe session began yesterday morning in the school's community room.

Things went smoothly in the beginning.

"I didn't expect the kids to cooperate and be so courteous," says the Rev. Fred Arnold, the pastor of the Asbury Methodist Church, who conducted the meeting. But the four school officials agreed to answer questions from the students.

"We assured them we didn't want any kangaroo court," the Rev. Mr. Arnoid says.

A girl asked one of the administrators why he had suspended her from school three months ago.

That was the beginning.

### Answers Booed

Each student who asked a question was applauded. Each answer from an administrator was booed.

The meeting to clear the air had gotten out of hand.

Dr. Sarah Christie, assistant superintendent of schools who was sitting in on the meeting, phoned Superintendent of Schools Richard T. Beck.

Dr. Beck ordered the meeting ended.

"He didn't say stop the meeting. . .but he called it a kangaroo court and his faculty was complaining," says the Rev. Mr. Arnold. "They wanted a small group of select students and no outsiders.

"I decided to dismiss them," said the clergyman.

"They don't want to listen to us," one youth shouted.

More joined in. A group of students ran from the room and through the halls.

Within an hour Trenton High School — enrollment 3.085 students — was empty.

#### **Issues Warning**

"I'm sure nothing would have happened if there hadn't been a meeting." says an angry Mayor Carmen J. Armenti.

"Dr. Beck is like the great protector of the teachers," says the Rev. Mr. Arnold.

"We are not going to allow any groups or individuals, no matter who they are, to disrupt Trenton High School," says Armenti, who added:

"Let this be a warning to those who have other thoughts."

Armenti says that city and school officials who have been meeting with Trenton High Students since last Wednesday are aware of the problems at the school.

"Things were under control. Things were normal. Then some well-meaning but misguided adults had to rehash everything we already knew," the mayor says.

Armenti and Dr. Beck say they didn't authorize the meeting. It apparently was held with the permission of Trenton High Principal William Walker.

The school board has approved a Trenton Human Relations Council six-man committee to study problems at the high school.

Members include Assemblyman S. Howard Woodson, a minister and former city councilman: Gregory Farrell. State Department of Community Affairs: Dr. Leon Wolcott, Trenton State College: George Pellettieri Jr., attorney: John Belton of Pennington Road, and Fred Burgner, former Evening Times managing editor.

Trenton Times, December 20, 1967

# 4 Administrators' **Ouster Demanded**

By JAMES E. GOODMAN And THOMAS H. GREER

Staff Writers

Trenton High School called it quits today until after the Christmas-New Year holidays as rebellious students pressed demands for the dismissal or demotion of four administrators.

School officials gave up any attempt to hold classes for the rest of the week as several hundred students stood outside the main entrance of the high school today.

About half the school's 3,300 students went to classes today. But they were dismissed quietly and asked to go out side doors to avoid the demonstrators, beginning at about 10 a.m.

The students are asking for the dismissal of David Weisberg and C. Walter Benner, vice principals, and Frank Nappi and Samuel Scrivin, attendance officers.

#### To Press Demands

They plan to present their demands at a Trenton Board of Education meeting tonight.

Weisberg, a veteran of 30 years at the high school, reportedly left the school yesterday in tears.

The students stepped up their attack on Weisberg yesterday when he attempted to answer complaints put to him at a meeting in the high school community room.

When teachers protested that the meeting was turning into a kangaroo court, the

meeting was terminated by school officials. This led to a walkout and early dismissal of school.

The four administrators are in charge of discipline at the high school. The students are claiming that discipline is administered unfairly.

#### **Faculty Threat**

Pressure to oust the school officials is expected to be resisted by faculty leaders at tonight's school board meeting.

"If those administrators one teacher said, 'they're going to have to find a new faculty on January 2."

Half-day sessions had been scheduled at the high school for the rest of the week because of the crisis.

Vincent Halbert, assistant superintendent of schools. went into the auditorium today to talk to demonstrating students who filed into the school about the time classes were being dismissed.

Halbert told the students that they would be listened to. "Many of the things you are asking will be done," Halbert said. "They should have been done a long, long time ago.'

the students made and not the school. demand to oust the four administrators.

Woodson Appeal

Halbert and Assemblyman tives to go in and talk to him. S. Howard Woodson, the first from Mercer County, appealed to the students to "make." Arnold, also stood on a car your rights known like ladies and gentlemen." Two of Woodson's children are graduates of Trenton High.

"We can't stand by and permit teachers or administretors to be tried by students of any group except the Board of Education," said Alphonse Palermo, president of the Trenton Education Association

"Today it's Dave Weis-erg," Palermo added. berg." Palermo added.
"Tomorrow it could be Al Palermo."

Teachers, AFL-CIO, called a meeting for 12:35 p.m. today in the high school auditorium to decide what to do "in the face of the present student disorders."

This was announced on the faculty bulletin board.

### 400 Mill Outside

Some 400 students milled around outside the high school morning as school this reopened.

School officials said about 2.000 students were inside attending classes.

About two dozen of the students walked in picket lines. Three carried signs.

"Too late to talk -Now," one sign read. "We are tomorrow's men and women, another said. "We need an education."

Other students were heard "Maybe we commenting, won't have to go to school for another week.

### **Beck Appeals**

Dr. Richard T. Beck, super-The assistant superintendent intendent of schools, climbed said later he was talking on top of a car in front of the about the general complaints main entrance to the high

> The superintendent appealed to the dissident students to select six or eight representa-

Mrs. Avon Arnold, wife of a Negro elected to the Assembly Negro minister, the Rev. Fred

too anneggipt to the students to negotiate with Dr. Beck.

She discribed the countries The Trenton Federation of as similar to a strike in which a timer has a negetiating committee to talk to the contract.

#### Meeting Last Night

Dr. Beck met last night with a group of about 50 desident high school students at the Grant School.

It was there that the students put the firing or demotion of the administrators as their basic objective.

Dr. Beck talked to the students privately for about 20 minutes. He said later that he told the students that the school board will act on some of their complaints.

But Dr. Beck could not comment on what was said about

the demand to fire the four administrators.

The superintendent said the school beard was aware of a problem between the students and the disciplinary officials for some time

Students and school officials send last night that the problem is not a racial one, but a student problem. Most of the actively rebellious students are Negro but white students . have voiced complaints, too, at school meetings.

The school officials admitted that the violence that broke out last week was racial, but said the protesting students are concerned primarily now with school problems.

The students at the Grant School meeting last night were well dressed and the meeting was conducted in an orderly manner.

Several students got up and walked out, saying, "What's the use. Nothing's going to be done.

But others in the group tried to persuade them to keep talking. "You can't just like a bunch of hot heads," one student told one of the youths who walked out.

# Mass Teacher Resignations Are Feared At Trenton High

By SANDRA CLUSTON And JAMES E. GOODMAN Staff Writers

The Trenton school board is threatened with the mass resignation of 200 Trenton High School teachers angered over the board's plan to transfer four administrators.

Alphonse Palermo, president of the Trenton Education Association, said today that the teacher may resign in pro-test to the school board's ac-ticn last night to meet the de-

munds of rebellious students.

The school board approved a compromise plan that called for the transfer of the four administrators criticized by the students in a long week of unrest at Trenton High.

Tercher representatives will

today and the entire high school faculty will meet, at 9 a.m. tomorrow with William Walker, high school principal.

The school board compromise was read by Dr. Richard schools, to a stunned audience at Trenton High School last

night.
More than 500 persons listened. It was believed to be the first school board meeting ever held in the auditorium

attend a board meeting.

Dr. Beck said three ad-ministrators — Vice Principal David Weisberg and attendance officers Frank Nappi and Samuel Scrivin had voluntarily requested transfer out of the high school.

The superintendent said another administrator had agreed "verbally" to request a transfer. C. Walter Benner, vice principal, is the fourth administrator the students wanted fired.

Telephoned at home, Benner denied any such request verbally or otherwise.

"I was not asked to request a transfer," Benner said. He announced he would oppose the transfer and request a hearing.

Friends of Benner said he was under tremendous pressure to request the transfer.

Eugene Urbaniak, a school board member absent at last night's meeting, emphasized today that the three administrators being transferred have been transferred at their own

There has been no final docision made on Benner." Urbaniak said. "He wants to fight it. I know Dave Weisberg wanted to transfer and I told him not to worry about it.

"On Benner we have choice. We can transfer him and yield to the demonstrators. Or we can keep him and risk being blamed if the demonstrators tear up \$100.000 worth of school property."

Palermo charged that Dr. Beck has been in the high school many times since the unrest began early last week but has never once sat down to talk with Benner."

Dr. Angelo Migliori, school board president, said this morning that "many mistakes have been made in the past by people in high places.

The board president said the administration will not lose control of the high school to the students. "The administration will continue to run the school through its ad-ministrator. Dr. Beck," he added.

Dr. Migliori said that "it is an accepted school board poli-cy that any school official may be transferred within the school system at any time for the good of the school system."

"All the students want is courtesy and a voice in stu-dent government." Dr. Beck said. Benner is directly in charge of the high school stu-

Under the school board compromise, student council members will have a much more active role and will be elected on a school-wide instead of class basis.

# 'Solution' To THS Crisis Fails To Satisfy Anybody

By JAMES E. GOODMAN Staff Writer

The sudden "solution" to the Trenton High School crisis didn't succeed in making anyhody happy at last night's dramatic meeting.

Dissident students, some of their parents, students who object to the disorders, par-ents who just want their children to go to school and teachers were equally upset.

Most of the rebellious youths who demanded the firing of four high school administrators seemed unwilling to believe that the Trenton Board of Education was transferring the administrators out of the high school.

Parents and Negro "lead-rs" were angry because they were blamed for the meeting that ended in a walkout by

angry students on Tuesday.

A few students — white and
Negro — charged that "you
can't get an education when you turn the schools over to the students."

Parents Angry
Parents who want the school opened were angry because they felt the school

things will be back to normal when school reopens on January 2.

ary 2.

And teachers generally refused to believe that the four administrators — two high school vice principals and two attendance officers — had voluntarily requested to be transferred from the school.

Some 500 of these unhappy

people heard each other out in a sometimes bitter dialogue at the Trenton High School Auditorium last night.

The first person to speak after the school board an-

end the crisis was Daniel Harris, a school custodian and a Negro.

"I am an employe of the board of education," Harris said. "But if we close the schools and knuckle under to the kids we are lost. The board has been lax on too many things.
"My children went to Cathe-

dral and now they are in pub-lic schools. I want them to get a good education or they will be lost. "I sat back there (pointing

(Continued on Page 16, Col. 7)



DAVID C. WEISBERG ... leaving Trenton High

# Everybody Is Unhappy

Continued from Page One) to the back of the auditorium where the most vocal dissident student sat) in 1940. It was good enough for me then and I can't see—why it's not

good enough now."

Lance White, one of the dissident students, took the microphone. "If you really knew what the facts are, you would think different." White said.

Dr. Irving Robinson, whose wife. Estelle, is a former school board member, called the school board's silence "cowardly" and questioned whether the board had yielded to political pressure.

The school board members sat and took all the abuse thrown their way with the explanation that a special committee appointed by the Trenton Human Relations Council will make a full report on the issue. Mrs. Robinson is a member of the study group.

Dr. Robinson said he had a lot of respect for what the students were saying about some of their problems. But, he said the question is simply. "Is the student body going to control the school."

Not Aimed At Teachers

Marvin Dotson, a student, declared "I have no gripes

against any teacher. The students have no gripes against the teachers. The gripes are against the administration. I want the administration out . . .tonight!"

Only one Negro student defended the administration.

"Most of the ones who are demonstrating," the sophomore grl asserted, "are the cases who are in and out of trouble all the time."

She said she opposed the irans or of the administrators. "What are you going to do if you're not satisfied with the new demonstrators"," she demanded.

Joanne Cuttre, a Douglass College freshman and recent graduate of Trenton High, said she objected to the administration transfers. She said she received an excellent education at Trenton.

Another Trenton High graduate, Paulette Williams, said, "When I went to college, I thought I had the best education available, But once I got there, I realized that my experience at Trenton High was distorted. I realized I led a much more segregated life than students in Tuscaloosa or in Maine."

Miss William is the daughter of Dr. Paul T. Williams, a member of Trenton's antipoverty board. Dr. Williams, was one of the "concerned parents and citizens" who were at the high school when a disturbance broke out Tuesday.

Although most of the students claimed there was nothing racial about their protests, many asserted they were descriminated against by some teachers. They also demanded courses in Negro history.

None of the students commented favorably on the school board's action during the meeting but several including I and Brown, student council president, said later that the transfer of the four administrators should settle the crisis.

Leaders of the Trenton Education Association and Trenton Federation of Teachers were angered by the school hourd action.

"This is a terrible situation," one said. "I wouldn't want to be principal of this high school for anything. The teachers are very glum. I don't know what's going to happen."

The teachers had threatened a walkout if the school board gave into student demands.

"All I want to know," said a tearful Mrs. Rosanne Abrams, "is whether the school going to be open on January 2 and every day after that. I'm worried about my children's education."

Dr. Angelo Migherl, school board president, assured her school would reopen.

"With police protection," someone shouted in the audience. One of the dissident students threatened the shouter but the student was quickly led away from the area.

Mrs. Estelle Robinson, the former school board member, approached Dr. Mighori after the meeting.

"A lot of these parents came here in good faith tonight to hear what the school board had to say." Mrs. Robinson said. "and now they're going home frustrated.

This was a time to talk to them."

Dr. Migliori complained that it was difficult for the school board members to hear what was being said during most of the meeting.

"Try sitting up here," Dr. Migliori said, "You can't hear a thing."

# 'Trig' Intrigues Scholarly Teenager

By DIANA PAGANO Treaton High School "I was shocked!"

This was Nancy Harris's reaction when she found she had been chosen as a finalist for the National Achievement Scholarship for Outstanding Negro Students. Three thousand students are chosen throughout the U. S. to compete for this scholarship and from this about one thousand are chosen. Nancy is this year's Trenton High School and area representative.

The semi-finalists for the scholarship were selected last May on the basis of academic ability and scholastic records. Three other students, all seniors, from Trenton High School were also chosen as semi-finalists. They were Charles Terry, Linda Hicks

and Ralph Austin.

Trig And Roller Skates
Nancy is taking the academic course offered at Trenton High School. Her subjects

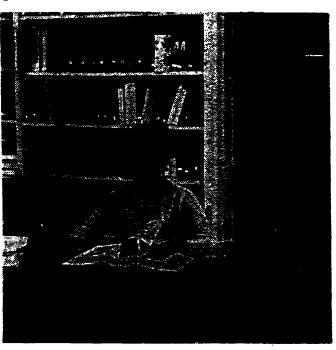
include chemistry, trigonometry, Spanish II, history, English and physical education. Her favorite subject is trigonometry. Nancy has been on the Honor Roll every marking period since she was in the seventh grade.

Nancy does exceptionally well in school but has various interests. She is a

member of the French Club and the Future Teachers of America. She is also on the staff of the Trenton High School newspaper, "The Spectator." Outside of school,

member of the French Club Nancy belongs to the Human and the Future Teachers of Relations Council of Trenton.

Rollar skating and baseball appeal to Nancy. She enjoys all types of music but admits that her favorite singing



Nancy Harris, a senior at Trenton High School has been selected as a finalist in the National Achievement Scholarship for Outstanding Negro Students. This scholar has interests which run from roller skating to trigonometry, and has aspirations of becoming a high school mathematics teacher.

group is Smokey Robinson and the Miracles. Nancy gave her opinion on some of the current happenigs such as dating and mini-skirts.

Views On Fads

She feels that dating in high school should be left up to the individual but usually there is nothing wrong with it. Going steady in high school is "like being engaged to be engaged. All styles of clothing appeal to Nancy except very exaggerated mini-skirts and the gaudy colored pants that some boys have been wearing.

This year, when the everpopular extravaganza, Sport Nite, is being prepared by the girls of Trenton High School and, Nancy will be performing on Black Team Modern Dance. She will also aid her team by working on the costumes. Nancy feels that Sport Nite is a worthwhile endeavor because "it seems to be the only time there is any real school spirit."

After she has graduated from High School Nancy plans to attend the University of Pennsylvania. She wants to become a math teacher in secondary schools.

When the recipients of the Scholarship for Outstanding Negro Students is chosen in February of 1968 all of Trenton High School will be rooting for Nancy Harris, an outstanding and intelligent girl.

Trenton Times, January 4, 1968

# THS Violence Spreads; 17 Hurt, Classes Out



Police stand guard outside THS as classes are dismissed.

Trenton Times, February 28, 1968

# **Crowds Hit Streets**; One Shot Is Fired

Violence broke out in and at the school as victims of the around Trenton High again today. It spread to other areas early this afternoon when the 3,100 students were dismissed from classes.

A shot was fired at an East State Street bakery.

About 17 students were inbetween white and Negro stu-dents at Hamilton Avenue and Anderson Street, two blocks from the school, and in fights at the school immediately afterward.

More were injured later when fighting broke out in the hallways and in the cafeteria during the noon hour. At least three students were arrested more arrests were expected.

When school was dismissed beginning about 1 o'clock, sporadic fighting and rock throwing broke out outside the

A group of about 150 stu-dents moved down Chambers Street to State Street, then to-

It was all reminiscent of the Trenton High School violence which shook the city and forced closing of the school last December.

#### Windows Broken

As the students moving to-As the students moving to-ward center city passed down State Street windows were broke and a sign damaged at Kohn's Bakery. Rocks were thrown and at least one shot fired at the store.

A spokesman at the bakery. at 743 East State Street, said there were two holes in the windows which looked as if they were caused by bullets. Police later recovered a slug.

Pupils heckled police from porches and climbed on at least one car. Some car radio aerials were broken.

Mayor Carmen J. Armenti reacted by directing the school board to "take whatever steps are necessary to stop this intolerable nonsense in our city schools."

There were no serious injuries reported.

William Walker, high school william walker, high school principal, gave the order to gradually dismiss school shortly after 1 p.m. Up until then, school officials and police attempted to contain the problem within the school.

### Couldn't Contain It

They could not.

Twice, fights broke out in the school cafeteria. The school halls were filled with milling students.

There was a lot of pushing, shoving and some punching. Some students invaded the school auditorium. One youth used kerosene to set fire to a curtain on the school stage, it as reported. The flames burned a five-

The flames burned a five-foot hole in the curtain, but someone put the fire out. Walker, speaking on the public address system install-ed after the December ino-dents, kept mying the sta-dents to return to their class-rooms and clear the halls. About two dozen police offi-cers were in the school at-tempting to restore order with little success.

The cafeteria incidents climaxed a morning of tension

pre-school brawl were treated at the high school infirmary and some of their alleged assailants were questioned in the high school administration office.

#### 3 In Hospital

Three students were taken to St. Francis Hospital for treatment.

By noon-police began mak-ing arrests. Three 16-year-old Negroes were taken to the county jail.

Tension reached the hoiling it in the cafeteria at about 11:30 a.m.

A large group of Negro stu-dents marched around the caf-eteria in circles. Some Negro students refused to permit a white student to go through the lunch line.

More than 20 white students panicked, ran out of the caf-eteria and left the school.

eteria and left the school.

One Negro student, identified as a ring leader in the December incidents and involved in one of the fights earlier in the school day, punched another Negro student in the cafeteria, it was reported.

Police moved in, but two adult Negro leaders got there first, quieted the troublemak-er and took him out of the school and to his home. He Came Back

Less than an hour later the troublemaker was back in the school in the midst of the milling students, it was reported.

Conditions became more

Conditions became more chaotic as annious parents began showing up at the school to get their children out of the building.

Many teachers were obviously furious. They complained that the same youths who caused the problems in December were causing the troubles today.

Alphonso Palermo, president of the Trenton Education Association (TEA), asserted that if the students responsible for the violence are not arrested, "There won't be a single teacher in scmool single teacher in school tomorrow."

One of the students threw a carton of milk on a police officer.

Some of the students yelled that "uniformed police had no right being in the high school."

### Fight Starts It

Trouble began brewing yes-terday when a fight broke about among Negro girl students.

School officials said the fight was an argument among some girls over some boys.

Early reports indicated that despite the stage curtain fire and some milk-throwing inci-dents, there was relatively little damage at the school.

Dr. Richard T. Beck, super-

Dr. Richard T. Beck, super-intendent of Trenton schools, was at the high school confer-ring with Walker this morn-ing. He declined any specific comments on the violence.

# Mayor Vows Action

Mayor Carmen J. Armenti today promised that any steps necessary will be taken to recalm to Trenton's store schools.

He said students who break the law will be prosecuted, and called on parents to "discipline their children if they take part in any such disturbances."

Here is the mayor's statement:

"I have charged the board of education to take whatever steps are necessary to stop the intolerable nonsense in

our city schools.
"There is no excuse for such conduct, which disrupts the learning process for the great majority of youngsters interested in receiving a quality education.

"Whatever disciplinary acatmosphere conducive to learning will be taken by the city and board of education. tion must be taken to restore

The police department will take whatever action is needof against any student or per son who breaks the law or jeopardizes the safety of students, adult citizens or property.

"I make an appeal to parents to exert their parental prerogatives, to discipline their children if they take part in any such disturbances created by a few disruptive and undisciplined individuals.

"Any student or adult who breaks the law will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law."

Trenton Times. February 28, 1968

# Dance Kicks Off Sports Night Fun

The Trenton High School annual Sports Night dance will be held on Friday at 8 p.m. The dance is a preview of the excitement which will be part of the Sports Night festivities later in the Spring.

Music for the affair will be supplied by the Sports Night bands. Joe Vicari will lead the Red Band, and Kenny Trainer is the Black Band leader.

The Red Band's choice selections include "Up. Up and Away!" while the Black Band will present their own arrangement of "Love Is Blue."

Joe's versatility ranges from trombone, to piano to accordion. Kenny's talents include playing the saxophone, oboe and clarinet. Both bands hope to win team support by excelling in pep music.

The dance is being sponsored by the Trenton High School band, under the direction of Mr. Charles H. Wertman, he is being assisted by Barbara Sklute and Marlene Botos, cochairmen. Decorations are being designed by Anne Errico.

To trigger off the Sports Night competition for 1968, the first point will be awarded at the dance. This point will be for the best cover design. Designs have been submitted by girls representing both Red and Black teams.

Trenton Times, February 29, 1968

# Attendance At Tense THS Plummets As Classes Reopen

### By HERB WOLFE Staff Writer

Attendance was far below normal as students returned without incident to the tense atmosphere of Trenton High School today.

A school spokesman said 950 of Trenton High's 3.100 students stayed home as classes resumed for the first time since fighting between white and Negro youths closed the school last Wednesday.

The normal daily attendance at the hight school is about 2,700 students.

About 700 students failed to report for the first day of classes when Trenton High reopened following fighting which closed the school two days before the Christmas recess.

#### Pelice On Hand

A force of 50 uniformed and plainclothes cops was stationed in and around the school to help prevent more of the violence which closed Trenton High twice in three months.

Police and teachers patroled the halls and guarded Trenton High's 28 entrances to prevent unauthorized persons from entering the building.

Meanwhile, police today ar-Despite the uneasy calm at the high school today, indications are that a number of parents will attempt to transfer their children to other school districts.

A spokesman for Hamilton Township schools said the system has had several inquiries from Trenton parents wanting to transfer their youngsters to Hamilton.

rested three Trenton High School students. 18 years and over, who were charged with assaults in last week's disturbances at the school.

Precinct Capt. Robert Bradely said the three would get a hearing in municipal court this afternoon. This brings the total arrested to nine.

### Firm Policy

The system has a firm policy of not taking tuition students except in special cases, the spokesman added.

Lawrence Township Superintendent of Schools William O'Connor said four or five calls have been received from parents wanting to transfer their children from Trenton High.

They explained their youngsters were hurt or were fearful of injury, O'Connor said.

The Lawrence Board of Education, however, has ruled that the district doesn't have room for tuition students. he added.

Two girls have transferred to Villa Victoria Academy from Trenton High, principal Sister Concetta reported.

She added that two other girls were transferred by worried parents before the disturbance.

Boys who have applied to the all-girl school have been referred to Notre Dame and Cathedral High Schools, she said.

Several white students who arrived late at Trenton High today told police that they enly came to discuss transferring with school officials.

A request by the newlyformed Trenton Action Group that parents meet with school officials to discuss the 38 students who are to be expelled was denied by Trenton High principal William Walker.

Robert Bingham, organizer of the Negro organization, said following this morning's meeting with Walker that TAG wants to make certain that the rights of the students will be protected.

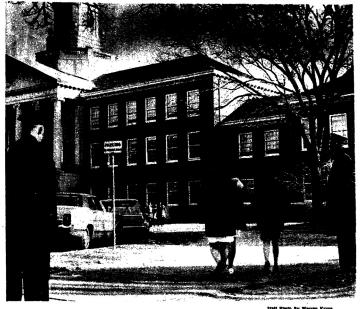
### Wants Assurance

The group wants assurances that none of the 38 students will be punished for actions which occurred prior to last Wednesday's fighting.

More than 40 persons were injured in the disturbances.

The Trenton Board of Education will meet tomorrow night to determine the future of the 38 students who have been suspended from classes.

The school board will determine today whether the traditional sports night activities scheduled for April 1 to 5 will be held.



A few students approach Trenton High School under the watchful eye of police.

# Taut Hours At Trenton High End Quietly; Attendance Sags

### By HERB WOLFE Staff Writer

No incidents were reported today as Trenton High School completed its first full day of classes since last Wednesday's disturbances.

But almost one-third of the school's student body stayed home.

A spokesman said 950 of Trenton High's 3,100 students were absent as classes resumed for the first time since fighting between white and Negro youths closed the school.

Normal daily attendance is 2.700.

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# Sport Nite In Jeopardy

By SANDRA CLUSTON Staff Writer

There is a strong possibility that the traditional Trenton High School Sport Nite will be cancelled for the first time in 34 years because of recent disturbances among students.

Calm prevailed again today at the school and attendance was up. A total of 584 students were absent, as compared to 950 yesterday, the first day the school opened after last Wednesday's trouble.

The high school faculty has voted to cancel the week-long Sports Nite activities, which were to be held from April 1 to 5

The faculty's recommendation will be given to the school board, which is the final authority in deciding whether the popular event will take place.

As of this morning, the school board had still not cancelled the event, however.

Might Invite Trouble

"The teachers are quite adamant," according to Alphonse Palermo, president of the Trenton Education Association. He said the teachers feel it might be inviting trouble to have so many students together in light of the recent trouble.

In addition, Palermo notes that the Sports Nite activities traditionally have been a disruption to classes.

The organized student council is expected to come up with a recommendation tomorrow. Meanwhile, practice sessions have been cancelled for this week.

Sport Nite is the biggest event of the year for some 1,100 high school girls. For five nights they are divided into two teams to compete in various events such as glamour, minstrels and pageantry.

The city board of education faces the possibility of heightened racial tension in the community in the event it expels a large number of students involved in recent disturbances.

Although Principal William Walker claims he has made no firm decision on the recommendations he will make to the school board, he reportedly plans to suggest the expulsion of 11 of the 38 students suspended for involvement in incidents at the high school last Wednesday.

Walker is expected to recommend that letters be sent to the parents of the other 27 students stating that they will be expelled the next time they are involved in trouble

Three of the 27 students reportedly have already returned to the high school.

One school board member claims there will be a minimum of 15 expulsions. Technically, he notes, a student can be expelled for such trivial items as failure to complete assigned work, but he expects that the board will probably be more lenient.

The member also points out that before expulsions are approved, parents are being given an opportunity to state their cases to school officials.

Robert Bingham, head of the newly formed Trenton Action Group (TAG), believes that expulsion of a substantial number of these students might increase existing racial tension.

TAG is urging the school board not to permanently expel any of the students, but in-tead to allow all of them to return to the high school after a period of time.

#### Expulsion Demanded

High school teachers, on the other hand, are demanding the expulsion of all students who were directly involved in acts of violence at the school. In fact, the teachers believe the school would not be "safe and operable" if the students in question are allowed to return and have threatened to stay home themselves if a return is permitted.

The school board will act at its next meeting only on those expulsions recommended by Walker. The board also has the authority to continue the suspension of a student.

Approximately 29 of the Students suspended are Negro, according to Bingham.

He claims some of the suspended students have legitimate complaints and, in addition, that they cannot get jobs through the United Progress Inc. Youth Corp program until they have been out of school for a minimum of six months. Bingham is employed by UPI.

"Things have been happening too fast." Bingham said, referring to the arrest yesterday of three of the students involved in last week's incidents. TAG has been able to obtain a postponement of the hearing for the three students until Monday.

Facing charges of assault and battery are Marvin Dotson, 18, of Winder Avenue and Lance White, 19, of the 100 block of Walnut Avenue. Thomas Bethea, 18, of the 100 block of South Cook Avenue was charged with malicious mischief. The three have been released on their own recognizance.

Dotson and White allegedly were prominent in both the December disturbance and the one which occurred last week. They were among a core of 12 students who promised Mayor Carmen J. Armenti there would be no trouble when they returned to school in January.

At a meeting of some 500 parents and students held after the December incidents. Dotson told the crowd. "I have no gripes against the teachers. The gripes are against the administration. I want the administration out . . tonight."

White said at the same meeting, "If you really knew what the facts were, you would think different."

# Sport Nite May Be Sport Day--Students Only

THS Sport Nite Still Up In Air

By SANDRA CLUSTON Staff Writer

Attendance was down from vesterday at Trenton School today and officials took a wait-and-see attitude before deciding the fate of Sport Nite.

School officials report 648 absentees today - 64 more than yesterday.

There were 950 students absent Monday when school reop-ened after being closed last Wednesday by an outbreak of violence.

Normally Trenton High averages about 500 absentees a day. Total enrollment is 3,100.

The student council meets today to discuss the popular program, which pits 1.100 girls on two teams in events of sports, glamor, pageantry and minstrelsy.

ro, school board president, said the board will "certainly take probably be worse this year. under advisement" the recom- Dr. Richard T. Beck. school mendation of the student council superintendent, said today the

celed because of the recent will be a determining factor. disturbances.

Sport Nite has always been a Sport Nite should be held.



RICHARD RECK

At the same time John Tesau-disruptive force and would

on Sport Nite, scheduled for students probably would be told this week exactly what will hap-Teachers at the school have pen, and he noted that the "clirequested the program be can mate" at the school this week

The school board is the final In addition, the teachers say authority in deciding whether

Trenton Times, March 6, 1968

By Pete Sherwood
Staff Writer
Sport Nite- at Trenton High
School may lose its "nite" but Richard Beck yesterday said the long program — slated this year
Board probably will not be cancelled faculty and some school offit for April 1-5 — be restricted to school and nearby grounds, appeared almost "back to Police reportedly stopped at normal" were it not for the least one student for question. But if the program is cancelling, but he later was allowed led outright the city School to the THS extracurricular program yes an additional \$7,000 subsidy, sent yesterday as compared school and safety officials for to the THS extracurricular program because of the revenue which would be lost.

Beginning The Councilman Ger and Nearby grounds, appeared almost "back to Police reportedly stopped at normal" were it not for the least one student for question. He city School to return to his classes.

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Regarded as one of the high-lights of the THS school year, Sport Nite pits two all - girl teams — the Black and the Red —against each other, with proceeds from parents and public going toward noneducational THS programs.

#### \$7,000 Short?

Gross receipts for the past several years averaged \$12,000, it was learned, with an average net of \$7,000. A daytime program limited to students would just meet expenses, leaving the just meet expenses, leaving \$7,000 to be appropriated.

Beck said he expected "some decision within the week" from the school board, which report-edly has not discussed the matter since last Wednesday's vio lence. It was indicated at that time that Sport Nite would be

"Everyone feels it would be unwise to go through with the unvice to go through with the program with a full audience." Beck continued, "unless real stability arrives at the high school."

Alphonse Palermo, president of the Trenton Education Asso-ciation, said his group feels a repetition of recent student out-breaks could occur if any large group of students were placed in a Sport Nite atmosphere.

Faculty Opposed

The high school faculty voted to recommend cancellation of the entire slate of activities and is presenting its position to the school board.

Although Sport Nite practice sessions have been cancelled this week, students are hoping the event held for the past 33 years will again be staged.

No students were allowed in halls during classes for any reason Tuesday and about 50 police continued patroling the

Trentonian, March 6, 1968

# THS Council Votes To Hold Sport Nite

hold the annual Sport Nite pro- recommendation to the board. gram as planned.

scheduled for April 1 to 5, tion. remains in the hands of the board of education.

above the average daily absen-vote.' tee rate.

vote. One member of the 19- the council voiced his opinion." man body was not at the sescast a ballot.

gram's cancelation because of said. the recent disturbances.

In addition, the teachers say "disruptive force" and would would be better not to have it. probably be worse this year.

Late This Week

Dr. Richard T. Beck. The cli-spots." mate at the school will be a de- No incidents were reported at termining factor.

No incidents were reported at the school today. It was the

advisor, said the council's deci-incident following the school's sion would be sent to Principal reopening Monday.

The student council at Tren-William Walker today. Walker ton High School has voted to is expected to forward the

Walker was not available for The fate of the activity comment on the student ac-

"This is definitely not a deoard of education. mand on school officials," Meanwhile, school officials re-Moore emphasized. "The counported only 541 students absent cil is only making its recomtoday. This is 107 fewer absen-mendation as requested. And we tees than yesterday and is 41 realize the closeness of the

Moore called the council ses-The council's action came at sion an "unusually democratic vesterday's meeting by a 10-7 process where every member of

The fact that many girls have sion, and the president did not already spent between \$50 and \$100 seemed to weigh heaviest Teachers at the school, how-with council members who ever, have requested the pro- voted for the program, Moore

"None of the students was really opposed to Sport Nite, Sport Nite has always been a Mocre said. "But some said it

"The others felt the benefits would outweigh the hazards. The students probably will be he added. "And they said this told exactly what will happen kind of program should better later this week, according to relationships and help heal sore

Joseph Moore, student council fourth consecutive day without

Trentonian, March 7, 1968



## Situation 'Magnified'

Sir: I am a senior at Trenton Central High School and I'm mighty proud to be a member of the best high school in this area; even this country maybe. For one does not lose all loyalty and love for his school just because after 21/2 years of good, bad prevails for a few hours.

It really grieves me to pick up the paper and read about alleged race riots, fighting and racial tensions. For it seems a pity that is all one can read.

Not a mention is made of the other 2,900 students (or more) who continue their school lives peacefully and in harmony with

And of course not one hears about the hundreds of girls (and many boys, too) who work hand in hand every day for Sports Nite. Nor about students who work on the Spectator, Bobashella, athletic teams and other activities. But most important is the other 175 days of the year when students learn side by side in classrooms together. These pupils, the vast majority of THS, are not only increasing their intelligence, but are also creating bonds of friendship which cannot be broken by prejudiced news reporting nor exaggerations bizarre fighting.

I am not belittling the disturbances last week at THS: I am only accusing news media and other parents or adults of magnifying the situation.

There is no "underlying racial tension" existing in THS now the only tension is that caused by both policemen and policeteachers who nervously and frantically rush students to class, holding the threat of suspension over our heads. There is such an atmosphere of fear and anxiety expressed over and over by adults, that we students are beginning to jump needlessly at our own shadows. The students are being shoved into such a rut of disgust and depression that simply pushing through the cops to enter the building is a tedious task in itself.

But the presence of policemen and teachers is not the only obstacle to alter THS's course: lavatory going and water fountain drinking have also been "suspended indefinitely except in the case of dire emergency!" Service of the guidance department was also suspended to students with no exceptions! Previously held homeroom and activity periods have been converted to longer class periods: some periods extended over one hour.

I only hope that one day this "Trenton High Prison" soon become once again the great Trenton High School it always was and always will be.

In the meantime, we look forward to that wonderful event, Sperts Nite, as proof of our ability as THS students to work together and create a fabulous product in brotherhood.

> Suzanne Anderson Trenton

Trentonian, March 8, 1968

# THS Still Tense as Police-Guarded Week Winds Up

disturbances.

With close to 50 police still guarding THS and about 35 alleged troublemakers suspended pending expulsion hearings, Principal William Walker admits that "an abnormal situ-ation" still exists at the 3,100student, five - building complex.

Rumors of new trouble con-tinue to circulating among students whose representatives - have voted to hold the 34th

ears of continued trouble.

"Not Normal" diate future for THS, and decretainly don't have a clined to say how the 35 susWith the school board holding

By Pete Sherwood
Staff Writer
Tensions at Trenton High
School remain high as students Education Association already today complete their fifth day of classes following reopening atter last Wednesday's racial disturbances.

The students of classes of continued trouble.

The said it was impossible to judge what lies in the immediate when more than 40 students

The board also is expected day night, it is extremely undown it is expulsion.

It was learned yesterday that likely that any action will be of two students involved in Dechenics, allowing in for the 35 students, who may though a final decision on wheleful the five-day event because of lears of continued trouble.

Wat Normal'

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Trentonian, March 8, 1968

# Here At Home

Classes resumed at Trenton High School Monday after a two-and-a-half-day shutdown following disorders the previous Wednesday. Nearly a third of the 3,100 students stayed home and, while attendance improved somewhat, it was below normal the rest of the week. There were 50 uniformed and plain-clothes policemen on hand to help maintain order. No incidents were reported.

The school faculty voted to cancel Sports Nite, a week-long series of activities in which teams of girl students compete. However, the newly reorganized student council voted 10-to-7 in favor of the event. Decision on the matter is up to the school board.

Representatives of the school board appeared before City Council Thursday night to appeal for restoration of part of the \$625,-000 cut from the 1968-69 school budget by the Board of School Estimate and City Council, Board President John Tesauro said that \$345,000 would have to be restored if Trenton is to have "a safe, orderly, productive and progressive school system." Council is considering the request.

Trenton Times, March 10, 1968

# Police Just Part Of Scenery At Trenton High

### By THOMAS GREER Staff Writer

Students will be greeted by armed, nightstick-carrying policemen at Trenton High School for the sixth consecutive day tomorrow.

But unlike the strained calm which prevailed at the school a week ago, the atmosphere is expected to be that of a near-normal school day. And the members of "Trenton's finest" will be looked upon as another fixture in the hallway.

Last Monday, students, teachers and policemen were unusually touchy.

They were returning for the first time since racial tensions had erupted and caused fist fights between Negro and white students. More than 40 students were injured, 38 were suspended, seven were arrested and the school was closed.

Monday, everybody seemed scared stiff.

Rigorous discipline, strict security and new policies are now necessary. Tomorrow, however, should not be difficult for students who have learned to accept the situation as it stands.

### Hear Footsteps

"Most teachers, on the other hand, still hear footsteps," according to one teacher. "It's sad, but most are still so frightened they are talking about leaving with the last armed cop.

"At first, the biggest beef was that the school was like a prison," says the teacher.

"Security was simply too tight and this only caused tensions to become intensified."

The teacher, who requested his name not be used, says that by Wednesday the tight security was only another part of the school day to which most students were growing accustomed. But there should be some way to get around having so many uniformed police in the school, he says.

"How can we go on like this?" the teacher asks. "All we have is police protection, but nothing is being done to solve the social problems which provoked the incidents.

"Many of these problems are built into the students now," he adds, "but they'll have to be changed. We have to make these kids understand and know they are a part."

Principal William Walker's statements appear to represent the majority view of teachers who would prefer to have some 50 policemen at the school through June.

### **Protection Needed**

"We certainly don't have a normal situation," Walker says. "We've had strong police protection which I felt was necessary. We're not living in normal times."

Walker also believes Trenton High's future is impossible to judge at this point.

Monday, a heated argument ensued between a 17-year-old Negro student and a detective when the youth came into the school some two hours late. "What is this, some kind of a jail?" the student screamed. "I just want to go get a pass. If you don't believe me come and go with me."

Friday, the same student flashed a wide smile at the same white detective as they passed in the main hallway.

"I was kind of shook up Monday," the student says. "And the cop crossed me in the wrong way. I guess I was wrong, but I really don't think armed police are needed in the school."

Other students who expressed resentment for the police at first now speak respectfully. Some even joke with a few officers.

The police themselves are as disturbed about being at the school all day as some students and teachers are about them being there.

"My work (in a special squad) is going to pot," says one lieutenant. "It's really a shame that I have to spend so much time here when I feel I could be better serving the city's taxpayers someplace else. But I just do my job."

Three detective patrolmen voiced similar opinions. "None of these kids are dumb," one detective says. "If they wanted to start something, you can bet your bottom dollar it would not be when 10,000 cops were standing around."

### What Of Sport Nite?

Peace and calm have returned, even though they are supported by blue-coated policemen. But the incidents occurred, leaving the scar which will cause the rest of the school year to suffer.

Most import is Sport Nite,

the week of competetive activities for girls, which appears dead for this year.

The Trenton Board of Education is expected to make its decision at Tuesday's meeting. The 34-year-old program was scheduled for April 1-5.

"This really hurts me," explains one 16-year-old girl. "I've been looking forward to Sport Nite all year. My parents have spent some money on me already."

But the money, time and work already spent on this year's program seems to have been in vain.

"How can anyone take the responsibility and guarantee no incidents?" the teacher asks. "I sure wouldn't want to do it.

"It would be like a big gamble with very high stakes," he says. "You would have a lot to gain if you won, but if you lost you'd lose your shirt."

Walter Krichlang, who directs Sport Nite activities, says he hopes the board of education decides not to hold the programs. "There's just too much at stake," he says. "Of course after the incidents in December, there was no trouble at the Christmas basketball tournament."

Teachers at the school have already requested the program be cancelled because of the recent disturbances.

The student council, however, voted 10-7 in favor of having the program.

The teacher says girls at the school will lose "a vital part of their eductional experience" if Sport Nite is cancelled.

He says the police at the school, the teachers voting to cancel Sport Nite and a number of other things were done in "a mood of haste because of the incidents.

"When people are disturbed about such incidents, they really can't act rationally," he says.

### No Concessions to Fear

Although patrolmen will still be a normal basis. stationed in the corridors of Tren-ton Central High School today to keep order in that racially tense institution, there are strong indications that a spirit of calm has returned now that several accused troublemakers have been suspend-

Of course, it may be some time before it will be practical to remove the police guard from THS, but in other respects the morale of the students and faculty can be given a tremendous lift if all other aspects of school life are resumed on

And this applies, most notably, to the annual Sport Nite events. There had been rumors that the week-long competition — a high point in the school calendar — might not be staged this year, or that it might be held during the daytime instead of the evening.

Cancellation of the event would be a tragic microle because if

be a tragic mistake, because it would be a concession to fear and violence, and nothing could spawn new disorders at the school more readily than the outward expecta-tion of them.

Trenton Times, March 11, 1968

# Sport Nite Is Out At Trenton High

# By SANDRA CLUSTON And JAMES E. GOODMAN Staff Writers

Sport Nite is out for the first time in 34 years at Trenton High School.

And expulsion hearings for up to 18 Trenton High students will begin "as quickly as possible."

The decision to call off the Sport Nite activities involving some 1,100 girls came at 1 a.m. today at the conclusion of a five-hour Trenton Board of Education meeting.

The board did not rule out the possibility of reinstating Sport Nite next year, however.

The 18 students were among 38 suspended after violence broke out at Trenton High on February 28. The other 20 are back in school.

John Tesauro, school board president, said today that the school board is awaiting the recommendations of William Walker, high school principal, before beginning expulsion hearings.

One Hearing Held

"There is a standing committee ready to begin expulsion hearings," Tesauro said, "and I expect it will begin operating very shortly."

The committee has held one hearing for a student suspended after the first outbreak of violence last December. The committee recommended expulsion and the school board last night expelled the student — a 17-year-old youth charged with bringing a gun into the school.

The school board must act on the remaining 18 suspensions by its April meeting. That action could be expulsion, reinstatement or a continuance of a suspension.

The impact of cancelling Sport Nite — a hallowed traditional competition in sport, glamour, minstrel and pageantry for Trenton High girls — was immediate. It had been scheduled for April 1 to 5. The faculty had recommended against holding the event because of the danger of more disorder.

The effect of 18 possible expulsions will be more long-range.

#### Parents On Hand

More than 120 parents were at last night's meeting. They included representatives of various groups concerned both about the effect of the expulsions on the students and the fear that some troublemakers may get back in school.

The school board is considering setting up a temporary program involving the Multi-Skill Center and the city's anti-poverty agency to enable suspended students to continue their schooling outside of the high school.

Vincent Halbert, assistant superintendent of schools, is temporarily assigned at Trenton High to assist Walker in handling immediate, pressing problems at the school.

Both Halbert and Tesauro insisted that Halbert's presence at Trenton High represented no erosion of Walker's authority.

"These are trying times." Tesauro said. "Mr. Halbert is an assistant superintendent and he is acting as a consultant with Mr. Walker."

Tesauro said the delay in recommendations for expulsions is a technical problem.

Trenton Times, March 13, 1968



Staff Photo By Warren Kruse

Parents jam Trenton High School's community room for school board meeting.

Trenton Times. March 13, 1968

# No Call for Expulsion of 18

# **Board Cancels THS Sport Nite**

By Pete Sherwood Staff Writer

endar, will not be held this ago. year.

Wednesday to cap a lengthy, and other arts, falls victim to The move followed an an recommendation of a school well-attended session marked by the racial trouble that has terminouncement by Board President! (Continued on Page Eight)

an earlier announcement that the school. Announcing this John F. Tesauro that the school

Sport Nite, the annual compe- Board failure to act on pos-The Trenton School Board tition among the Blacks and sible expulsions came as a mild 18 students still suspended, said made the post-midnight decision Reds in girls athletics, dance surprise.

no action would be taken on the year's cancellation, the board board had not received the Sport Nite, traditional extra-status of 18 THS students sus-stated the action was taken "in names of any students recomcurricular highlight of the Tren-pended following the disruption order to avoid any further diston High School academic cal- at the high school two weeks ruption of the educational pro- mended for expulsions by THS gram."

Principal William Walker.

Tesauro, in referring to the

# **Board Cancels '68 Sport Nite at THS**

sion notice.

first regular meeting since the dents. latest violence at the high school. Some 15 city residentsabout one-third of them Negroattended.

Robert Bingham, president of (TAG), said he had hoped for the student's request. some action on the 18 suspennot proven, should be returned sion decision.

"Many of the charges do not warrant the children being put out of school," Bingham continued, "We feel the principal the cut City Council has made (Walker) should have proof before ordering these suspensions."

### Hits "Double Standard"

by Mrs. Catherine Graham, present additional facts president of the local NAACP. Saying she did not condone de the added cash. struction by any youngster black or white - she added that ures to increase the safety and her group also would insist "double standards" not be applied.

Mrs. Graham called for the creation of a council of Negro bert, who has been assigned and white parents to work with the THS student council "to know what is really happening in the high school."

Several in the audience suggested the establishment of the a special school to handle disruptive pupils. But Mrs. Graham suggested that suspended pupils be put in special classes, not a special school where she said further trouble might develop."

"To suspend a youngster to the street is no solution," School

(Continued from Page One) |Superintendent Dr. Richard Beck, Most of the persons in last principal until the second board said, adding that the Evening night's audience seemed to fameeting following the suspen-School, Multi-Skill Program and vor readmittance of the sus-United Progress Inc. all are pended students until the re-Last night's meeting was the being considered for these stu-sults of the expulsion hearings

In the cases of two students suspended for carrying wea- proach received only scattered pons during the earlier December disturbances, the board acted to expel one and held Trenton Action Group over action on the second at

With 18 students under sussions tonight "to relieve the ten-pension from the latest disrupsions in this community." He tion, the board authorized Dr. said his group feels that "all Beck to set up special classes the children, if the charges are for them - probably at the Multi-Skill Center, permitting to school" until after the expul-them to keep up with classwork pending final decision.

### Hit Budget Cuts

plied that he was "not accepting in our budget with good grace."

He said Council yesterday indicated the doors for a larger budget are not fully closed His statements were echoed and that the school board could school discipline plans to get

> "We've taken strong measassure the parents of complete safety for their youngsters in the future," Beck continued.

> to THS to help reorganize the discipline and attendance methods, was not being considered as a replacement for Principal Walker. Halbert was principal of the school prior to Walker, and rumors Beck-said were "not well founded" had Halbert resuming the post.

Walter Singleman of the Junior Three PTA said his group is offering help to both Negro and white parents in Trenton seeking adequate law enforcement for the city's schools.

are known. One man who callled for a continued hardline aplapplause.

Teacher Fears Over

Speaking for the Trenton Federation of Teachers, President Philip Urban said the majority of the high school's teachers and students were no longer afraid and urged immediate action on the Sport Nite and expulsion questions.

Alphonse Palermo of the Trenton Education Association said many steps in handling disruptive students already To other remarks, Beck re- have been granted for the next school year, and that the programs should also reach into the city's elementary schools.

# Girls React To Sport Nite Demise

# 'All That Work For Nothing'

### By BIRGITTA NYHOL3I Staff Writer

Reactions to the cancellation of Sport Nite range from disappointment to relief among Trenton High School girls.

"After all that work we did and now it's just nothing," said Rose Leon, who was standing outside the high school in yesterday's snow after classes.

About 1,100 girls have been rehearsing for the competition since November.

"There wouldn't have been any trouble," said Iris Repollet, a junior shaking her head. The weather fitted their mood. and that was bleak. The students, along with the hundreds of other girls involved in Sport Nite preparations, were told of the cancellation yesterday during gym classes.

The school board made the decision "to avoid any further disruption of the educational program." The 34 year-old event was scheduled for April 1 to 5.

Watched By Police

"They could at least have let us had it during the day and had it for students only," said Margareta Portuguez. another junior. "Anyone who is happy about all this, wasn't interested in Sport Nite to begin with," she added.

The girls walked away under the watchful eye of police who have been there since violence broke out at the school on February 28.

Still, there were others who, aithough disappointed by the first cancellation of Sport Nite thought it was for the best.

"I'm kind of glad about it." said Clara Motyka. "There would only have been more trouble if it were held," added the sophomore.

Terry Lee, a junior, also was happy about the decision. "It wouldn't have done them any good to just hold it in the daytime. There still would have been trouble," she said.

"There was talk that they were calling for a riot at Sport Nite this year and I'm giad it was called off," said Lois Molder, a junior.

Several students said there were fights after the event in previous years, and felt this year an incident could develop into something serious.

The students, however, have been preparing for the traditional competition for four months and most of the costumes are nearly completed, said Susan Gittleman, the Black Team capatin.

Trenton Times, March 14, 1968

## **Sports Nite Cancellation**

# **Ill-Advised Action**

This newspaper earlier this week suggested that it would be a mistake for the Board of Education to cancel the annual Sports Nite events at Trenton High School. This point of view was also expressed by the students and many of the teachers.

Nevertheless, on Tuesday the board did wipe out the annual affair "in order to avoid any further disruption of the educational pro-

gram."

We fail to see the relevance of the board's position. Sports Nite has never been considered disruptive to the educational program before. It is held during the evening, and the money realized from the week-long extravaganza pays for much of the school's athletic and extra-curricular activities.

Granted, the safety and education of the students come first, but the student's pride in his school is an important factor in securing both of these goals. Sports Nite has always been the principal avenue to such pride at THS, and with its cancellation the students now have very little else to look forward to except a continued state of anxiety.

The students are being told by their elders, in effect, that "you can't be trusted to behave yourselves at school functions." It is an old truth that one sure way to guarantee a lack of responsibility in children is to withhold it from

The worst part of this affair is that most of the youngsters at THS are responsible and well behaved—and they are the ones who will suffer the most.

Perhaps it is not too late for the School Board to reconsider this ill-advised action.

# Here At Home

Twenty of the 38 Trenton High School students suspended after the distrubances there Feb. 28 were readmitted to the school Monday. Others are scheduled for readmission but, for 12, expulsion hearings are to be conducted by a committee of the board of education "as quickly as possible." John Tesauro, board president, said there are many technical problems involved in the expulsion proceedings and noted that the "board must protect the constitutional rights of each student."

At a meeting Tuesday night, the board decided to call off, for this year at least the traditional Sport Nite. This is a week-long series of competitions in sport, glamour, minstrel and pageantry for the school's 1,100 girl. The school faculty had recommended against holding the event because of the possibility of more disorder.

Earlier Tuesday, City Council accepted on first reading a school board budget that had cut \$625,000 by the Board of School Estimate and City Council. The school board had been hopeful Council would restore some of the cuts and still hopes this will be done before final adoption of the budget on March 22.

Trenton Times, March 17, 1968

# American Way: Punish the Innocent

Sir: Your editorial in the Thursday edition entitled "Ill-Advised Action," referring to the Trenton School Board decision to cancel the Sport Night events, certainly indicates a lack of understanding and consideration of the problem.

Your editorial is actually ill advised and will be no help in restoring Trenton High to normal educational pursuits.

In view of activities of student groups which were activating all the agitation of the past few months, it is high time all students were told definitely that they have no voice in administrative problems. We doubt they, the students, have the knowledge or the understanding to determine administrative policy. However, I believe if they will prepare any objections or recommendations properly, consideration will be given to any rightful Certainly, varience should get them nowhere and those instigating such action should be told so and punished if necessary. It is the American way for the innocent to suffer with the guilty, but the guilty should not escape the burden of responsibility.

As far as your editorial is concerned, it seems to me, you could write something more constructive in connection with the problem in question.

RICHARD B. STANDIFORD 2d

Trentonian, March 18, 1968

# Schools Closed Here 2 Days

Mayor Carmen J. Armenti says the closing of public schools in the city today and Tuesday was done without consulting him.

"I like to see the schools in business at all times," he said, "but this was a board decision and they made it. I was not consulted."

At the same time, the mayor said he will send the Rev. David D. Mellon of the Trenton Council of Churches and his own administrative assistant, W. Oliver Leggett Jr., to Atlanta today to represent him at Dr. Martin Luther King's funeral.

All parochial and township schools were scheduling regular classes this week up to the beginning of the Easter vacation.

The public school announcement by Su-

perintendent Dr. Richard Beck means that Trenton students will have only two days of classes this week — Wednesday and Thursday—before the start of the 10-day Easter vacation.

Trenton High and the junior highs were closed early on Friday because of incidents as the impact of the assassination spread. Ironically, the annual THS Sport Nite—which had been cancelled because of February's racial outbreaks — would have been ending last Friday night.

Schools to be closed include all city public schools, the regular and vocational evening schools, and the Multi-Skills Center, where classes are being conducted for students facing expulsion from THS because of the February disturbances.

# City Wary After Night Of Terror

# City-Wide Curfew Is Reimposed By Mayor

# Many Areas Sealed



### **Summer Came Early**

# Flames, Shots, Taunting Laughter

# Youth Slain; 108 Arrested

By JAMES E. GOODMAN and Lee Pasternack Staff Writers

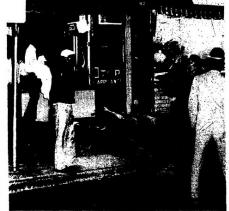
died at Helene Fuld
ital a half hour later,
being hit by a bullet
by a police officer
ering a call for help at

Three policemen a



# 23 Hurt treet at Include

# Don't Miss These



Two city policemen, with guns drawn, rush to the aid of Patrol-man Richard Nicholson, struggling on the sidewalk of North Broad Street near Byer's Mens Shop.

# Youth, 19, Who Was Killed Active In City Teen Councils



... dies in rioting.

# City Wary After Outbreaks Of Arson, Looting

dentrywed by flames that also threatened the Codey's Service Station at Bernard and Calhoun Street 300 emergency calls, including 28 fire alarms bettled a fire that burned out Kronick's Market on Perry Street between Carroll and English companies of firmans bettled a fire that burned out Kronick's Market on Perry Street between Carroll and English companies of firman battled a fire that burned out Kronick's Market on Perry Street between Carroll and English Companies of firman and the agartenests above the familium store. They were spanish-Americans. As they study and sanage was found in the rear of the building.

The owner, Harry Kronick's Market of Sanahican Drive estimated the damage at 101,500 and the spartness of sanak and the spartness of sanak and warehouse behind it. Heavy structural damage was found in the rear of the building.

The owner, Harry Kronick's Carroll of Sanahican Drive estimated the damage at 101,500 and the spartness of sanak and the spartness of sanak and the spartness of sanak and the spartness and

# **Has Minor** Troubles

# Youth, 19, Killed **Active In Councils**

Butterfield, broke up into several other streets and then broke up. There were no several other streets and then broke up. There were no several other streets and then broke up. There were no several other streets are then broke up. There were no several other streets are then broke up. There were no several other streets are then several other streets are then several street. He was admitted to Burlington County Hospital and is listed in fair condition today.

According to Butterfield.

Raight was then in the back it on of St. Mary and Green streets with a .32-caliber revolver. Arrested as a suspect was Robert Green, 19, of Joness Avenus.

County Prosecutor Murrial.

County Prosecutor Murrial

the Human Relations Gub.
His work with young children was during his employ with the Mercer Street Friends Center.
We will be Mercer Street Mrs. Weintraub said Joseph "spoke strongly on what he Luther King's ideologies."
"He was to attend a meeting tonight of the mayor's committee. We were talking things that would be constructive and would lead to be the work of the work of



Statt Panh by Warran Krase

Devastating fire at Convery furniture store lighted riot scene, but only a shell was visible by dawn's early light.

# Arrested Rioters Overflow Mercer Jail

# Regular Inmates Transferred To Workhouse

#### By H.ARTHUR SMITH

stems to make it harder to unlick the doors and three three to unlick the doors and three three to unlick the thind the three this to unlick the doors and three three to unlick the doors



Policemen have to step over empty merchandise cartons as they converge on Sam's Haber-

dashery at 349 North Warren Street, looted by vandals.



# Security Tightened

# 10 More Guards **Hired For Schools**

Ten more security guards will; Fred Price was assigned to be hired for assignment to Tren- the discipline office at the high ton's junior high schools.

by the city school board. The Williams, Robert Callahan and state reimburses the city for 75 Mrs. Thelma Riley. percent of the cost.

during recent months.

was made when the board apcards for all high school stu-plus \$500 for workshops and dents, staff and board members travel. The entire cost will be in an attempt to keep outsiders underwritten by the state, exfrom the building.

Request Granted

In addition, the board agreed work 11 months. to State Education Commission-

The board accepted the resig-incurred nation of Bernard Siegel as day preparation. vocational director.

temporary basis.

Stokes School also accepted.

school at the rate of \$8 per This was authorized last night hour. He will be joining Lloyd

There have been incidents of new position of job developer unrest at the junior high schools for the Trenton High School to A move to tighten security at make more jobs available to troubled Trenton High School students on a part-time basis

> cept for one month's salary since the person will have to

The board agreed to pay er Dr. Carl L. Marburger's sug. \$5,500 to the high school activity gestion to send several of his fund in lieu of sports night restaff members into the high ceipts and to pay out \$1,118 for school to study the situation direct expenses - including students' costs for uniforms for sports

supervisor at the Skills Center | Bessie Hill, a former Trenton eftective April 1. He is accept-iguidance counselor, was named ing an assignment with the consultant at the high school Hunterdon County Schools as a three days a week at a salary of \$75 per day. She will act as Joseph English was appointed liaison with the community, will to fill Siegel's position on a help develop a strong student council and will help train the The retirement of Mrs. F. caseteria staff to maintain bet-Myrtle Goetz as principal of the ter control, according to Assistwas ant Superintendent Halbert.

# School Board Puts Off \$ Cut Appeal

By Pete Sherwood Staff Writer

Pressure by four members of the Trenton School Board to Identification cards were ); board: appeal a \$525,000 cut in the roved for Trenton High stulieved the cause of last night's ministrators to keep out "un-for the city to Nichols Pools postponement of the appeal de desirables" and avoid future Inc. of Bristol for \$8,950. cision until Monday.

to the \$13 million budget.

Following a 90-minute closed disturbances. appeal the cut to the state board of Education, Board President sauro, referring to an earlier traitions for the 1968-69 school statement predicting a "cool year.

John F. Tesauro said action summer," said last night his —Accepted the retirement of summer," said last night his —Accepted the retirement of summer. would be deferred until a special Monday conference session summer, said last night his —Accepted the retirement of theory has "been somewhat F. Myrtle Goetz after 39 years' because some members wanted more information on where cuts would be made.

### Need Another Vote

However, it was learned that four of the nine board members had favored the appeal and hoped the delay would win the extra vote needed. Formal announcement of the board's decision could come as late as May

Both Trenton Education Association and Trenton Federation of Teachers officials last night reiterated their pleas for an appeal similar to the successful one filed last year. TEA President Alphonse Palermo said his group "will go to court and tie up the budget legally if it affects our memorandum of understanding."

Palermo said a strike might be used "as a last resort" if changes are made in the memorandum arrived at with the school, board, -

### **Expulsion Rules**

Tesauro, in referring to expulsion hearings for 12 students which begin today, said teachers will be required to apear when they have filed charges and may be subject to cross examination by the students' attorn-

Palermo later in the meeting said the transfer of William Walker as principal of Trenton High was causing great concern among teachers. Tesauro has said there will be no further

fer.

### 1D Cards Ok'd

racial disruptions.

to aid in its report on the THS was cancelled.

istatement on the Walker trans-kicked to the other side of the service, as principal of Stokes table."

In other business, the school

- Awarded bids for two schools during March. 1958-69 school budget was be-dents, staff members and ad-above - ground swimming pools

- Approved \$5,500 for the The decision was expected In other attempts to cool ten-Trenton High activity fund "in from the board last night after sions, the board will furnish lieu of Sport Nite receipts" and City Council indicated earlier in additional information to the offered \$1,118 for expenses inthe day it would restore \$80,000 City Human Relations Council curred before the annual event

-Voted to allow Leon Levy to

session to decide whether to Board President John F. Te-continue teacher salary nego-

school.

-Announced that 83 students were suspended from all city