

# School Board Discharges Seniors; Name Architects

Three seniors were discharged from school in an unprecedented action of the board of education of Hillsboro schools Saturday afternoon following a three-hour investigation of the case.

The action came in a joint motion, unanimously approved by the board, following a complete report on each of the three students, presented separately in the presence of the mother and father of each boy concerned. A reporter attended the hearings.

Details of the cases were presented by the high school principal, Walter T. Shannon, who had suspended the three from school earlier in the week, pending the board hearing. The principal recommended their expulsion, backed by the superintendent.

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IT WAS the first time in the recorded history of the school that such action had been taken.

According to school law, the expulsion is for the remainder of the current school year and does not preclude completion of school work elsewhere or at a later time here.

Shannon told the board that he felt the action was necessary in order to maintain discipline at the school.

Prior to that, he explained in detail to the board the steps leading up to the dismissal recommendation. He told of counseling with the boys and with the parents numerous times.

All the boys, at one time, had been given a chance to withdraw from school or to transfer to another school but declined to do so, remaining in classes on strict, probationary terms written out and explained in detail to each. It was also understood at this particular time, that they violated their probation, and they would be subject to expulsion.

Each had violated the terms of the agreement prior to their suspension. School board members received a copy of the agreement.

The boys discharged were among several at the school on probationary terms, it was stated. One had been absent all or

the hope that the boys would complete their education.

Culminating a period of investigation, school visitations, interviews and hours of discussion, the Hillsboro board of education took official action Saturday night on the naming of architects to handle the school building program here.

Realizing that action was necessary before much more time had elapsed, the board finally voted, 3 to 2, to employ the firm of Grunkemeyer, Sullivan, Isaacs & Associates, Cincinnati, for the new school building at Webster grounds and to offer the job of constructing the high school addition to E. C. Landberg, also of Cincinnati.

In the event Landberg does not accept the high school job, it is to go to Grunkemeyer & Sullivan, it was stated.

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THE OFFICIAL motion came after more than two hours of discussion, during which several preliminary votes and various compromises on other firms were offered.

The motion was made by Elmer Hedges and seconded by John Henry Brown. It covered both firms. In the vote Hedges and Brown were joined by the board president, Marvel Wilkin, but Dr. William L. Lukens and Wilfred Faul voted "no."

Action on naming an architect for the project at Washington School, which appears to pose more involved problems than Webster, was deferred until later.

William C. Mason, chairman of the citizens' advisory committee for the board, was present for part of the session. He said the committee did not want to make an outright recommendation of an architect. Knowing that the board members were divided in their opinions, he said that the committee had in mind a compromise candidate to suggest, in the hope of making the final board action unanimous.

The meeting was concluded amicably, it was learned, and as one put it, "we were voted out."

School board...  
The boys discharged were among several at the school on probationary terms, it was stated. One of the boys had been absent without excuse all or part of about 40 days during the current term. One had been on probation since his junior year. Teachers' reports, which were part of the evidence presented, indicated almost complete disregard for school work on the part of the three. All were failing in virtually every subject.

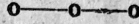
Shannon said he regretted having to take the serious step but it was a matter of keeping his word on the probationary agreement.

The parents appeared to bear no malice toward school officials and admitted the shortcomings of their sons. They said they understood the necessity for the drastic action.

Board members told the parents that they felt they should back school officials in their recommendations, keeping in mind the welfare of the several hundred other students enrolled there. Earlier, Shannon had indicated that he and others had bent over backwards in giving the boys "a break." Unofficially, board members expressed

... unanimous.  
The meeting was concluded amicably, it was learned, and as one board member put it, "we were voting our convictions as we have a right to do in a democracy."

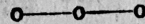
The meeting on the architect employment was a continuation of a session which began with hearings on disciplinary matters at the high school.



### EXAMS SLATED

Competitive examinations for positions in the state departments of natural resources, health and public welfare for March 24 and 25 have been announced by Carl W. Smith, Chairman of the state civil service commission, Columbus. Salary ranges will vary from \$220 to \$525 a month.

On March 24th there will be examinations for the positions of equipment operator, forest fire warden, labor foreman, park caretaker and truck drivers, in the department of natural resources.



### WORSHIP SERVICE

Worship and prayer service will be held at Cook's Convalescent Home Sunday, Feb. 28, at 2:30 P. M.