

# ADULT EDUCATION

The Birmingham Board of Education not only provides an educational opportunity for all of the district's children, but also makes available opportunities for any interested adults. It is the intent of the program of continuing educa-

tion to provide class offerings which will help meet the cultural, vocational, and recreational needs of the community. Course offerings are based upon past enrollments and requests for new programs.

## Curriculum

Regular class offerings are available in the area of Art, Foreign Language, Business, Electronics, the Dance, Law, and Home Economics. Each term college instruction is also available in the area of Liberal Arts. These courses are offered in cooperation with the Division of Adult Education, Wayne State University and the University of Michigan.

## Needs

Since the cost of instruction and supplies of all courses is sustained through fees from enrollees, needs will depend upon the continued interest of the community.

## Improvements

During the 1960-61 season there was an increase in participation exceeding 80%. This increased interest has brought about an extended program for the coming season. Among those courses offered that are new to the program are Latin American Dance, Charm and Poise, Intermediate Spanish, Beginning Square Dance, Beginning Knitting, Law for the Layman, Business Law, Accounting, Tournament Bridge, Beginning German, Advanced Italian, and Fraction-aid Arithmetic.

# PARENT TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

A Parent Teachers Association is organized in each school to promote a closer relationship between the home and the school. Through a variety of activities, it seeks to develop mutual understanding of the school's program, the needs of children and the community, thereby promoting its goals for the best possible mental, spiritual, physical and social

education for each pupil.

The PTA Council is composed of representatives from public and non-public schools and other community organizations. It represents a membership of nearly 10,000. The Council helps to improve the schools, assists with community projects, encourages local PTA units and supports the organization of new units.



Through the Parent Teachers Association, mothers serve voluntarily in elementary school libraries. Their services will soon be supplemented by trained elementary librarians.

## Activities

In addition to sponsoring regular programs at meetings of interest to their memberships, many of the local units have assisted the schools in such projects as the following:

- Conducting a library program
- Assisting health service personnel with hearing and vision testing.
- Helping to conduct open houses
- Publishing newsletters
- Assisting with Safety programs and field trips
- Sponsoring children's and youth groups
- Purchasing equipment used in the school program

The PTA Council has assisted the schools in many ways, including:

- Building needs studies completed in 1955 and 1957
- The personnel study completed in 1957
- A study of curriculum in grades 7 through 12 completed in 1961