

Dover pupils get a free day

# Teachers ready demands for more state support

More than 300 Dover and New Philadelphia teachers and school administrators will form a car caravan Wednesday morning for a trip to Columbus to

press demands for increased state aid for public school operations.

State Rep. William Hinig (D-New Philadelphia) has arranged for a House hearing room where he, State Sen. Douglas Applegate and a member of Gov. John Gilligan's staff will meet with 25 of the delegates.

The remainder of the group, according to Donald Keller, Dover Education Assn. president, will attend a briefing at the Ohio Education Assn. office.

Keller said the teachers will make the trip in private cars instead of chartered buses because the OEA withdrew its commitment of funds for the buses.

All schools in the two cities will be closed Wednesday. Dover board of education members and administrators changed their position Monday night and decide students would not have to make up the day of missed classes. However, teachers will make up the day by working June 10 and non-certified personnel will work June 8, a Saturday.

New Philadelphia school officials tentatively scheduled Friday, June 7, as the makeup day for students and teachers. Official action is expected at tonight's board of education meeting.

**THE TEACHERS**, at their meeting in Columbus, plan to submit the following demands:

An immediate supplemental appropriation of 25 per cent in additional state funds based on pupil enrollment;

A \$1000 minimum per student guarantee based on the current cost of living and a guarantee for the next biennium against reductions in state aid because of student population loss;

Any increase of 5 per cent or more in the cost of living should be directly reflected in per pupil appropriations.

A percentage of each district's per pupil appropriation should be added to the base subsidy for building maintenance and expansion.

The teachers also will propose that the federal government (Internal Revenue Service) collect a state income tax and return it intact to the state for distribution.

They cited the following four reasons for the proposal:

The income tax would replace the current sales and property taxes and revise current corporate and personal income tax structures;

The IRS collection would eliminate virtually all collection costs at the state level;

The tax and collection would be more equitable;

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# Teachers ready

The tax would most directly reflect the cost of living changes.

The teachers also will suggest that Ohio institute a plan similar to Michigan's which guarantees a specific dollar amount per mill, per pupil value and a minimum local tax millage for school operations.

They say this plan should generate a minimum \$1000 per pupil funding based on current cost of living factors and provide for an automatic 5 per cent increase in funding for each cost of living increase of 5 per cent.

**KELLER, ALONG WITH** David Myers, president of the New Philadelphia Education Assn., requested the school holiday last Friday in order "to appeal for additional state funds to avoid a financial crisis in our schools."

Additional money requests in the two districts have been voted down three times within the last nine months by residents and staff and program cut-backs already have been announced.

Under the complicated state foundation program formula, New Philadelphia received \$290 per pupil in state subsidy for 1974. Dover, which has 3365 students enrolled compared with New Philadelphia's 4300, received \$243.

School officials said the state aid varies from district to district because of a number of factors, including local millage, student population and tax valuation.

As a comparison, one school administrator said the Claymont district, which has a low millage and low tax base, gets approximately \$350 in state aid per pupil.

The teachers will leave their respective high schools at 7 a.m. and form the caravan at the Green Gables interchange of I-77.