

Guidance Program To Be Continued

SPARTA, Wis. — Faced with the prospect of losing the district's elementary guidance program, the Sparta School Board has acted to continue the services through the 1973-74 school year.

Board members agreed to make up an estimated \$8,000 deficit caused by a 20 per cent slash in the Title I program.

Larry Faus, guidance counselor and the district's director of federal assistance programming, spoke to save the services at the elementary level.

He asked the board to transfer David McKenzie from the Title I program to the school district on June 30.

McKenzie is the elementary guidance counselor and also works with junior high school students.

Faus explained that the Sparta School district is receiving about \$41,000 annually in federal assistance, but the cutbacks ordered by the Nixon administration will drop the figure to \$33,000 for next year.

The \$8,000 loss represents the lion's share of McKenzie's salary which is a little over \$9,000 a year.

The vote to continue the elementary guidance program was unanimous.

Supt. Keith Martin told the board that the district will be short about \$25,000 because of an overpayment in state aids during the 1971-72 school year.

"Most of this was a result of the legislative squabble over the state budget," he explained.

In another matter, board members turned down a proposal that the school district take over operation of the Birchwood Valley ski hill north of Sparta.

Explorer Scouts, under the direction of Rich Hem, constructed, maintained and operated the project the past year, but say they can't continue.

"It's on county-owned land

and the county should take it over, but they won't," said Martin.

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