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La Crosse Tribune, Friday, December 1, 1972—

Sparta Schools Add Skiing To Curriculum This Winter

SPARTA, Wis. — Ski lessons were added to the curriculum of Sparta Area Schools after being sanctioned by the Board of Education Tuesday night.

The board approved an additional salary of $200 for Lloyd Larson, ski instructor, and $100 to an assistant for teaching the course. It includes 50 hours of instruction by Larson and 30 hours for his assistant.

The program, with classroom instruction, will begin Dec. 5 and the first session of actual ski practice is set for Jan. 2 if there is snow. The course will be limited to 40 senior and 40 junior high school students and 20 from the elementary grades. The lessons will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays after school hours and some Saturday mornings at Birchwood Valley, a ski hill developed by Sparta Explorer Scouts on land owned by Monroe County north of Sparta.

There will be a charge of $2 for each student with a small tow fee; probably 25 cents for each practice session on the hill.

Principal Roger Kramer who presented the proposal to the council said the instructors will serve as bus drivers to transport the students to the hill site and that each student must supply his own equipment. The students will be covered by the district's pupil insurance coverage.

The board approved commencement exercises for 1973 for 2 p.m. Sunday, May 27, in the football field in Memorial Park. Baccalaureate services will be held at 8 p.m. Thursday, May 24 in the gymnasium.

Rita Hagen and Mark Quackenbush represented the senior class in making the request and pointed out that a Sunday afternoon commencement during the Memorial Day weekend would encourage more relatives to attend when they had to travel from distances from Sparta. They also said most

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