To fill teacher vacancies

**May hire 40 school specialists**

By NORMAN COLBY
1-9 Staff Writer

Berkeley Schools Supt. Leval Wilson has been given the authority to fill up to 40 classroom teacher vacancies next school year with psychologists, guidance counselors, administrative assistants and many other specialists now on the payroll.

However, Wilson will have a new five-member school board, the power to eliminate eight positions on his central administrative staff.

The nine-member board yesterday approved without debate the authorization to transfer non-classroom certified personnel in the name of economy, with the possibility of saving up to $700,000 in a budget-deficit year.

**Win seats on Peralta school board**

Hal Michaels, H Pat Baldwin, and Curtis Allen are the apparent winners in the race for Board seats in the Peralta School District.

With only one Berkeley precinct still out, Michaels received 18,957 votes to 13,116, with Robert Richard & Robert Smith 4th at 12,880.

In District 4, Baldwin is the apparent winner over Edward Ford, leading 43,935 to 37,886.

PICKETS IN THE PARKS — Juan Perez and Karen Helms Parsons maintain a picketing vigil at the Nature Study Area in Tilden Regional Park, emphasizing with signs and leaflets that the parks are open during the strike. The striking union, AFSCME Local No. 2428, and the East Bay Regional Parks District were called back to the negotiating table today at the Lemington Hotel in Oakland by Tom Nicodemus, state mediator, after a recess in the talks. The strike began April 3.

--- Photo by James Prase.

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**Berkeley proposals approved**

The “Fair Representation Ordinance” and all other propositions on the Berkeley ballot have been approved by substantial majorities of Berkeley voters.

The controversial ordinance allowing each council member to make an equal number of appointments to city boards and commissions was the most hotly contested proposal of yesterday’s ballot.

It passed, 18,753 to 11,586, with one precinct unreported.

The ordinance was sponsored by the members of minority membership who said the council majorities were “taking back” city boards and commissions with members of their lineage, to the exclusion of the minority groups.

Under the present system, a council member appoints any member of the Board to the Board of Education, and the council majority.

The new ordinance, passed by a 3-2 vote, allows for a 3-2 vote of the council members, with a council majority of three voting together.

But they failed to reach an agreement on Wilson’s consolidation proposal for his central staff, in the face of objections by parents and staff who are directly affected.

Wilson said elimination of eight jobs and transfer of their holders to other positions would save about $194,000, another step towards eliminating a projected 2.6 million deficit.

Wilson said the movement of specialists into the classroom and elimination of administrative posts is the only answer, since the district is committed not to fire anyone.

He said the transfers into the classroom may affect employees in any of 15 categories, including psychologists, guidance counselors, music staff, administrative assistants, prep-time teachers and other specialists.

The transfers would fill the void with the resignation or retirement of up to 40 teachers, he said. If more than 40 teachers voluntarily leave, then the additional vacancies will be filled by the hiring of new teachers.

The central administrative staff reduction has the opposition of affected parents and staff in the compensatory education, follow-through and early childhood education programs, and board members heard the programs praised at a previous meeting.

Wilson said the five respondents for education work and the work would be handled by a director and assistant director of early childhood-elementary instruction, with “better air.”

(Turn to page 2, col. 1)

**In Today’s Gazette**

**McDonald now auditor**

Berkeley Citizens Action candidate Florence McDonald has beaten two-term incumbent Myrna Ashley for auditor of the City of Berkeley.

She was also promised that she would replace the old editor that the highest paid regular employees in the office.

A woman of labor city rights and liberal movements, Mrs. McDonald said the candidate’s office to community groups and make it independent of the city council and the city manager’s office.

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**Meetings**

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ticulation and the money savings both resulting.

Other proposed central staff eliminations, building coordinator, assistant director of personnel and workreation coordinator, have no opposition, thus far.

Wilson said some specialists will spend only part of their time in the classrooms, and their salaries can be apportioned, coming from separate sources without any transfers of allocated funds from one department to another.

He also noted that one of the threatened specialists, Compensatory Education Coordinator George Perry recently got a boost from Washington, D.C.

Richard Fairley, national director of Title I funding, talked with Wilson on the phone and urged retention of Perry.

The school board debate over the central reorganization began with a motion for approval by Director Marc Monheimer, seconded by Gene Rob. But it ended with a parliamentary hassle and

**Employes in legal pay action**

OAKLAND — Management employees of the Berkeley Unified School Dis-