Sales tax increase announced at meet

by Steve Bandy

Fearing 'a domino effect,' the Acadia Parish School Board has delayed the expected appointment of a new principal at Crowley Middle School until the end of the current school year.

Acting here Monday night on the suggestion of its superintendent, Bobby Stringer, the board rejected all three applicants for the post and appointed Assistant Principal Diane Wakefield as acting principal for the remainder of the 1989-90 term.

The principalship was vacated last month when Herschel McDonald was promoted to the Central Office staff to the new position of Technology Supervisor.

In recommending the move, Stringer stated that he feared the naming of a principal from one of three applicants—including two principals and one assistant—would create the 'domino effect' whereby the board would be forced into the position of having to advertise for a replacement for whoever received the appointment.

'And this could continue down the line,' he stated. 'We're nearing the Christmas holidays and the middle of the school year and, with the School Improvement Plans we have instituted, what we need most at our schools right now is stability. We simply won't have that stability if we keep shuffling principals or assistant principals around.'

Mrs. Wakefield has been serving as assistant principal at Crowley Middle since August and as acting principal since the appointment of McDonald to the Central Office.

The board also ratified the action of the executive committee in awarding bids for computer hardware and software for business office applications at the Central Office.

Elmo Orgeron, Executive Committee Chairman, reported that the low bid of $28,291 submitted by Business Solutions of Lafayette was accepted for the hardware while the low bid of $30,040 submitted by Delcambre Software, also of Lafayette, was accepted for the software.

The old equipment formerly used by the business office is to be sold.

In other business, the board accepted the lone bid of $61,487 submitted by E. L. Habetz of Crowley for roof removal and replacement for a section of the main building at Crowley Junior High School.

Sales tax report for the month of October, reflecting September sales, showed an increase of $12,243, or 5.33 percent, when compared to totals from the same month last year, according to Supt. Stringer.

The year-to-date figures show that the board is trailing last year's total by $13,949, or 1.52 percent.