

# Voter Turnout Skimpy 19 Per Cent

## Bond a 2-1 Choice

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A skimpy 19 per cent of Albemarle County's voters turned out Tuesday to cast what became a 2-to-1 margin in favor of bond financing for the proposed \$6.5 million Western Albemarle High School.

In an unofficial tally, voters registered 2,144 votes in favor and 1,175 against in the Tuesday referendum.

County School Supt. Clarence McClure Tuesday night said he was disappointed in the voter turn-out, but "delighted" at the final outcome.

McClure said the county school board and school administration were "grateful to the people for their support." He said the county would now "move forward with plans and construction and make every effort to have this new facility available for the opening of school in 1976."

Voter support appeared strongest in the four districts closest to the location of the proposed school.

The heavily populated Charlottesville District voted almost 4-to-1 in favor of the referendum issue.

Voters in Jack Jouett District responded with a 3-to-1 affirmation.

Both Samuel Miller and

Whitehall District voters registered 2-to-1 approval.

On the other hand, voters in Scottsville District opposed the bond issue by a margin of more than 60 votes out of the 340 votes cast in that district.

Albemarle County officials were pleased that the bond referendum passed, but all expressed disappointment in the voter turn-out.

Supervisor Lloyd Wood was happy with the margin of victory and said he was "pleased that my district (Charlottesville) turned out so well, it shows where the strongest support is."

"A lot of the credit," Wood

added, "goes to the school board members and McClure for making the information clear to the people."

Albemarle County School Board Chairman Carl Van Fossen was "elated" over the victory, but said he was "sorry more people aren't interested in what's happening in their schools." Van Fossen said he was "very very pleased" with the 2-to-1 margin of victory.

"I was frankly concerned that it would not pass," said supervisor Gerald Fisher, "so I was pleasantly surprised."

Board of Supervisor Chairman Gordon Wheeler said, "I'm

delighted and pleased that it passed, but disappointed with the voter turn-out."

The new high school, scheduled to open in September 1976, will be located across from Henley Junior High School at Brownsville. Plans now are to build to a capacity of 1,350 to 1,500 students, depending on state requirements for student space. For the first year of operation, Western Albemarle High School is expected to house around 1,200 students.

The unofficial totals in the balloting received by the County General Registrar's Office were listed by district and precinct

with favorable votes recorded first):

— Charlottesville District: Woodbrook: 580-139.

— Jack Jouett District: Jack Jouett: 266-88.

— Samuel Miller District: Ivy: 287-105; North Garden: 69-65; Batesville: 87-34.

— White Hall District: Crozet: 386-143; Free Union: 53-63.

— Rivanna District: Keswick: 87-58; Stony Point: 22-36; Earlysville: 71-83; Free Bridge: 98-56.

— Scottsville District: Scottsville: 34-72; Monticello: 40-56; Porters: 32-70; Covasville: 32-7.

## Grand Jury Meets

### After Losing 6 Indictments

RICHMOND (AP)—A special grand jury that indicted six Virginia prison officials on charges of misconduct in office was to reconvene today for its first meeting since all six indictments were dismissed.

Charges were dismissed Tuesday against the last of the six officials charged with will-

ful misconduct in office — Dennis Gallagher, suspended aide to the director of the Division of Corrections.

Circuit Court Judge James B. Wilkinson said he was throwing out the charges because the indictment against Gallagher was too vague and did not spell out the specific charges against him.

The meeting of the grand jury today was called by foreman Michael Cummings Jr., apparently to discuss what tack the Richmond Circuit Court grand jury should take in light of the unsuccessful efforts to bring the officials to trial.

Judges J. Randolph Tucker, James M. Lumpkin and Wilkinson all have emphasized that

the officials.

The indictments were drawn up by Richmond Commonwealth's Atty. Aubrey M. Davis Jr. as adviser to the grand jury. But Davis, who under law was not privy to the testimony heard by the grand jury and could not be present during examination of witnesses, did not ask the jury to