

Pajaro trustees give library free home at Freedom school

Libraries 3-1980-1989
WATSONVILLE — The Pajaro Valley Unified School District's Board of Trustees has voted to provide a new home for the Freedom Library.

The library, a branch of the financially troubled Santa Cruz County library system, faces a possible funding cutoff.

The school board Wednesday night unanimously approved a plan to allow the branch library to move its operation to the Freedom Elementary School Library, 25 Holly Drive, Watsonville.

Though the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors last month voted to maintain the branch library until July 1, 1980, the board did not provide

any operating funds for this period.

Trustees speculated that the district's proposal, which does not require the public library to pay rent and thus reduces its costs, may convince the county to provide continued funding for the operation.

The board of supervisors, which had postponed action on the matter pending the school district's decision, will discuss the library's funding next Tuesday.

Under the district's proposal, the Freedom Library's collection of 8,000 books would be transferred to the children's library at the school and be available to the public from

3:30 to 9 p.m. during the week and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays.

The plan called for the public library operation to be supervised by qualified staff members and trained volunteers. The proposal also specified that the Freedom library would pay for additional custodial and utility costs incurred.

The board's decision was welcomed by supporters of the library and by officials of the elementary school.

Jean Snyder, Freedom School principal, told trustees she was excited about the proposal and that her staff had expressed "unanimous joy at the possibility of having this facility moved in with us."

Mrs. Snyder suggested that the public's use of the library during evening hours may reduce vandalism at the school.

In another matter, the school board voted to return Rolling Hills Junior High and Hyde Elementary schools from year-round schedules to traditional school calendars. The scheduling change will take effect in September. Next week the board will discuss returning Calabasas School to a traditional schedule.