

# BAHS announces parent poll results

by Ruth Goodson

Berlin American High School just completed a survey of parent perceptions of the high school. Forty parents of ninth through twelfth graders were chosen at random by a parent-student committee of volunteers.

Considering that the questionnaires took 90 minutes to complete and had to be personally administered, many thanks go to the committee workers, Mrs. Bruckheim, Mrs. Seligman, Mrs. Totman, Miss White, and Mr. Halderman, and to the 40 parents who cared enough to fill out the lengthy form.

Parents were most impressed with the school size and plant and most displeased with the "lack of discipline" in and out of the classroom. There was also a substantial

cry for changes in the National Honor Society.

In the strength area, the following received at least one vote of confidence: the aggressive attitude of the administration, especially in the handling of bomb threats; the electives; the individualization of instruction; and the boys' sports program. Work study received support with the request that more money be allocated to expand this relatively new program.

While one parent favored the grading system, another spoke out against it. In the same way, one parent felt that BAHS had a better racial climate than most schools in the zone, while another found the school "too easy on racists." Teacher-student relationships were also praised and decried by like numbers.

Constructive criticism emphasized the need for driver education courses, more remedial reading teachers, more course selections, and more drug education programs. More than half of the parents polled wanted greater emphasis on preparing students for a job.

This survey is being used by the administration and the curriculum review committee to establish programs and policies for the ongoing and upcoming years. In the solutions are being found and changes made as follows: articles and newsletters will note.

Admittedly, a survey of 40 parents is not as conclusive as one of 100 parents. Nevertheless, in its continuing effort to meet the needs of the community, BAHS is listening to parents wiser.