

Jefferson School Unfit, Arlington Board Told

The Arlington County School Board was advised last night that the present facilities at Thomas Jefferson Junior High School were inadequate and that the school should be extensively remodeled or replaced.

The recommendations were made by a 21-member citizens' action committee, which has been meeting since October to consider the school's needs.

The Board instructed Superintendent of Schools Ray E. Reid to seek funds to hire an architect to study the proposed alternatives. Improvements to the school would be financed by a bond issue, which probably would be brought before County voters this fall.

The school has been the subject of intense political controversy since a 1965 School Board decision to merge the Hoffman-Boston Junior High School with it to achieve a better racial balance.

Thomas Jefferson students now attend classes in two buildings 1.3 miles apart — one for seventh grades and the other for eighth and ninth grades.

In its study the Committee noted that both facilities are offering restricted curricula because of space limitations. Currently 1069 students attend the school. By 1969, enrollment is expected to exceed 1300.

If the main Thomas Jefferson plant is remodeled, the Committee reported, approximately 100,000 square feet of additional space would be needed to accommodate all the students. This expansion might necessitate the relocation of the adjacent Patrick Henry Elementary School, the Committee said.

The Committee rejected plans to establish separate junior high schools in each building, or to change the present boundaries to accommodate most of the student body at the main building.

3 Lectures, Film Festival Slated at AU

Three lectures, an evening of poetry and a film festival are scheduled in the next three months as the program of the fourth annual forum sponsored by the American University Center for Liberal Studies.

All events will be held at 8:30 p.m. in the Kay Spiritual Life Center on the AU campus.

The lecture schedule includes Gunther Schuller, president of the New England Conservatory of Music, on Thursday; Paul Goodman, social critic and author, on March 15; and Hilton Dramer, art news editor of the New York Times, on April 19.

Three New York poets—Clayton Eshelman, Clarence Major, and Irene Schram—will read from their works on April 5, with commentary by Will Inman, poet-in-residence at AU this semester.

The film festival will be held the evenings of May 10, 11 and 12, billed as featuring "some strikingly different varieties of the contemporary film maker's art."

The over-all theme of the forum this year is "Free Man and the Future."