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"New Building for FHSU School of Nursing

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OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES
HAYS, KANSAS 67601
(913) 628-4206

NEW BUILDING FOR
FHSU SCHOOL OF NURSING
6/30/78 - list A & B - go

HAYS, Kan.--- A new building to house the School of Nursing at Fort Hays State University is in the early stages of planning, according to Dr. Elaine Harvey, Dean of the School. Tentative location of the facility is south of President G. W. Tomanek's house on the west side of the campus. Next week, representatives of FHSU will meet in Topeka to discuss designation of an architect.

A construction grant application for federal assistance in the development of the education building has been approved and placed on the Active Funding List, in an amount not to exceed \$1,204,561. The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare will actually offer the construction grant after results of bidding have been obtained, State funds appropriated, the Construction Project Cost Report submitted, and the Federal concurrence to award the construction contract has been issued. The entire project cost is likely to be in the vicinity of \$2,000,000. The State of Kansas appropriated money for architectural fees. In next year's session, the legislature will appropriate the State's position of the matching funds. That will be approximately \$500,000.

Initial ground-breaking is anticipated within the next 12 months, and school officials hope that construction can be completed in 1½ to 2 years from that time.

Dr. Harvey foresees a much larger learning and testing center which she feels will attract more students to the nursing program. The present nursing facility is located in Sheridan Coliseum and is filled to capacity. "With the emphasis in nursing changing from that of a technical profession to a decision-making status, more clinical and laboratory area will be beneficial," Dr. Harvey said. She also adds that the present school program stresses total health care which includes prevention and intervention as well as care for those already sick.

The nursing program at FHSU has been in operation since 1952.