

TEACHERS RECEIVE \$891 INCREASE

Classroom teachers with a bachelor's degree in the Washington School District received salary increases averaging \$891 this year according to an analysis just completed by Utah Foundation, the private research organization.

Approximately \$667 of the increase provided teachers in 1969-70 is the result of a boost in the level of the salary schedule with the remaining \$224 representing the normal annual increment in the schedule itself.

The Foundation report also shows that a teacher who began his teaching career in the Washington School District during the 1964-65 school year received a starting salary of \$4,550. In 1969-70 this same teacher with five years teaching experience would receive \$7,021, an increase of \$2,471, or 54.3 per cent during the period. In addition, teachers who earned added college credits might be entitled to further salary boosts.

Approximately \$1,621 of the salary raises provided to teachers in the Washington School District during the past five years represents periodic general increases in the salary schedules. The remaining \$850 are the salary increments earned by the teachers for added experience.

According to the Foundation study, the beginning salary in Washington School District for teachers with a bachelor's degree this year is \$5,900. A maximum salary of \$7,918 is provided after nine years of teaching experience. As noted, additional compensation is provided to teachers earning added college credits beyond a bachelor's degree. Salaries listed are for approximately 180 to 185 teaching days or nine months of service.

Foundation analysts point out that teacher salary increases in Utah during 1969-70 range from a low of \$574 in Salt Lake City to a high of \$1,092 in the Carbon School District. The average increase throughout the state is \$881, of which \$632 represents a boost in the salary schedule and \$249 is the normal salary increment.

In analyzing teacher salary trends, the study indicates that the largest salary boost was provided in 1963-64 when average beginning salaries in Utah were raised 11.5 per cent and maximum salaries were boosted 12.2 per cent. Although the percentage increases for this year (1969-70) are slightly less than the 1963-64 raises, the dollar amounts of the increases are approximately the same.

Another fact brought out in the Foundation report is that the number of years to reach the maximum step on the salary schedule has been steadily reduced during the past decade. In addition, the spread between the average beginning and maximum salary levels has widened from \$1,778 in 1959-60 to \$2,758 in 1969-70. These changes have resulted in raising the annual experience increments provided to teachers who continue in the classroom.