School Board Acts To End Night Games

The City Board of Education last night announced it will move to reschedule the district's high school football games to daylight hours because of growing violence during evening games.

All four board members at last night's meeting said they would support the change at next Tuesday's meeting in the event of a favorable report from the superintendent on the legal and administrative implications of such action.

The idea of rescheduling the games was introduced during an energy conservation report submitted to the board.

But the board members said continued disruptions were the primary reason for their stand.

The most recent incident occurred at Friday night's game between Point Loma and Kearny high schools where a racial disturbance left one participant in the hospital with about 100 stitches and several others, including many bystanders, with less serious injuries.

The Rev. George Smith told fellow board members daylight games would cut down on the incidents.

"I'd rather be unpopular (with students and adults who support night contests) than end up with somebody dead," Smith said.

Gene French said he had switched from his previous support for retaining night games because of the violence.

"I think the students ought to know that while we'll be saving energy, I support closing down night games because of the violence," French said.

Mrs. Louise Dyer, board president, said she too would support rescheduling but said board action would have to await a report from the superintendent.

Deputy Supp. Tom Shannon said in an interview the district would have to study contracts with stadium concessionaires, security forces..."