

Education is the way to success

By Naomi McLean
Chronicle Columnist

Students need to stay in school long enough and work hard enough to make themselves so competent that they will stand out head and shoulders above other job applicants after graduation.

If they leave school, they are sacrificing long-term possibilities for some immediate gain. In this day and age, education counts far more than ever before. Of course, this is vacation time, possibly a time when they have been employed during the summer. Securing employment which paid well for time and labor may give them the idea of working continually and not returning to school.

It was fine to accept the work and save their money, but it is necessary to return to school when it opens. Employment, of course, enables them to have some money for school necessities, but parents and relatives generally will be encouraged to supplement for those necessities.

Staying in school will help them acquire work habits that are beneficial. One of these habits is

Naomi's View

**NAOMI
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organization. When people know how to organize their work in the right way, they will save themselves time and effort. In almost any skill, the right way is the direct way, the simple way. But until a person understands what the right way is, he can waste a tremendous amount of time and get practically nowhere.

Staying in school helps to keep their enthusiasm alive and develop character and personality. Personality can be developed in school by thoughtful guidance and direction. Good work habits and the right kind of personality blend well and are considered basic steps for success.

The danger to which they are all continually exposed is the inclination to let down, to let things take their course. If they ever become satisfied with what they are now doing, they lose confidence and trust and they no longer look for new and better

ways of carrying on.

Of course, in this technological age, great masses of people are compelled to earn their livelihood. From studies, it has been observed that many thousands of the unemployed are young people who have dropped out of school and are not prepared to give any service for which there is a demand.

This argument needs to be stressed strongly and well with young men, women and parents. Automation and other factors have brought about conditions which make specific training imperative. At this time of year particularly, it is well to remember that returning to school is important. Enthusiasm on the part of the parents, as well as teachers, creates enthusiasm on the part of students before and after returning to school. Enthusiasm from all points makes them stay in school.

Agenda offers key to change

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Dolan Hubbard, Denise Purdie, Carol Jordan Bryson, Jim Conrad, Haywood Wilson, Myron Chenault, Michael Grace, William Elder, Clarence Gaines, Naomi Jones, David Martin, Fred Tanner, Clark Harper, Amatullah Saleem and Douglas Covington -- just a few of the numerous individuals whom I had the honor to work with or for in our attempts to make Winston-Salem/Forsyth County a more informed, progressive, responsive and responsible community. God bless you all!

Yet, painful as this departure may be -- painful as this transition will be, I will rest a little easier in my new home of New Haven, Conn., knowing that this city -- as it always is with life -- will move onward.

I rest a little easier at night with the knowledge that as long as the aforementioned organizations -- and most especially the *Chronicle*, the NAACP and the Black Leadership Roundtable -- are around and functioning properly, the interests of the black and the poor of this community will be well-served and protected.

But while I am and will remain optimistic as to Winston-Salem's future, I nonetheless offer this Agenda for Action, which if adhered to, should guarantee success and progress in not only the African-American, but the Caucasian-American community as well:

follow the guidance of the Black Leadership Roundtable. Use your political power selectively and wisely.

•Support the ongoing effort to enhance Winston-Salem State University and help it remain true to its historic and present-day mission.

•Patronize African-American-owned businesses, as well as strategize for a community-based economic development plan.

•Support African-American cultural organizations, such as the N.C. Black Reperatory Company, Otesha Dance and Musical Ensemble, Nell-Lite Productions, Floemie Anderson Theatrical Ensemble and the Cinnamon Reggae Band.

•Support black artists like James and Ernestine Huff, Jerry Hanes, Gilbert Young, Roland Watts, Glenda Wharton Little and Barbara Eure.

Support the church or religious organization of your choice and help make that entity more responsive to the earthly needs of the poor, oppressed and downtrodden.

•Support the NAACP, the Black Political Action League and the Patterson Avenue (Winston-Lake) YMCA.

•Make a conscious effort to build bridges with the moderate and progressive white community. We both need each other.

•Begin now to groom leadership for the future.

•Support the Black Family Task Force and the East Winston Crime Task Force as

they battle the evils of family disintegration and black-on-black crime.

•Take out a subscription or two to the best weekly newspaper in North Carolina and the best black paper in the USA -- the *Winston-Salem Chronicle!*

•Make a conscious effort to become more informed on world affairs -- especially foreign policy concerns related to Africa and the Caribbean.

•Finally, give Jesse Helms and Ronald Reagan a much-needed early retirement in November.

To be sure, even if the above Agenda for Action is followed to the letter, there is no guarantee that all the problems we encounter in the racist, sexist, militaristic America of 1984 will be alleviated.

However, what it does offer is a beginning for some and a reinforcement for others as the struggle for political and economic equity continues.

For my part, I will actively seek out the repressive-minded folk in my new abode -- Up South -- and attempt to implement the agenda here.

May God -- Allah -- bless you and keep you all! Thank you for the honor and privilege of being a part of your life, your community. And rest assured that you will be hearing from me again soon, because all good-byes ain't gone.

A Luta Continua (The Struggle Continues).

Open Line

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A: St. Phillips Moravian Church, located at the very end of Main Street across from the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Art, was the first formally organized black church in Salem. The church, which started out as a log building, was consecrated in

1823. However, the church is no longer in operation and remains only a landmark.

The oldest active black church in Winston-Salem is Lloyd United Presbyterian Church on Chestnut Street. The church was established in 1879 and is listed in

the National Register of Historic Landmarks.

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