

# Phillips enjoys order at home and at work

By CHERYL WILLIAMS  
Chronicle Staff Writer

Dr. Barbara K. Phillips gets the job done.

Whether it is in her position as assistant to the superintendent of the city/county schools or in her personal life, she is methodical.

Mrs. Phillips had to laugh at just how orderly she is during an interview in her office recently.

She described how she arrived home on the previous day at 5:50 p.m.

"By 7 p.m. I had dinner on the table, laundry washed and in the dryer -- and included in that were the clothes I had on that day," she said. "By 8:30 I had hung up what I had washed. That's how I operate. I've always had to do it that way."

She's the same way with her work. She pointed to her calendar, which was filled with appointments.

In fact, she had one right after the interview, and not being one to waste time, she plunged directly into the questions.

"Every day is a day I'll use effectively," she said while talking about some of her favorite pastimes.

"I love 'Dallas' and 'Falcon Crest,'" she said. "And I love listening to Christian music. I have good friends that I like to visit. I also like to talk on the telephone."

Another favorite activity of hers is working in her yard.

Mrs. Phillips also likes her job, which she has held for about a year. When the city/county school system reorganized the administrative staff, Mrs. Phillips became one of two women to be appointed to high-ranking positions within the administration.

In her position, Mrs. Phillips has responsibility for the entire area of communications. Three staff people report to her -- the director of information systems, the community schools coordinator and the school-community relations coordinator.

She also is responsible for the school board agendas and assisting the superintendent, Dr. Zane E. Eargle.

She said she and the superintendent also sit *ex officio* on the Program Services Coordinating Council. This council is the component of the school system that is responsible for delivering programs to the school, Mrs. Phillips said.

"We sit on that council not as members, but as a way of keeping in close contact with everything that is going on in the school system," she said.

Mrs. Phillips' job allows her to work directly with the superintendent.

"We have an outstanding working relationship," she said. "It has to be. I have to be the person who helps him get the work of the superintendent done."



Before assuming her present position, Mrs. Phillips was an administrative intern with the city/county school system, where she said she got a taste of her present job.

There is never a dull moment on the job for Mrs. Phillips.

"It's been a very interesting job because you're involved in everything going on in the school system," she said. "There is never a typical day. It's typical only in that it is filled with lots of meetings and reports."

It is not surprising that education is important to this woman, who has spent most of her life in some kind of school, whether attending it or working there.

The emphasis on hard work and education began when she was growing up.

"Education was always supported in my family," Mrs. Phillips said. She has an undergraduate degree from Winston-Salem State University and a master's from Indiana University in Bloomington, Ind. She obtained her doctorate from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

In between degrees, Mrs. Phillips continued her education by getting certification in several areas, including psychometry, community school directorship, supervision, administration and educational administration.

Mrs. Phillips, a native of Winston-Salem, has been working since she was in the third grade. She said she worked in a black-owned florist shop on the weekdays and a drugstore on the weekends.

She is concerned that the youth of today do not have the kind of support system she had when she was growing up.

"Black youth don't have businesses that they can grow up and be nurtured in," she said.

Ms. Phillips began her career with the school system in 1959. She has held a variety of posi-

tions, including guidance counselor, school librarian, school psychologist, director of the Continuing Education Program and principal.

Mrs. Phillips is one of five children. She said she enjoys a close relationship with all her sisters -- but especially with her twin sister, who lives in Indiana.

"We talk on the telephone at least twice a week," she said. "If we have anything to say, we just pick up the phone."

Mrs. Phillips also has her own family. She is married to Garret E. Phillips Jr., who is assistant vice president of Wachovia Bank and Trust Co. They have one daughter, Eleanor Phillips, who is employed with the city/county school system.

Besides her family and her job, Mrs. Phillips has many other activities that keep her busy.

She is an active member and former national president of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. During her term, 1978-1982, she founded the Leadership Fellows Program, a program that awards grants to undergraduates to develop their leadership potential.

Another project during her term of office was the Capital Improvement Project, which built the sorority's national office in Chicago.

Mrs. Phillips is currently a member of the board of directors of the Twin City Development Corp. and the Winston-Salem State University Foundation, a member of the trustee board of Knoxville College, a member of the N.C. Women's Forum executive committee, and a member of Links Inc. And the list goes on.

Mrs. Phillips is always getting into everything -- and involving her friends, too.

"Anything I want to do, I can usually find somebody to do it with," she said. "I think I have a real talent for getting people to

## Getting The Job Done

Dr. Barbara K. Phillips: As organized as they come (photo by James Parker).

do things. I can get more things going and get someone else to do them. If I have friends who want to do something, then I will volunteer them to death."

She proudly said that she was the one who got her friend, Northeast Ward Alderman Vivian H. Burke, out of the house and into politics.

"She used to sit home," she said. "Then she started driving around with me when I was regional director. I got her out, and now she outdoes me."

But for all her activities, which include a lot of traveling, Mrs. Phillips still finds time for herself. Take the other day, for instance. Mrs. Phillips said that she just enjoyed some spare time by sitting on her back porch.

But Mrs. Phillips may not have time to sit for long, especially if she pursues her future goal of getting involved in politics.

But for right now, she said, she is concentrating on doing her job effectively.

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## Pregnancy

From Page A14

Mrs. Miller noted that, at the Optional Education Center, she is now working with children of former students.

She also said that teen pregnancies seem to be occurring at younger ages and that repeat pregnancies are frequent.

Ms. Beal said that she feels the meeting was positive and that she is looking forward to working with the council as its director.

"It was a good meeting in that we had people from a lot of different backgrounds who all came together," Ms. Beal said. "Everybody was real enthusiastic and willing to do something."

She said that the council probably will meet every other month. The council also will publish a community newsletter.

This council will be different from its predecessor, Ms. Beal said.

"One of the reasons it didn't pick up a whole lot of steam is that it dealt with all volunteers," she said. "It needed a staff person."

The new council will employ two staff people, she said. One person will coordinate the council, and the other will coordinate a program called "Man Talk," which will use adult male volunteers to work with teen-age males in exploring career opportunities as well as their sexuality.

The two staff people will be based in the Health Department.

While the former council involved a lot of professional people and agencies, Ms. Beal said, the new council will try to attract more community people.

The grant for the project will provide \$30,145 through June and \$58,628 for the next fiscal year, July 1, 1986, through June 30, 1987, said Mary G. Jalloh, director of health education at the department.

Forsyth County is one of 16 counties in the state receiving a grant to work on the teen-pregnancy problem, Ms. Beal said.

Membership on the council is

open to anyone in the community, she said.

There are a lot of services in this community aimed at preventing teen pregnancy, she said.

"A lot of us see the same clients," Ms. Beal said. "I'm talking about coordinating. We need to find out what's working in other places. This is not supposed to take the place of anything else that is going on."

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