

# New teacher certification shifts burden

By Ed Miller

School teachers will no longer be certified by the state for five years when they graduate from college and pass the National Teachers Examination (NTE), Hoke County Board of Education members were told last week.

According to School Personnel Director Gloria Williams, new teachers will have to go through a "six-year certification process" beginning July 1 because of a new law passed by the state legislature and the North Carolina Board of Education.

A student must now complete a general education program and, at the end of their second year, normally, take a "core battery of tests" and achieve a minimum score, said Williams.

If the minimum score is earned, the student will then apply for admission to a state approved teacher education program in the college

of their choice, she said. The student will then go into "professional studies" or education courses in their desired field. During this time, students will be sent to observe real classroom environments and later to student teach.

They must then take the professional knowledge part of the NTE before graduation, Williams said. Degrees will be awarded all students completing those requirements, according to the director.

At the same time, the students will be recommended to the state for a two-year certification.

Williams added that if all requirements have not been satisfactorily completed, no recommendation would be made.

Graduates will then secure jobs in school systems, but their training is two years away from being finished.

The burden now falls on school systems to provide support teams for the young teachers, according to Williams.

The team should include the principal of the school where the teacher is training, a tenured teacher in the same field as the trainee and a specialist in curriculum, said Williams.

There may be four people on the team but there must be these three, Williams said.

A school can also provide training teachers with a "mentor" teacher instead of a support team.

According to Williams, the mentor teacher will "assess demonstrated performance and facilitate the development and refinement of essential skills."

"Anything they (the mentor) can do to help, they should do," said Williams.

According to Williams, it is not

the local board of education's responsibility to certify teachers. That is the job of the state board of education, she said.

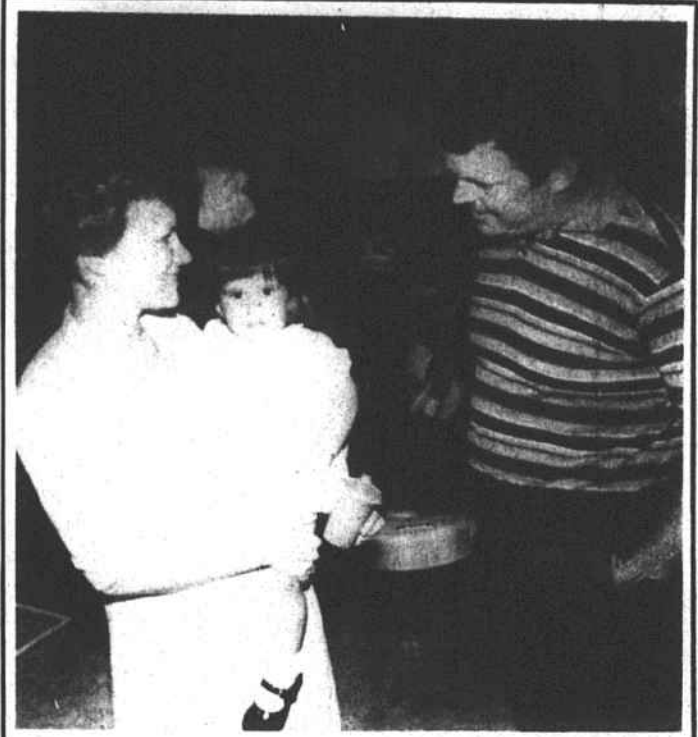
"The job of the local schools is to train," she said.

When the training period has ended, the teacher will be rated on one of six levels.

The middle level is standard, and that is good enough for certification, said Williams.

At the end of the two-year training period, the school system is under no obligation to hire the teacher once certified, said Williams.

At last Tuesday's Hoke County Board of Education meeting, Superintendent Dr. Robert Nelson said he would sign a letter endorsing the plan, but he added that he could not see how teachers would find the time to do their jobs and be parts of support teams or mentors to younger teachers.



## Good news

Amy Strother, being held by her mother Judy and accompanied by father Leland, is faring well after surgery last Wednesday to correct a severely curved spine. Doctors did not have to insert a steel rod into her upper back as expected, according to grandmother Gertrude Daniels. A surgeon corrected the 70 degree curve to 30 degrees and the little girl is now in a body cast and doing well. Amy and her family will be coming home to Raeford on Thursday. In an effort to raise money for the family, area groups and organizations have planned fund raisers for the child. On Saturday, June 22, the women of the Raeford Jayettes will be selling their own cookbooks at both Raeford shopping centers from 9 a.m. to noon. On June 29, the women of the Antioch Presbyterian Church will hold a yard sale across from the church with proceeds to go to help Amy.

# Cost study delays Carolina telephone meeting

By Ed Miller

Carolina Telephone officials say a public meeting scheduled for Raeford on June 26 was delayed until the results of a cost study for connecting Hoke County to the Fayetteville phone exchange is completed.

No date has been set for the meeting that would let Raeford residents air grievances against the phone company, according to Bernice Barrett, Carolina Telephone District Commercial Manager.

According to Carolina Telephone Spokesman Fred Wom-

ble, the cost study should be finished by August 1, and the meeting will be rescheduled.

When the meeting was originally scratched, a spokesman for Carolina Telephone blamed the cancellation of "scheduling conflicts."

"There's a lot of confusion going on around here," said Womble.

The North Carolina Utilities Commission recently ordered a cost study for establishing extended area service between Raeford and Fayetteville.

The study is to be finished by August 1, according to the order.

"We just thought we needed to wait," said Womble.

"On our part, it was bad timing and bad scheduling," said Barrett. "We couldn't get our key people together," she said.

According to Barrett, telephone customers should be on the lookout for notices about the rescheduled meeting included with their upcoming bills.

The meeting was to be at the Raeford City Hall from noon to 6 p.m., according to the company.

Supporters of the move to extend the phone service say it is essential to growth in Hoke County.

Raeford-Hoke Economic Developer John Howard told Utilities Commission members that "extending the service area would improve the tax base by making the county more attractive for new homes."

In a meeting with the commission last month, Raeford City Councilman Vardell Hedgpeth told commissioners that the City of Raeford stands behind the plan to establish the service.

The service is the number one factor which will determine future growth of Hoke County, Southern National Bank Vice-President and Raeford-Hoke Chamber of Commerce spokesman Steve Parker told the commissioners in the same meeting.

Department of Social Services (DSS) Director Ken Witherspoon told commissioners the service would remove another obstacle in helping the poor and elderly of Hoke County have a better quality of life.

According to telephone company officials, the public will have a chance to speak their minds on the extended area service shortly after August 1.

# ... Around Town

(Continued from page 1A)

off, more than my class did when we graduated.

So you see, we all think we have it bad and then we find out others envy what we have. It was good seeing and talking with the Gordons.

A telephone call Monday to Mrs. Herman Koonce brought forth some information about the telephone system at Rockfish that Howard Wood informed me about recently. I will try to get it across the best I can. So here goes.

She said that her father, J.W. Townsend was a druggist and operated a drug store at Rockfish. He also had a telephone system that had a hook-up of approximately 65 telephones around Rockfish and in Cumberland County to Hope Mills. The switchboard was in their home and the family operated the board.

They were hooked up for long distance through the railroad line and the J.R. Boyd Telephone Co. in Fayetteville. The best that she could remember was that the system started about 1915.

The costs for a phone was \$3.00

per month and of course it was extra for long distance, as it is today. I didn't ask Mrs. Koonce if the system was taken over by Carolina Telephone, like most of the local systems were in the late 1920s.

Mrs. Koonce also said that during that time that a doctor was also at Rockfish. The first was Dr. Ben McGougan, who left for practice at St. Pauls and later at Morven. The next was a Dr. Williams, who left for World War I in 1918.

He was followed by Dr. Nash, who later also moved to St. Pauls. (I can remember him because I knew one of his daughters). The last was a Dr. Rosser of Vass, who moved to St. Pauls and then to Vass.

Most of this I didn't know and maybe it can be put down for a future history of Hoke County.

Thanks Mrs. Koonce for this information. If any is incorrect, let me know so that we can set the records straight.

With the hot weather, don't you think it is about time for the Legislature to adjourn and plant corn as my friend, Arnold McKay, would say!

# Fifteen Raeford students receive Sandhills honors

The following 15 Raeford students made the Dean's List at Sandhills Community College for the Spring Quarter, 1985:

Randall C. Barefoot, Ernestine Bennett, Carol L. Britt, Pamela J.

Cumston, Linda L. Daniel, Terry A. Dooley, Ruth N. Doult, Jack F. Frazier, Mary A. Huff, Jennifer L. Manning, Christy A. Nichols, Brenda J. Tillman, Kathleen C. Vincent, Melody H. Walters and Cynthia J. Wilson-Banks.



## We want to go home

These two dogs were found in the Rockfish area and picked up by the county dog warden. They appear to be someone's pets but have been unable to tell dog pound officials where they live. If anyone knows the owners of the dogs, please let them know; they really want to go home.

The Hoke County Planning Board will hold a special meeting on Thursday, June 20, 1985 at 8:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Room of the Pratt Building.

This meeting is being held to discuss the Mobile Home Park Ordinance for Hoke County with various mobile home park owners and operators. The Public is invited to attend.



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