



REPRESENTATIVES of UNCW and Brunswick County Schools sign an agreement that marks a four-year collaboration in pursuit of excellence in teaching. At the table (from left) are Robert Tyndall, Donna Baxter, Ralph Johnston and Denis Carter. Standing (from left) are Rep. David Redwine and educators Clifton Jones, Carolyn Williams, Faye Lloyd, Bob Rhyne, LaVerna Hargrove, Latty Stanley and Ellen Milligan.

#### STUDENTS SHOULD BENEFIT MOST

## Joint Effort With UNCW Will Take Unique Approach To Improving Teacher Development.

BY SUSAN USHER

Brunswick County educators and their counterparts from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington could scarcely contain their excitement Friday morning at a signing party at Supply Elementary School.

As a group of teachers and administrators looked on, representatives of both agencies put their marks on a formal agreement marking the start of a collaborative effort to improve the quality of classroom teaching.

"I don't know what word to use to describe how excited I am today," Brunswick County Superintendent of Schools Ralph Johnston told the group. "This is the fruition of something I believe will make a difference not only in the way we prepare student teachers, but the way we do in-service for our teachers."

Students should benefit most.

The most dramatic way to improve the quality of schools is to improve the quality of those who teach in them," said Robert Tyndall, dean of UNCW's School of Education.

Johnston said he expects the professional development project to "impact our achievement and help us focus on what this board of education is committed to: excellence in education."

Through this and other efforts, and with the support of the people of Brunswick County, the superintendent continued, "We will improve the Brunswick County Schools."

Over at least the next four years, Brunswick County Schools and UNCW's School of Education will pool their financial and personnel resources for the benefit of both. UNCW has entered into a parallel collaboration with Duplin County Schools.

As part of the professional development effort UNCW will send at least 25 student teachers into the county schools each year, with all elementary schools to participate this fall. It will offer graduate-level courses in education in Brunswick County as well as lectures, seminars and workshops on current issues and methodology.

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Personnel from the county school system will be named adjunct faculty at UNCW, sharing their practical knowledge and experience with future teachers. Local teaching centers will serve as models for observation by educators from across the region.

While Tyndall noted the agreement marks "substantial changes" in the way the schools and university do business, the collaboration also expands an ongoing relationship.

Current joint efforts include use of Bolivia and Southport elementary schools as clinical model teaching sites, the Reading Recovery program for first graders and participation in the Southeastern Math and Science Alliance based at UNCW, said Gloria Yount, schools staff development director.

There's still more to come, said Yount. "The sky's the limit."

"We and the university are looking for curriculum changes and this is a way of getting at that."

Faye Lloyd, a teacher at Southport Elementary School, has worked with student teachers under the traditional internship model and the clinical model, the component of the professional development system that has been most fully developed. The coursework and research elements will be put into place as the partnership evolves.

The clinical model being developed by UNCW, she said, "helped not only the interns and myself. The students were so much more advanced than they would have been."

Student teachers who were to be assigned to her in both the fall and spring semesters visited her classroom the last days of school, to see how she summarized the year's efforts, handled paperwork and dismantled her room. In the summer they returned for two weeks of collaborative planning for both semesters, then worked together to gather materials to use. During the fall term the spring intern visited the class as frequently as she liked, including some hours for which course credit is awarded. When she joined the teaching team for spring semester, the students, the teacher and the cur-

riculum were familiar to her. Of her own free will, the fall intern continued working with the class through the spring on a more limited basis.

"There was never a time that I said 'my' classroom," said Lloyd, reflecting on her experience with the

approach. "It was always 'our' classroom. I'm a specialist in integrating curriculum, so I shared those skills with them. The student teachers brought in new ideas for behavior management.

"It was fantastic."

## Summer School Staff Listed

Staffing for Brunswick County's summer school session that begins next week at Supply Elementary School has been announced.

Third-grade teachers are Nona Baker, Nancy Wemyss, Melissa Padgett, Snowree Hewett, Kelli Suggs and Beverly Hewett.

Teaching sixth grade will be Brenda Russ, Eva Smith, Sandra Kaufhold, Janice Gore and Ivory Parker, with Ophelia Keaton as alternate.

Clifton Jones will serve as lead

eighth grade teacher. Other teachers will be Patricia Norris, Susan Bolinger, Cherryanna Basinger, Pauline Hewett and Anne Medlin, with Kathleen Thompson as alternate.

Lachawn Daniels and Jean Kaczynski will be resource teachers.

Teacher assistants will be Sheila Huskins, Cynthia Reaves, Ineatha Marlowe, Joyce Cox, Gloria Joyner, Carol Coffey, Linda Graham-Bell and Essie Vaughan.

School secretary for the session will be Marian Tippett.

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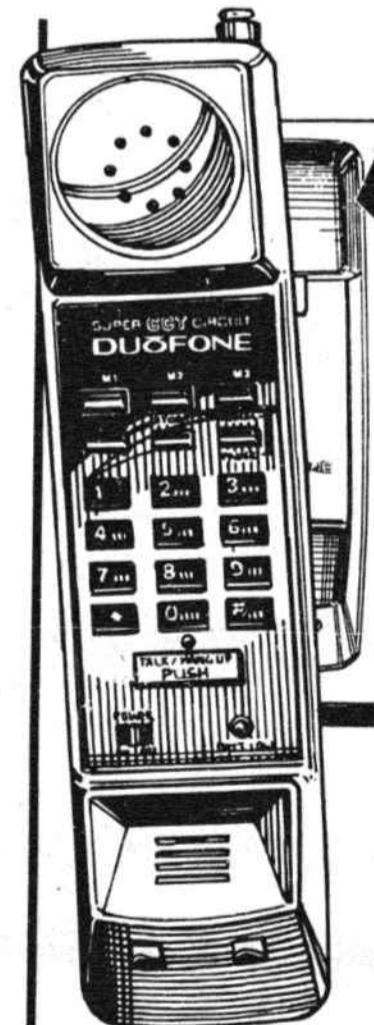
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