

Re-Entry

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students who received long-term suspensions at their home schools would sometimes have to spend up to a year at Independence or other high schools before they could return.

Although that scenario still exists, principals now have the option of referring students to Re-Entry, where they can return to their home schools in as little as 15 days, but that is only if Griggs and other staff members determine that the student has made great strides.

The students are evaluated daily, Griggs said. But the staff looks for more than fair grades and healthy counseling sessions. Griggs says he wants students to have an "attitude adjustment" and "behavioral modifications" so that they will be productive students when they return.

The Academy also has a dress code for students. Males must wear plain white shirts without logos and straight-leg blue jeans that must be worn with a belt. In addition to the white shirt and jeans, females can wear dark-colored skirts of "appropriate length."

"Overall they are good kids," Griggs said. "They are not responsible for creating the environment that they are reacting to. I don't think that our community equipped them with the survival skills they need."

In conjunction with the Urban League, the Academy also involves many of the students' parents in parental workshops.

So far, alumni of the Academy have passed with flying colors. Of the more than 60 students that have been in the program so far, 15 have returned to their home schools as model students.

Griggs said that he recently received a letter from a principal commending the Academy for the changes he noticed in one of its alumni. The Academy's successes have come even with the program's paltry resources.

There is only one instructor, Kathy Sapp, for the 24 ninth, 10th, 11th and 12th graders that are currently enrolled in the program. And although the academy puts a great emphasis on counseling, it will not have a school system psychologist



Photo by T. Kevin Walker
Geremie Tharpe works on an assignment at the Re-Entry Academy.

on staff until next week. Students say the set-up can be bothersome.

"I can understand why I need to be here, but I would rather be in a regular school," Tharpe said. "I like to change classes, I don't like sitting in one class all day."

Sixteen-year-old Michael Jordan has been in the Academy for almost 20 days. It is his first high school experience: he was arrested and placed into a detention center training school for 11 months while he was a middle school student.

After his time in the training school, Jordan thought he would be allowed to return to a regular high school, but system officials decided that Re-Entry would be his first stop.

Although he is looking forward to experiencing the hustle and bustle of West Forsyth High School, Jordan gives the Academy a thumbs-up.

"They are really helpful. They understand where we are coming from," he said. "I learn more and more everyday."

Sapp - who has taught at Independence for 10 years - says although it's difficult to be responsible for 20 different academic classes, she tries to treat each student as an individual.

"They get a lot of individual attention," Sapp said. "For many of them this is a wake-up call, and we look at all of them as individuals."

Free space in the Academy's two modest classrooms may be even harder to find now. Last month, the city-county school board implemented a policy that requires any high school student that receives 10 days suspension to attend the Academy.

Griggs says he and his staff are bracing themselves for an onslaught of new students.

"We have assurances that if our numbers become too overwhelming, something will be done to address that," Griggs said.

He says that he will most likely need at least four instructors to teach the basic core classes.

But Griggs - who is an active Muslim leader and co-convenor of the Black Leadership Roundtable - has grander visions. He would like to see the Academy grow into a school of its own. He would also like to keep the students for a longer period of time so that he can see many of his programs come to full fruition.

"I don't think this is a punishment, I think it's therapy," Griggs said. "Nobody wants to be here, but we hope that it will be an incentive to keep them on task."

Clinton

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not attain even a majority.

Once the closed deliberations end, the Senate will convene again in open session and formally vote on the two articles of impeachment, likely today or tomorrow.

If Clinton is acquitted as expected, several Republicans expressed a willingness Tuesday to end the impeachment ordeal without further action - leaving it to historians, rather than a Senate censure, to judge his efforts to cover up an extramarital affair with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky.

The censure idea is "a rose that is beginning to wilt," said Sen. Larry Craig, R-Idaho, a member of the Senate Republican leadership. Some Democrats, he said, want a censure because they're "seeking cover" for their expected acquittal votes.

However, a censure resolution - either immediately following the trial or later - remained a possibility because Republican opposition was being countered by support from most Democrats and a handful of GOP senators.

Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Texas, said the proposal "is waning as an option - alive but on life support." But Sen. John Chafee, R-R.I., cautioned that "No one should be compiling a dirge over censure; if anything, I believe we are picking up support on the both sides of the aisle."

But to have a such a measure considered in the 100-member Senate, supporters would need 60 votes to hurdle an expected

stalling action by Sen. Phil Gramm, R-Texas, the leading opponent of a censure. He believes a censure violates the Constitution.

Craig said the closed-door speeches "are not all... dynamic," and about four or five senators asked questions of their colleagues such as "Why do you believe that?" or "Where did you find that" in the trial record?

"Many aspects of the case are being discussed," he said.

In all, 18 senators spoke the first day, Republicans alternating with Democrats.

"People are very respectful of one another. It's a very dignified climate," said Sen. Paul Wellstone, a Minnesota Democrat.

As the Senate debated his fate, Clinton traveled to western Virginia for a private meeting with House Democrats holding their annual retreat.

Rep. Robert Menendez of New Jersey, a member of the House Democratic leadership, said the president never overtly mentioned impeachment. But, "He said, 'Thank you for all the support you've given me over time, going back to 1993, and I'm committed to you in your efforts

to achieve a majority'" in the elections in 2000.

With the Senate galleries cleared, and House prosecutors and presidential lawyers barred, the first day of deliberations lasted from 1:52 p.m. until 6:27 p.m., with one short break. Each senator was allowed to speak for up to 15 minutes, but with the television cameras unplugged, not all were choosing to take all their time - or speak at all.

All senators will be able to place statements explaining their votes in the Congressional Record after the trial - or they could simply release their remarks as Gorton did.

Gorton's leadoff speech was followed by Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass. The Democrats spoke by seniority. Republicans used a sign-up sheet.

An effort led by Wellstone and Tom Harkin, D-Iowa - and Hutchison - failed to win approval for open deliberations.

The move failed to gain the 67 votes needed to change Senate rules for closed debate, although the measure captured a 59-41 majority. Majority Leader Trent Lott had announced in advance that he opposed the open session.

NOTICE MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED FIRMS

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is seeking minority and women-owned firms (M/WBE) to bid on upcoming highway projects throughout the State. The Locations of the projects are:

Project No.	County/Route	Division No.	Type	Location	Metric/English			
8.1401726	Wake	5	Grading, drainage, paving, pvt. marking & structures	Raleigh outer loop from east of SR-2083 (Graham Lake Road) to east of US-1 south of Peary Creek Road	Metric	11%		
9.8071091	Guilford	7	Widening, grading, drainage, paving, pvt. marking & culvert	High Point intermediate loop (E. College Dr) from NC-68 (East-Chester Dr) to SR-1471 (Montfort Avenue)	Metric		10%	05%
8.1673902	Mecklenburg	10	Grading, drainage, paving, pvt. marking and structure	Bridge over Catawba River & approaches on NC-49 at SC state line	Metric	10%		
8.1770501	Yadkin, Surry	11	Grading, drainage, paving, pvt. markings & structure	Bridge over Yadkin River & Yadkin Valley Rd. & approaches on US-601 N. of Booneville	Metric	10%		
6.7790037	Yadkin	11	Grading, paving, drainage, pvt. markings & structures	US-421 from East of SR-1139 to West of US-601	Metric		10%	05%
2790001	Catawba	12	Grading, drainage, paving & structure	Bridge over Halls Creek and approaches on SR-1003	Metric	10%		
8.281301	Lincoln	12	Grading, drainage, paving, pavement marking & culvert	Culvert on Little Buffalo Creek & approaches on SR-1153	Metric	08%		
8.2980601	Polk	14	Grading, drainage, paving & structure	Bridge over Green River and approaches on SR-1151	Metric	05%		
8.1242101	Duplin	3	Rest Area	Rest Area on I-40 near NC-24 West of Warsaw	English	03%		
7.2311128	Brunswick, New Hanover, Pender	3	Milling, resurfacing, shoulder reconstruction & pvt. Markings	14 sections of primary & 22 sections of secondary road	English		07%	05%
8.1321601	Nash	4	Safety improvements	US-64 from SR-1435 to Edgecombe County line	English	15%		
8.2330801	Wayne	4	Grading, drainage, paving, pvt. markings & culvert	Culvert on Stony Creek & approaches on SR-1500.1 (Royal Ave) in Goldsboro	English	10%		
8.2341501	Wilson	4	Grading, drainage, paving & structure	Bridge over Costeena Creek & approaches on SR-1144	English	06%		
8.1404001	Wake	5	Safety improvements	US-1 from West of US-164 interchange at SR-1009 (Tyson Rd.) to SR-1728 (Wide Ave.) interchange with I-440/US 1	English	10%		
7.4411135	Cumberland	6	Milling, resurfacing, shoulder recon. & pvt. markings	9 sections of primary & 15 sections of secondary road	English		07%	05%
7.451144	Harnett	6	Widening, resurfacing, shoulder reconstruction & pvt. markings	1 section of primary & 5 sections of secondary road	English		07%	05%
8.1580901	Richmond	8	Grading, drainage, paving, pvt. markings & structure	Bridge over Buffalo Creek & approaches on NC-73	English	10%		
8.1623601	Forsyth, Surry & Stokes	9	Safety improvements	US-52 from north of SR-2264 (Alton Rd.) in Forsyth County to US-52 bus. in Surry Co.	English	10%		
7.6011176	Davidson	9	Milling, Resurfacing & pavement markings	2 sections of primary & 25 sections of secondary roads	English		07%	05%
7.611172	Davie	9	Widening, milling, resurfacing & pavement markings	4 sections of primary & 1 section of secondary roads	English		07%	05%
7.6211173	Forsyth, Stokes	9	Widening, milling, resurfacing & pavement markings	2 sections of primary & 6 sections of secondary roads	English		07%	05%
7.6221175	Forsyth	9	Milling, resurfacing & pavement markings	6 sections of primary & 18 sections of secondary roads	English		07%	05%
7.6311371	Rowan	9	Milling, widening, resurfacing & pavement markings	5 sections of primary & 9 sections of secondary roads	English		07%	05%
8.2673201	Mecklenburg	10	Grading, drainage, paving, pvt. markings & culvert	Culvert on West Fork Rocky River & approaches on SR-2417 (Grey Road)	English	05%		
7.6511203	Anson	10	Widening, milling, resurf. shoulder const. & pvt. markings	2 sections of primary & 3 sections of secondary road	English		07%	05%
7.6911207	Union	10	Widening, milling, resurf. shoulder const. & pvt. markings	2 sections of primary & 10 sections of secondary roads	English		07%	05%
7.7011214	Alleghany, Ashe	11	Milling & Resurfacing	7 sections of primary & 7 sections of secondary roads	English		05%	05%
7.7211215	Avery, Watauga	11	Milling & Resurfacing	8 sections of primary & 7 sections of secondary roads	English		05%	05%
7.7311216	Caldwell, Wilkes	11	Milling & Resurfacing	6 sections of primary & 18 sections of secondary roads	English		05%	05%
7.7411217	Surry, Yadkin	11	Milling & Resurfacing	8 sections of primary & 17 sections of secondary roads	English		05%	05%
7.7111220	Ashe, Avery	11	Milling & Resurfacing	5 sections of primary road	English		05%	05%
5.7421098	Surry, Caldwell Wilkes, Yadkin	11	Resurfacing	1 section of primary & 61 sections of secondary roads	English		00%	00%
5.7221097	Avery, Ashe, Alleghany, Watauga	11	Resurfacing	42 sections of secondary roads	English		00%	00%
8.1801701	Cleveland	12	Safety improvements	I-85 from SC state line to NC-161	English	15%		
8.1822801	Iredell	12	Safety improvements	I-40 from Catawba county line to east of SR-2158 (Old Mocksville Rd)	English	20%		
8.1890901	Rutherford	13	Safety improvements	US-74 bypass from east of US-74 interchange to Cleveland county line	English	20%		
8.1991301	Swain, Jackson	14	Safety improvements	US-74 from west of Alerts Road interchange to east of Jackson County line	English	15%		
7.9721097	Haywood, Jackson	14	Resurfacing, and shoulder construction	One section of primary and thirteen of secondary roads	English		05%	05%
7.9721096	Macon, Swain	14	Resurfacing	8 sections of secondary roads	English		05%	05%
6.912343	Cherokee, Clay, Graham	14	Resurfacing	11 sections of secondary roads	English		05%	05%
7.001099	Transylvania, Henderson, Polk	14	Milling, resurfacing, shoulder const. & pvt. markings	4 sections of primary & 34 sections of secondary roads	English		05%	05%

LETTING DATE: Tuesday, February 16, 1999

***** MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1999 6 PM - MIDNIGHT *****

North Raleigh Hilton - 3415 Wake Forest Road - Raleigh, N.C.

Prime contractors will be available to receive quotes for trucking, sub-contracting and materials. M/WBE's needing more information and/or technical assistance may come to Room 522 to meet with representatives from the Bennington Corp., NCDOT's Supportive Provider. (919)832-6027

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Star

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Reno has authority to fire Starr if she finds "good cause."

The allegations against Starr have come from legal observers, some Democratic members of Congress and President Clinton's lawyer David Kendall.

Reno has let U.S. District Judge Norma Holloway Johnson handle the investigation of alleged grand jury leaks from Starr's staff, because Johnson, as chief judge here, oversees the grand jury. The judge named a special master to look into those allegations.

Starr has picked a team of former Justice officials to oversee an investigation of whether one of his key Whitewater witnesses, David Hale, received cash from people working for the conservative American Spectator magazine.