

For Students And Teachers

Brevard High School Reports On Performance Accountability Project

Needs, Objectives Equipment, Listed

A report prepared by the administration and teachers at Brevard Senior High School, and submitted to the N. C. Department of Public Instruction, presents a comprehensive picture of the historical role of the schools in Transylvania County, the critical needs for a better means of measuring both teacher and student performance, and the objectives for meeting the needs.

The project is supported by a \$30,000 grant from the N. C. Department of Public Instruction.

Beginning with the formation of Transylvania County in 1861, the historical background section of the report covers the role of the public schools in considerable length. It shows continuing progress to the present time when the county has a pupil population of 4,495 enrolled in six elementary, one junior high, and two senior high schools. These are staffed by 217 teachers and administrators. An admitted need for a more comprehensive performance reporting system on both students and teachers, as to their development in knowledge and skill, was the impetus for the program.

CRITICAL NEED

The report states: "The Annual Principal's Report of Brevard High School shows non-promotions of nine percent of total membership and, in some areas, the rate runs as high as 32 percent. In addition, failures in non-college preparatory courses indicate that education falls short in reaching below-average and average students.

"The Principal's Final Report of 1970-71 further indicates the drop-out rate for Brevard High School was 25 percent. A statistical study of students in grades 9-12 shows that the average and below-average students are not achieving at a level commensurate with ability.

"Because objectives for courses taught at Brevard High School are presently philosophical in nature, it is difficult to measure whether these objectives have been attained. Brevard High School has never participated in an effective Education Performance Accountability Program and, as a result, has not developed an understanding of and use of performance objectives.

"Through development of individual learning experiences with performance expectations commensurate with abilities, it is expected that the high school curriculum will become more relevant and better able to meet the needs of all students. It is also expected that teachers will gain broader perceptions of the special needs, interests, and abilities of all students."

OBJECTIVES

The Continuing Objectives of the proposed project are:

"1. To promote the development of knowledge and skills in teachers which will enable them to help students formulate goals and objectives which ensure success at their individual levels of ability.

"2. To promote the development in students of those attitudes and skills necessary for assuming personal responsibility for selecting and carrying out an individual program of study.

"3. To promote increased awareness by the community of the school and its programs to accelerate all students regardless of race, class and ability, toward self-sufficiency."

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

A list of specific objectives and strategies as they relate to each of the continuing objectives above are categorized in the report:

Under continuing objective number one:

By Mar. 17, 1972, the average and below-average student will be identified by the faculty through comparison of I.Q. scores with present achievement levels.

By Apr. 17, 96 percent of the Brevard High School faculty will possess the understandings and skills necessary to identify the special needs of average and below-average students.

By Apr. 17, the faculty will have completed a series of meetings to consider the special needs of participating students.

By May 30, a sample of participating

students will have been tested, to determine their needs, interests and abilities.

By June 30, participating teachers and staff will have considered causes of and will be able to identify the potential drop-out.

By Sept. 1, participating teachers and staff will possess the skills needed to develop realistic goals, with a listing of appropriate course objectives on file in the principal's office.

By Aug. 30, 100 percent of the administrative and teaching staff will have participated in staff development training.

By Aug. 30, a representative group of students will have met with faculty groups to develop performance objectives for various courses.

By Sept. 1, a series of performance objectives will have been written for various courses.

By Sept. 1, printed materials describing the objectives and activities of the project will be available for distribution to interested persons.

By Jan. 1, 1973, local and regular school systems will have been invited to visit the project school.

By June 30, 1973, a minimum of two schools or systems will have adopted one or more of the promising project practices.

Under continuing objective number two:

By June 15, 1972, students presently enrolled in the 9th, 10th, and 11th grades will have taken aptitude, personality, vocational interest inventories, achievement, and I.Q. tests.

By Sept. 6, interpretation of the tests will be discussed with the students.

By Nov. 1, a program of individualized instruction for participating students will be implemented.

By Jan. 1, 1973, curriculum revisions in selected fields of study will be completed and implemented.

By Jan. 15, a grading system will be designed to enable the student to measure his achievement.

By Feb. 15, profile charts will have been developed by student and teacher to indicate the student's successful level of achievement.

By June 1, 75 per cent of participating students will possess the necessary skills to set realistic goals.

By June 30, attitudes of participating students toward school will have shown a significant positive change.

By June 30, the drop-out and failure rate will have decreased significantly.

Under continuing objective number three:

By Sept. 1, 1972, printed materials describing the objectives and the activities of the project will be available for distribution to local community leaders and parents.

By Aug. 30, selected community persons will have participated in project curriculum planning and revision.

By June 30, 1973, parents will possess an increased positive attitude toward the school and its programs.

By June 30, 1973, the community will enhance its understandings of the objectives and activities of the project.

GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

In-service programs will be held by staff members who have attended national and state conferences on accountability and writing performance objectives. Consultants from State Department of Public Instruction will hold conferences with all participating departments. Other consultants, where needed will come from colleges and universities.

Faculty conferences will be held for instruction in establishing performance objectives. Departmental conferences will be held for preparation of course outlines incorporating performance objectives. Guidance Department staff will conduct seminars in interpretation and evaluation of test results.

MATERIALS, EQUIPMENT

The existing facilities are adequate to carry out the project and all facilities may be used to implement the work. The project coordinator has the responsibility to see that facilities are available when needed. The majority of tests necessary for the project are available



LEARNING BY DOING—Brevard Senior High School students are taught chemistry by the experimental approach in a new Physical Science course. Shown above in the classroom, left to right, are: Mike Keener, student, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Lee Keener of Cedar Mt.;

Marie Hooper, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas L. Hooper of Calvert, student Teacher's Assistant; and Lt. Col. C. C. Hardin, Physical Science teacher. Learning by doing is part of an overall school improvement program in the county. (Times Staff Photo)

Pisgah Forest P-TA Will Observe Founders Day, 15th

The Founders day program for the Pisgah Forest Elementary School P-TA will be held at 7:30 p.m., February 15, in the school cafeteria.

Miss Baynard and Miss Woody's classes will be providing the entertainment.

The P-TA membership will

discuss plans for the spring bazaar and bingo game. Also the need for playground equipment will be discussed.

All past presidents are specially invited to attend this Founders day meeting.

Refreshments will be served.

Love Offerings Are Being Accepted For Vernon Fricks

Love offerings are being accepted here for Vernon Fricks, prominent automobile dealer who has recently undergone two very serious cancer operations.

Mr. Fricks is in the Emory hospital at Atlanta, Georgia, and his condition is said to be as well as could be expected.

On January 29th he underwent a 13-hour operation at

Emory. Offerings can be made at the First Union National bank here in Brevard or at Brevard Federal Savings and Loan association.

An outstanding civic leader, Mr. Fricks owned and operated Goodwill Motor company.

He is a director of the Brevard Federal Savings and Loan association, and he served as a director of the Brevard Cham-

ber of Commerce for many, many years.

PROJECT FINDINGS

Findings of the project will be disseminated in official statistical reports to the public. Objectives, achievements and findings of the entire program will be compiled and distributed by news media. School representatives will review the project via television, radio, civic organizations, Parent-Teachers' Associations and other parent groups.

As the program develops, successful areas would be broadened to include all grades and all schools with original staff serving in orientation and or consultant positions. Project findings will be made available to State Department for dissemination.

Smokey Says:



Help keep out wild fires!

Nurses To Meet Next Tuesday

The Transylvania Nurses Association will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday evening, February 15th, at 7:30 p.m., in the lounge of the First Citizens Bank.

Guest speaker for the evening will be Father Edward Sheridan of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church of Brevard.

President Sue Maness urges all members to be present for this informative meeting with Father Sheridan and cordially issues an invitation to all registered nurses in the county to attend.

He represented this civic body on the Board of the Western North Carolina Associated Communities.

An active member of the First Baptist church, he is also a Lion, a Mason and a Shriner.

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