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Board Of Education: Policy Matters Are Discussed

By KATHY M. NEWBERN

The Perquimans County Board of Education met in regular session Monday night to discuss and take action on several matters.

Several policy items were the first taken up on the evening's agenda. Under that area, the need for a policy related to maternity leave for school employees was discussed at length. Superintendent Pat Harrell pointed out that in the past, maternity leave was granted without pay until the teacher involved was bedridden at which time, the leave was considered to be sick leave and payment was granted. Harrell said that current guidelines call for maternity leave to be considered regular leave without pay unless the teacher agrees to teach as long as possible, then when leave is taken, payment is granted. It was suggested that the local Board of Education develop a policy whereby the teacher requesting maternity leave file a doctor's statement specifying the time at which she can no longer teach. With this filed statement, the teacher could then take sick leave with pay for as many sick leave days as she has built up. Board members authorized Superintendent Harrell to draw up a policy to that effect for action to be taken at the next meeting.

In other policy matters, the board reviewed previous discussion on the use of school cafeterias and kitchens. Again, they authorized Harrell to draw up a policy for action at the next meeting. That policy will include regulations such as having an established utilities fee, a provision for the kitchen to be manned by school staff only, and the rate of compensation for the staff's time, as well as the hours school employees can be used in connection with outside use of the facilities.

Harrell informed board members that the policy on personnel evaluation will be ready for consideration at the next meeting reminding them that school personnel are involved in an advisory committee to assist in the development of that policy.

The last item discussed in the policy area was the payment of salaries to school employees over a 12-month

period with equal monthly installments. Legislation provides that teachers in a school system can request their salaries be paid in a 12-month period. That legislation, however, does not cover other school employees. The Attorney General's office has sent out a statement explaining that the coverage of other employees under this plan is left up to the discretion of local boards of education. That letter also pointed out that the legislation involved does not prevent other employees from working under the 12-months of equal payment plan. The local Board authorized Harrell to draw up a policy allowing all school employees to receive salaries over a 12-month period they so desire. That policy will be voted on at the next meeting.

The longevity pay plan was the only item discussed in the budget area. Harrell read a letter quoting the Board's resolution on the matter which was recently mailed to the North Carolina School Boards Association. The resolution by the local board supports longevity pay for all school employees regardless of the source of funds from which they are paid. That resolution also calls for this to be considered as a priority in the 1978 legislative program of NCSBA.

In personnel matters, the Board unanimously approved the employment of eight persons with the Perquimans County School System as follows: Mary Vaughn as an ESEA Title I Aide; Jean Brown as an ESEA Title I Aide; William Felton Jr. as a mechanic; Wynell Hoogerland as a CETA Reading Aide at Hertford Grammar School; Crystal James as a CETA Reading Aide at Hertford Grammar School; Georgia Fain as a cafeteria employee at Hertford Grammar School; and Margie Ashforth as a cafeteria employee at Perquimans High School. Also in personnel matters, the Board granted career status to Linda Lassiter, teacher at Perquimans High School; and accepted the resignation of Gayle Freeman from the Business Department at Perquimans High School effective Sept. 15. A leave of absence for approximately six months was also granted to Pearl

Farrow, maid at Perquimans Central Grammar School. That motion also included the approval of interim employment of Vivian Johnson to replace Ms. Farrow while she is absent.

In the area of programs, Superintendent Harrell briefly outlined the opening of school to members of the Board describing it as "the best we've ever had." Harrell commended teacher attitudes pointing out such positive factors as the abundance of teacher volunteers to work with extra curricular groups and activities. Harrell said, "I feel real good about our opening. We've extended the school day, which is longer this year, and nine to one (teachers) are in favor of it." Harrell added that the new programs for the year have also "been received well." Harrell also explained that teachers are being given the opportunity for input concerning what they feel students should be learning, how they should teach it, and how students should be evaluated.

Also in the area of programs, Harrell explained that committee work continues in three areas: family life education, promotion-retention, and reporting of student progress. He said that all of these committees have met and two have plans to incorporate parent volunteers for added effectiveness as well as participation from community leaders.

The last area discussed at the Monday night meeting was administrative operations. The first item was discussion of plans for the school bond referendum which will be voted on Nov. 8 in the general election.

The Board also approved school lunch prices.

On the question of tile work in the Central Grammar School kitchen, Superintendent Harrell suggested that since only one bid was received and the work could not be done prior to the opening of school, that the Board readvertise for bids with the work to be done during the Christmas holidays. A motion to that effect carried.

Harrell then shared the NCSBA Insurance Committee Report with Board members for the purpose of information.

The last item of business to be acted on was concerning liability insurance for Headstart students riding buses. That insurance is required. The Board approved a motion to have Head Start pay the liability insurance rate of \$3.50 per student. It was added that a list of those students, approximately 36, which would be riding the bus would also be requested.



PLANNING SESSION — Involved in the recent disaster planning session at the Holiday Island Clubhouse were (l. to r.) Bob Richards, John Beers, Howard Maxwell, Joe Seegar, Keith Haskett, and Cecil Timms. (Staff photo by Kathy Newbern)

Disaster Plan Of Action Is Being Formulated

By KATHY M. NEWBERN

Key officials in Perquimans County are taking action to plan ahead of time the procedure local people would take in the event of an emergency or natural disaster such as a hurricane.

As part of that planning, Keith Haskett, Perquimans County Civil Preparedness Coordinator, has set up organizational meetings with representatives of what has been determined as the county's five shelter areas. These areas include Hertford Grammar School, Perquimans Central Grammar School, the Snug Harbor Clubhouse, New Hope Community Building, and the Holiday Island Clubhouse.

Haskett joined John Beers, Chairman of the Perquimans County Chapter of the American Red Cross, in a recent meeting with Holiday Island officials, to work on an organizational plan naming key contact people in that area in the case of a disaster.

This type of meeting is planned in each of the five areas and resulted from a meeting where all five shelter areas had representatives present to discuss a countywide plan for disasters.

Some of the topics being discussed at the meetings include such things as communications, shelter centers and evacuation of residents in the event of a natural disaster or emergency.

This planning is the responsibility of the

local civil preparedness coordinator and the community people. The Red Cross is involved in the manpower area and funds for emergencies.

Several points were brought out at the Holiday Island meeting. It was decided that contact people are needed in each of the five areas. These people would be responsible for authorizing evacuation out of the area or the collection of the people at the shelter site, since a person in the area would be more familiar with existing conditions. It was pointed out that some type of security would also be needed in each area to protect property that would be left unoccupied in case of evacuation of residents.

Haskett and Beers pointed out that such a countywide plan has never been established in the past. Those attending this planning session expressed a need to develop a plan, keep it simple, and make it self-contained. When each of the five areas has developed such a plan, they will then all be incorporated into a countywide plan for action in case of disaster.

The following appointments were made as a result of the planning meeting at Holiday Island: Howard Maxwell was named shelter manager for the #4 shelter (Holiday Island Clubhouse); Bob Richards and Joe Seegar were named assistant shelter managers; and Seegar was also named to work in the area of security along with Cecil Timms. Maxwell was also assigned to the area of communications.

Luther Hodges Begins Campaign Touring



LUTHER HODGES JR.

Luther Hodges Jr. visited five North Carolina cities in a day-long barnstorming tour Sept. 7 as part of his preparation to become an official Democratic candidate for the United States Senate.

Hodges began his tour in Greenville with stops also made in Raleigh-Durham, Eden, Asheville and Charlotte.

Hodges attended a breakfast in his honor in Greenville. The next stop was a luncheon in Eden (Hodges' birthplace) and then a dinner in his hometown of Charlotte. The Greenville breakfast, at 8:15 a.m., was held in

Mendenhall Student Union on the campus of East Carolina University. The breakfast meeting was arranged by Greenville attorney Jim Cheatham and a group of Greenville and University people. Friends and supporters of the candidate attended from throughout the eastern part of the state.

Hodges' wife, Dot, and their two children, Anne and Hart, accompanied him on the tour.

Hodges, 40, was chairman of the board of North Carolina National Bank until June 30, when he resigned to prepare himself for the Senate campaign.



MRS. ILA McILWEAN WHITE

To Receive Service Award

Mrs. Ila McIlwean White of Hertford, Area Home Economics Extension Agent, will receive recognition at the Annual Meeting of the National Association of Extension Home Economists. She will be the recipient of the Distinguished Service Award which will be presented in special ceremonies on Sept. 22 in Boston, Mass.

Mrs. White is recognized for her work with para-professionals in the Expanded Foods and Nutrition Education Program in ten Albemarle counties, including Chowan, Camden, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hyde, Perquimans, Pasquotank, Tyrrell and Washington. The purpose of the Expanded Foods and Nutrition Education Program is to raise the health status of families through nutrition education and use of resources. Mrs. White's role is to work with para-professionals in each of the counties. She has developed a training program which includes lesson plan, visual suggestions, workshop, and other learning activities to enable the para-professionals to do a better job. The teaching philosophy of Mrs. White is "I hear, I forget; I see, I remember; I do, I understand." Families and youth reached by the para-professionals show changes in eating habits, better shopping skills and better use of resources.

Prior to Mrs. White's position as Area Home Economics Extension Agent for 6 years, she worked in Perquimans County as Home Economics Extension Agent for 12 years and was Home Economics teacher in Per-

quimans County High School for one year.

Mrs. White, who has been a member of the National Association of Extension Home Economists for 19 years, is also a member of several other professional associations including American Home Economics Association, N.C. Adult Education Association, N.C. Federation of Cooperative Extension Association, and Epsilon Sigma Phi.

In 1970 Mrs. White was recognized in Personalities In The South. She was appointed by University of North Carolina School of Nursing to the Statewide Health Care Advisory Committee, 1977-1980, and she is presently serving as Chairman of the North Carolina Nutrition Task Force.

Mrs. White is a native of Craven County and now resides in Hertford. Her husband is W.A. (Billy) White and they have two children, Alice, 10, and Andy, 8. In her community, Mrs. White serves as a local 4-H Club leader, represents Perquimans County on the Eastern N.C. Health Systems Agency, member of the State Coordinating Health Council, and serves as a member of the Perquimans County Social Services Board. Mrs. White is a member of the First United Methodist Church in Hertford, and performs many roles in her church.

Library Closing Is Announced

The regular quarterly training session for the staff of the Pettigrew Regional Library will be held in Edenton on Wednesday, Sept. 14. Ms. Lee Albright of the Genealogy Department of

the State Library in Raleigh will conduct a workshop on research methods for the local librarians.

In order to provide this opportunity for every member of the staff to par-

ticipate in continuing education, the Libraries in the region (Shepard-Pruden Memorial Library in Edenton, Perquimans County Library in Hertford, Tyrrell County Public Library in Columbia, and Washington County Library in Plymouth) will be closed all day on Wednesday, Sept. 14.

Head Start Holds Training Session

Perquimans County Head Start personnel recently joined other Head Start people in Region R for a training session and orientation at the Economic Improvement Council Center in Edenton.

Special guest at that meeting was James L. Robinson, Associate Director for the Head Start Bureau with the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

Robinson, a native of Louisiana, has worked in a variety of programs and administrative positions within the federal service. He has been an economist in the Department of Labor, an International Relations Officer in the State Department, and an economist and program

analyst with both the Office of Economic Opportunity and the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

Since May 1971, Robinson has worked in the Head Start Program, for one year as deputy director of Head Start, and since May 1972 as director. He has recently served as consultant for the Educational Testing Service of Princeton, N.J. and the Upjohn Institute for Employment Research in Washington, D.C.

The Perquimans County participants at the session included: Joyce Felton, contact teacher; Debra Demery, teacher; Elaine Jordan, teacher assistant; and Celestine Modlin, SSPI.



SWORN IN AS ATTORNEY — Walter G. Edwards Jr. of Hertford was sworn in as an attorney at law by district court judge Grafton G. Beaman at the Aug. 31 session of district court in Perquimans County. Looking on during the swearing in ceremony were (l. to r.) Edwards' aunt, Mrs. H.A. Whitley; and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W.G. Edwards. A native of Perquimans County, Edwards attended Per-

quimans High School and then North Carolina Central University School of Law in Durham. While in high school, he served as a page in the U.S. Senate for one and one-half years. Edwards will practice locally for awhile with plans to eventually set up a practice in Washington, D.C. His father is a local practicing attorney. (Staff photo by Kathy M. Newbern)



AT THE GOVERNOR'S MANSION — Pictured above are a few of the familiar faces that attended the Governor's picnic Saturday in Raleigh. Shown left to right are: Mr. and Mrs. Bill Cox, Raleigh Carver, chairman of the Pasquotank Board of