

# The Perquimans Weekly

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Hertford, North Carolina 27944

## Todd sets high goals for school system

By SUSAN R. HARRIS  
Editor

Perquimans Schools Superintendent Gregory Todd has set high goals for himself and the school system for the 1998-99 fiscal year.

The school board accepted Todd's 10 goals in regular session Monday night. They were

based on discussions during the board's retreat earlier this month. The goals will become a part of the appraisal process for the superintendent during his annual evaluation by the board.

Todd set goals under four major headings: instruction, safe and orderly environment, quality personnel and quality

management.

Under instruction, the goals include all schools meeting expected growth or better on the state ABCs measured by the testing program; 70 percent of students in grades 3-8 testing proficient on end-of-grade tests; and 50 percent of students in grades 9-12 testing proficient on end-of-course

tests.

Getting into the new buildings on time and within budget; improving the timeliness of building maintenance and losing fewer days from instruction due to attendance problems, suspensions and disruptive students are the three goals under the safe and orderly environment category.

In the maintenance goals, Todd will have monthly reports submitted to the board and will have a long-range maintenance plan in place by June 1, 1999.

Todd has set a goal to recruit and employ certifiable staff for all positions requiring certification. In addition, he plans to connect with the

state's Human Resource Management System to help human resources staff track certifications and salaries.

Management goals are to assist principals to become more meaningful leaders in their schools and to develop a transportation system that reduces travel time for students.

### JAZZIN' IT UP



PHOTO BY SUSAN HARRIS

The Marching Pirates previewed their 1998-99 show featuring jazz music at the end of band camp Friday afternoon at a public performance. The band will perform during Friday night's varsity football season opener in Hertford. David Ziemba is band director. This season's drum major is Kim Stallings.

## Hertford moves ahead with water, sewer plans

Voters will decide on bond referendum on November 3

By SUSAN R. HARRIS  
Editor

The town of Hertford is moving ahead with plans to upgrade the municipality's water and sewer systems.

The town has advertised its intention to apply with the North Carolina Local Government Commission for approval to issue general obligation bonds totalling \$4.8 million to finance the projects.

Town Manager John Christensen said Monday that the town has also made application with the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development agency for grants to finance part of the proposed project.

"Part of the (USDA) program is to ensure rural communities don't get stuck with exorbitant (water and sewer) rates due to necessary improvements," Christensen said.

The town manager added that the total project is expected to cost \$4.8 million. Any grant funds received would reduce the amount the town would finance with the bond referendum. USDA is reviewing the town's grant application now.

If approved by the Local Government Commission, Hertford voters would decide at a referendum held in tandem with November's general election whether to approve issuing bonds.

Planned renovation and expansion includes expanding both water and sewer lines, including lines to the commerce centre.

In the \$990,000 water department expansion, a third well would be installed, and old and

outdated equipment updated. Both water tanks would also be painted. Christensen said the treatment plant was expanded several years ago so that its capacity to treat water was increased.

The sewer improvements are expected to cost over \$3.8 million. Christensen said the wastewater system would be completely redone, with the capacity increased from 400,000 gallons per day to 700,000 per day.

Growth on U.S. Highway 17 Bypass has already put additional stress on the sewer system, Christensen said. The renovations would include upgrading burdened pumping stations to better handle the flow from the highway, as well as have the capacity to service the commerce centre.

In addition, the upgrade would give Hertford the capacity to have Winfall's sewer pumped across the river and treated in Hertford. Christensen said it would be more cost effective for both towns for Hertford to treat Winfall's sewage because Hertford will have the capacity and it would cost more for Winfall to build and operate a small plant than to pay the cost of having Hertford meter and treat sewage. He added that the grant agencies seemed positive about the regional proposal, which he said would more efficiently spend both towns' funds.

"Economically, it makes sense to combine (the treatment)," Christensen said. "It provides greater capacity for both towns."

Hertford has already raised its water and sewer rates in anticipation of the upgrades. Christensen said the bonds would be repaid with user fees.

If voters approve the bond in the Nov. 3 referendum, the bonds would be issued and construction should begin in early 1999. Christensen said it would take about two years to complete the renovations.

## Schools get \$100K technology grant

Funds will be used to expand Internet access, improve test scores

By SUSAN R. HARRIS  
Editor

Students in Perquimans County Schools will have even greater access to the Internet and local and wide area networks over the next two years thanks to the receipt of a \$100,000 Technology Literacy Challenge Grant from the Department of Public Instruction.

Administrators and teachers plan to use the expanded technology to help students meet and exceed expected growth set forth by the state's ABCs program.

The grant proposal, submitted by Technology Coordinator Victor Eure, outlined a plan for using funds to develop an Internet model for improving teaching and learning. Under the project, Perquimans County Schools intends to increase Internet access to teachers and students in a system-wide research initiative. The system already has in place a K-12 writing alignment with research as a major compo-



Victor Eure (right center) meets monthly with the technology committee to review progress toward system technology goals.

nent. Through the technology that will now become available, students and teachers can access adequate information resources to make the research activities successful.

In year one of the two-year project, plans are to bring the Internet to individual classrooms through local and wide area networks focusing on all K-5 classrooms and language arts classrooms at the middle and high school level.

Internet access will be expanded to include other content areas at the middle and high school levels in year two.

The construction and renovation of the county's two elementary schools will make it possible to increase the

Internet access for teachers and students at those sites from one dial-up station per school to at least one Internet access point in every classroom.

All teachers participating in the writing portfolio research will have classroom Internet access provided by funds under the project.

In addition, funds will provide training for students, teachers and parents. Teachers training will focus on Intergnet curriculum integration, both within existing lesson plans and new teaching strategies made possible by Internet resources.

Students will learn to read and think critically to evaluate

web sites, to communicate with peers around the world in collaborative projects, and to synthesize information collected.

Parent training will address the negative image of Internet resources found in popular media and give parents the opportunity to learn from their children about resources to support their needs and interests.

Eure will serve as project director. He earned an M.A. in linguistics and Mid-East Studies from the University of Arizona. He obtained a masters in library and information studies from East Carolina University. Eure has been with the schools for 10 years.

### Outside

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
High: 90s Low: 70s SUNNY	High: 90s Low: 70s SUNNY	High: 90s Low: 70s SUNNY