



Kings Mountain Herald

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KINGS MOUNTAIN, NORTH CAROLINA

Sex Education Policy Approved

By GARY STEWART
Editor

The Kings Mountain District Schools Board of Education voted unanimously Thursday night to adopt a policy on teaching sex education before the beginning of the 1982-83 school year.

The action came following a two-hour, 10-minute executive session, during which time members of the board discussed the matter with 24 parents and teachers.

A number of parents appeared at the meeting to protest a course held during the last two weeks of school at Central School, during which seventh grade teacher Sherrill Toney taught the Reproductive System, and discussed with students the scientific terms and street slang words for sexual organs and sex acts.

Some other parents, and a host of teachers employed by the Kings Mountain District Schools, appeared before the board to defend Toney's teaching methods.

The school board took no disciplinary action against Toney, who has been employed by the system for 13 years, and was described by most of the teachers and many of the parents as a "good teacher."

The board directed Chairman June Lee to name a committee of parents, teachers and two members of the school board to study and present a plan for teaching sex education.

Mrs. Lee said this week that she has not yet been able to contact all of the persons she wants to serve on the committee, but will be announcing it in the near future.

"We had a lot of viewpoints from parents and teachers," she said following the executive session, "and we respect all of them. They were very enlightening and will help us in planning for the future."

Mrs. Lee said a "cross-section of the membership of the School District" will be represented on the committee. She said the parents on the committee would be decided after discussions with principals.

Many of the parents who went into the executive session said the board promised them that street slang words would not be used again in sex education classes.

In other matters Thursday, the board:

*Was told by Assistant Superintendent Howard Bryant that kindergarten students would begin school on the first day of school next year rather than on a staggered basis, which has been the custom the past several years. Bryant said the district is losing average daily membership because of the past policy. He said kindergarten students will attend school on a half-day schedule for a brief period of time.

*Was told by Bryant that students performed above the region and state averages in most

grades in last year's testing programs.

*Heard a report by Assistant Superintendent Larry Allen on an energy survey compiled during the past school year. Allen said most schools cut their energy consumption, but because of inflation, the system's energy bill increased by \$16,600. He said two schools used more energy than last year and Central School did the best job of conserving. Central's energy bill was \$8,000 less than last year.

*Approved scholastic accident and athletic insurance plans for the 1982-83 school year.

*Approved its share of the funding for the Sports Medicine Center in Shelby for the 1982-83 school year, but announced that it would not participate in the program, which treats athletic injuries, after 1982-83 unless a new plan of payment is adopted. Superintendent William Davis and KMHS Principal Bob McRae said Kings Mountain's rate per student is higher than other schools and said they would not recommend continuing in the program unless charges are made equally on a per-student basis.

*Approved allocating \$900 for six students (\$150 per student) from KMHS to attend the Presidential Classroom Program next year.

*Named Doyle Campbell, Pete Stamey, Mrs. Ralph Johnson, Larry Hamrick Jr., Charles Curry, Bobby Horne and Sam Wheeler to the KMHS Vocational Advisory Council.

*Approved changes in the policy relative to the management of student records.

*Approved a student fee schedule for 1982-83.

*Authorized Finance Officer Wanza Davis to make necessary budget transfers and report them to the board at its next meeting.

*Approved re-roofing the Central gym, one building at West, and the auditorium at Grover, and re-shingling a wing at East School. Davis estimated the cost at \$100,000.

*Authorized Larry Allen to apply for funds under the Community Development Block Grant program, which will be funded by the state in the future.

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Bloodmobile Visit Set

The Kings Mountain Community Bloodmobile will be held Wed., June 30 from 2:30 until 8 p.m. at First Baptist Church. The goal is 150 pints.

The Kings Mountain High Booster's Club is sponsoring the visit and other civic clubs in the area will participate by helping recruit pledges.

Any citizens who have not been contacted about donating a pint of blood for patients in the hospitals are asked to contact any member of the civic clubs or call the Kings Mountain Chamber of Commerce (739-5051) and make an appointment.

Plans are underway for this bloodmobile to be a scheduled one to prevent lines awaiting and promote an even flow of donors. Those with scheduled appointments will be taken first. A donor may be signed up at any 15-minute interval between 2:30 and 8 p.m. For example, appointments will be made at 2:30, 2:45, 3 p.m., 3:15, 3:30, etc., through 8 p.m. Those arriving at 8 p.m. sharp will have the full length of time to be processed.

This is the last bloodmobile visit of this fiscal year, which runs from July 1 to June 30. Last year, the visit took Cleveland County over the top of its goal for the first time in history of the blood program here.



Work on Piedmont Avenue bridge...

Piedmont Avenue Should Be Re-Opening Soon

By GARY STEWART
Editor

The Kings Mountain Board of Commissioners Monday night approved a supplemental agreement with the North Carolina Department of Transportation for additional utility work on the Highway 74 bypass.

The work, to be shared on a 50-50 cost basis, includes construction of 164 feet of encasement for an 8-inch gas line on Phenix Street.

Mayor John Henry Moss said the action is necessary because of the "growth potential in the area." He said officials from the DOT said the cost would be much cheaper now than it would be after the road work is completed.

Moss said the DOT hopes it will be able to open Piedmont Avenue to citizens sooner than expected. Ken Mauney, district engineer for the DOT, said in an interview several months ago that the street should be open for local use by August.

Boring work on one-half of the Piedmont Avenue bridge began Tuesday and workers began tying off the last water

connection on Piedmont Monday, Moss said. Gas lines must also be installed under the road.

Moss said the city is requesting that the DOT align curbs and gutters and sidewalks on Cleveland Avenue in front of the community center with driveways on Highway 161.

"They will be lying a lot of curb and guttering on the access roads soon and the area will begin taking shape in four to six months," Moss said. "This has been a big task."

"The DOT expressed its appreciation to the citizens for their cooperation and said they hope they're past the annoying stage," he added. "We all look forward to the completion of the project."

The entire project, which is being done in three stages, is expected to be completed by October, 1983.

In other matters Monday night, the board:

*Approved assessment rolls and levying of assessments for street improvements of South Sims Street from Hillside Drive to Marion Street; Ark Street; and Marigold and Mini Streets.

*Approved a request from Bobby Collins of 901 Gantt Street that his property be rezoned from Residential-8 to General Business. Collins plans to construct a shed to be used as a muffler and brake shop. The action passed 5-1, with Commissioner Jim Childers casting the lone no vote. Childers said he opposed the action because it is "spot" zoning.

*Approved the purchase of a 30-horsepower aerator for the Pilot Creek Treatment Plant.

*Authorized execution of a contract between the city and the Town of Grover for the sale and purchase of water.

*Approved a Privilege License Schedule for the 1982-83 fiscal year.

*Approved an increase in rates on a contract between the city and Heath and Associates, the city's gas consultants. Heath's retainer fee will increase from \$250 to \$300 per month and the daily rates from \$250 to \$300 per eight hour day.

*Authorized Mayor Moss to submit Community Develop-

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Credit Union Is Now Accepting New Members

The National Credit Union Administration in Washington, D.C., has approved an amendment of the charter of the Margrace Employees Federal Credit Union, changing its name to the Kings Mountain Federal Credit Union.

The change will allow the credit union to accept members from the geographical area of Kings Mountain. In the past, only employees of the Margrace Mills and their immediate families were eligible for membership.

Carl Goforth, treasurer and office manager, said the credit union, located at 208 York Road in the old Little Moo building, requires a \$2.00 membership fee, but the board of directors has approved a \$1.00 membership fee during the month of June.

The office is open from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. and from 2 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Savers will be paid a nine percent interest rate, with no minimum deposit or balance required, Goforth said. Savings ac-

counts, or Share accounts are insured up to \$100,000 for each depositor by the National Credit Union Association, a U.S. Government Agency. Consumer loans are covered with loan insurance up to \$10,000 on the borrower's life.

Borrowers will be required to purchase at least one share, which is \$5, for at least a 90 day period.

Any persons who reside or work in Kings Mountain; spouses of persons who died while within the field of membership of the credit union; employees of the credit union; members of their immediate families; and organizations of such persons are eligible for membership.

The credit union's board of directors includes Doris Cloninger, President; Don Selles, Vice-President; Sandra Wilson, Secretary; Carl Goforth, Treasurer and Manager; Kathie Ladd, Assistant Treasurer and Assistant Manager; Judy York, Ruth Gamble and Mrs. Luther Cansler.

Man Drowns During Thursday Thunderstorm

A violent thunderstorm which hit the area late Thursday afternoon resulted in the drowning of a 40-year old Shelby man at Moss Lake.

Robert C. Hoover, 40, of 12 Peninsula Drive, drowned when the sailboat he was riding capsized in 50 to 90 feet of water.

A companion, Torrance L. Combs, 37, of 1149 North Lafayette Street, Shelby, swam approximately 250 yards to an island and was later rescued by some neighbors who saw the boat overturn.

Several area rescue squad searched for Hoover's body from Thursday until Sunday, when they found it. Sonar devices and underwater cameras were used

in the search, as well as divers from the Kings Mountain Rescue Squad and Shelby Diving Club.

An unidentified woman saw the boat overturn at 3:58 p.m. and telephoned Kings Mountain police. At first, three people were believed to be in the boat.

Hoover taught literature, grammar and history at Cleveland Technical College. He was married and the father of two children.

The storm left most area residents without power for about five hours, and a small tornado was reported in the Bethlehem Community. No damage was reported.

Joe Hedden Retiring As Principal At West

By CATHY McDANIEL

Joe C. Hedden, principal of West Elementary School, will resign June 30, ending a 36-year career in education.

Mr. Hedden came to Kings Mountain after serving in the U. S. Navy and graduating from Western Carolina University, where he received the first A. B. degree in music awarded by that school. He also attended George Peabody University in Nashville, Tenn., which is now a part of Vanderbilt University.

While at Western, he met his future wife, Francis Crouse, who told him of the fine job Dr. Paul Hendricks was doing with the Kings Mountain School Band. "That made me even more determined to be a band director," he said, "but I had no idea I'd end up directing that band." He originally took the job as a temporary replacement until a new director could be found, but remained in the position for nearly 20 years.

"The band then was called the Kings Mountain School Band, because about half the students in it were in elementary school," he said. The band program began in the third grade until about 1950, when a State order raised the beginning level to the 7th grade. Hedden was opposed



JOE HEDDEN

with small children. He feels this challenge especially lies in teaching children how to read, which he believes is the key to making a good life for oneself. Before becoming principal of West, a position he has held for 14 years, he also taught science and history at the high school.

Hedden left teaching in 1957, "to see if I was making a mistake." He worked as Personnel Director of Bost Bakery in Shelby and with PPG Industries, where he was involved in selecting the first 1,000 persons employed by the plant. He returned to education because "I just couldn't get it out of my blood."

"You don't leave something after 36 years without mixed feelings," he said, "but I feel I'm making the best decision for myself." Hedden praised the academic standards of West, saying it has "the finest group of teachers I've seen anywhere."

After his retirement, Hedden plans to spend a lot of time outdoors. "If I'm not fishing, I hope to be hunting," he said. He also plans to do work around his home, and continue his hobby of repairing band instruments.