

Students who fail schoolwork lose license

Now that the first semester has ended, some North Carolina high school students are probably more familiar with recent state legislation which links the opportunity to obtain and keep a driver's license with adequate progress towards graduation from high school. North Carolina law, effective August 1, 1998, now requires students to remain in school and make adequate academic progress if they are to maintain driving privileges.

This law is an attempt to motivate and encourage students to complete high school. It applies to all North Carolina students under the age of 18 who are eligible for a permit or license, including home school and private school students. Simply put, students at Kings Mountain High School must remain in school and pass at least three courses per semester in order to obtain and retain their driving privileges.

At the end of each semester we are required to identify the students who have failed to meet the requirements for retaining the right to drive. (Students who received their driving permits or licenses prior to December 1, 1997 are not subject to this law). Parents are notified of the situation and given the right to file a hardship appeal re-

Bob McRae
Superintendent
Kings Mountain
Schools



garding extremely unusual circumstances. The process is similar for students who have dropped out of school.

After these appeals are determined, the names of any students who remain on the affected list are submitted to the Department of Motor Vehicles. They are sent a letter revoking their driving permit or license. When they once again become eligible for possessing a permit or license, they will have to pay a \$25 restoration fee in addition to the \$10 license fee which is required. Once retained, right to hold the permit or license can be lost again.

Also, once students become eligible age-wise plan to apply for a driving permit or license, they must have a Driving Eligibility Certificate issued by their high school. These will not be issued to students who are not making adequate academic progress or have not remained enrolled in school. In other words a student cannot obtain for the first time or retain the permit or license without making adequate progress.

The first semester on which a student can be penalized was the first semester of the current school year. Some students did not make adequate progress but are exempt as previously mentioned. However, many of our students are affected and, in time, all of our Kings Mountain High School students will be required to meet the requirements of the law.

When our records at Kings Mountain High School were checked, only one of our students fell in the category of losing a driving permit. While that appears to be good news in general, we must realize that the number in this category will probably go up in future years when all of our high school's students are affected by the law. Of course, dropouts in the age group affected by the law will also be required to turn in permits or licenses.

A larger group this year consists of the students who have been refused an Eligibility Certificate due to their failure to maintain adequate progress. Our high school staff indicates to me that several students have been turned away in their attempts to begin their formal driving certification due to poor grades first semester.

I realize that most teen-agers value highly the opportunity to drive a car. It is not pleasurable to be involved with specific instances of refusing that privilege. However, I support the law and the legislators who voted for it. All it takes to keep the privilege is to stay in school and maintain adequate progress towards graduation. Hundreds of students at Kings Mountain High School do that every year. Isn't the simple solution for those affected negatively by this law to do the same?

There is no question in my mind that these students are capable of doing well in school. The only question is about where they choose to place their priorities. Some of our students already have a clear indication of what our state thinks should be one of the highest priorities - a high school diploma. That certainly makes sense to me.



Kings Mountain High School FHA/HERO students prepared food for the residents of White Oak Manor recently. Students who cooked the spread are left to right; Betty Dover, Tracey Bridges, Chris Styers, Katrena Winebarger, Kristy Washington, Kristy Worcester, Janneke Vermeulen, and Jennifer Haynes.

Paysour leaving KM ABC store

Carolyn R. Paysour, has resigned her position as Supervisor of the Kings Mountain ABC Store, according to Board Chairman Andy Neisler.

Paysour is taking a position with the North Carolina State ABC Commission as an ABC Field Auditor in eastern North Carolina. The change will go into effect April 1.

"The Kings Mountain ABC Store has profited from the leadership of Carolyn since its beginning in 1987, growing in sales to its present \$900,000 to \$1 million a year," Neisler noted. "Carolyn has instilled a sense of 'control' of sales to curtail over indulgence and especially discouraging sales to minors. Kings Mountain has received not only monetary gains from its ABC System but also, a credibility with the Alcohol Beverage Control Industry under Carolyn's leadership these past 12 years.

"The Kings Mountain ABC Board wishes to thank Carolyn for her unselfish dedication and responsible leadership," he added. "The Kings Mountain Police Department, Kings Mountain School System, Cleveland County and the City of Kings Mountain have profited from her saving money wherever possible."

Sherry Wilson, current shift supervisor, will become the Kings Mountain ABC Store

manager effective April 1. She came to the ABC Store as a part-time associate in 1992 and then full-time in 1994. She will continue running the store under

the direction of the ABC Board. Neisler said the ABC Board is advertising for a part-time bookkeeper and a full-time clerk.

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Students help out in community

Kings Mountain High School FHA/HERO students have been busy in the community lately.

Jennifer Haynes, daughter of Carl and Geanette Haynes, was the guest speaker at Kings Mountain Senior Center on February 16. She chose an informative talk on the way people

can interact with those residing in a nursing home.

Jennifer will be competing in the Illustrated Talk, Senior Division, at the Southwest A FHA/HERO competitive event to be held at Central Piedmont Community College on March 9. For her competitive event, she was to choose a topic related to a purpose of Future

Homemakers of America. She chose the purpose of promoting greater understanding between youth and adults.

On Monday evening, February 8, FHA/HERO hosted desserts for Kings Mountain District School and members of the district office before the February School Board Meeting. Culinary Arts students prepared chocolate pound cake, assorted cookies, and punch. Each person was presented with a chocolate chess pie as they left in appreciation of their support of the FHA/HERO program.

Jennifer Haynes represented FHA and Wendy Moore represented HERO as they served the special guests.

Tracey Bridges, Betty Dover, Jennifer Haynes, Chris Styers, Janneke Vermeulen, Kristy Washington, Katrena Winebarger, and Kristy Worcester represented Kings Mountain High School FHA/HERO at the February Birthday Party February 17, at White Oak Manor. Culinary Arts students baked two sheet cakes, sausage balls, cheese pennies, and prepared a sugar-free punch. Birthday presents were given to the eight residents with February birthdays.

at all elementary schools. At this time parents are to take the child's official birth certificate and social security number. No child can be enrolled without the official birth certificate.

On Orientation Day parents will take their child to school at 8:30 a.m. and remain for an informative session with the principal, which will last approximately one hour. The children will go to classes and enjoy a typical kindergarten day, ending with lunch in the cafeteria as guests of the school system. Parents will pick up their children at 11:30 a.m. Regular kindergarten children will not attend school on this day.

Questions should be directed to Jane C. King, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, at 734-5637.

Kindergarten registration under way in KM Schools

Children who will be five years old on or before October 16, 1999 should register for kindergarten in their respective school districts. If parents do not know which school their child will attend, they should call the Kings Mountain District Office at 734-5637.

Applications for Kindergarten Health Assessment Reports are available at all elementary schools. The application should be completed and returned to the school as soon as possible. The Kindergarten Health Assessment Report is to be completed by the child's physician or the health department and is due on or before September 7, 1999.

Orientation Day for incoming kindergarten children and their parents is scheduled for May 7

GROVER

From 1A

On the issue of Grover's new library, Higginbotham reported that the library steering committee had met with three architectural firms. Higginbotham said that the committee had eliminated one of the companies from consideration and will have chosen the winning bid by the next meeting.

On the question of developer Tommy Keeter's request in December to have Grover provide sewer and water service to his proposed mobile home park, Mayor Rollins deferred the subject to a later date when Keeter could be present and more research done on the subject.

ANTI-ALCOHOL PETITION DRIVE KICKOFF!

WHEN: Tuesday, March 9, 1999
TIME: 7:00PM
WHERE: Kings Mountain Community Center Gym
PURPOSE: Sign Petitions - Distribute Petitions

TIME TO MAKE A STATEMENT

- Against Alcohol Abuse in Kings Mountain
- Against Drug Abuse in Kings Mountain
- Against Gambling Abuse in Kings Mountain

None of the above will help business, Industrial growth or quality of life.

Are you willing to take a few minutes to make a difference?

Citizens for a Better Community

Wholesale Prices To The Public!!

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\$4,650



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\$10,580



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\$3,900



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Community Outreach Center Opens

The Kings Mountain Foursquare Gospel Church, located at 1128 York Road, Kings Mtn., NC has begun opening their facilities to the community. This would include an all purpose area/gymnasium, class rooms, banquet and kitchen facilities, outdoor picnic area with pavilion, under roof barbecue pit and an outside children's play area with equipment.

The Church's purpose is to strive to meet the needs of the community and to build the local church body.

If you are interested in more information about our facilities or wish to reserve them you may contact the church office at 704-739-8496. They would be glad to answer any questions you may have and will be happy to provide you with a copy of the rules and regulations along with the usage fees.

KINGS MOUNTAIN
FOURSQUARE GOSPEL CHURCH

Pastors Bill & Millie Maze
1128 York Road, Highway 161S., Kings Mountain, NC 28086