

Education

- Educator
- Journalist
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I Will Be In Summer School!



KEITH O. HILTON

"If the Lord is willing and the creek don't rise (so the saying goes), I will once again be in summer school.

While some of my college faculty friends and peers will be relaxing during the summer, this administrator will be administering and studying.

While some students also will be using the summer break for vacation or working and saving money for the fall, a high percentage will also be attending summer school.

It continues to be a fact that most high school and college students will attend summer school at least one summer during their scholastic or collegiate careers. And many of these students are exceptionally bright.

As a teenager, I recall going to summer school each summer between the ninth and twelfth grades. A few of those classes were needed to stay on course. A few were college prep focused.

Later as a college undergraduate, I attended summer school at least two summers. While working on my masters degree, I also took classes one summer.

While many students attend summer school to catch up, make up or improve their class performance, more students are using the summer period to get ahead of the game.

On the high school level, students can take courses in a much shorter time span. For some, four weeks of intensive Algebra or a language beats having to sit through months of the course during the semester.

Sometimes the difference in high or average grade can be in the style of a teacher. Personalities are as important as content oftentimes and there is no denying that some instructors just know how to make some classes more exciting.

High school graduating

seniors are also encouraged to take a few freshmen courses at local community colleges with the intention of adding or transferring those credits in the fall.

College students, likewise, are using summer sessions to establish advanced standing at their respective colleges. In fact, many colleges now have special graduation ceremonies during the summer.

A little realized advantage that becomes more pronounced later is the way prospective employers look at how a student utilizes his or her summer periods. Summer school represents activeness and motivation in the opinion of some recruiters.

Finally, some students have correctly discovered that because of the short length of each summer session, it is possible to also work and vacation during the remainder of the summer. I know I plan to.

HILTON: *HIGHER EDUCATION is designed to dialogue with college and world readers. Education is ongoing and certainly not limited to school classrooms. Let's talk. (714) 899-0650.*

School District Set To Auction Off buses and More

The school district will hold a public auction of obsolete property on Saturday, June 2, beginning at 8:00 a.m. at 4212 Eucalyptus Avenue behind the Warehouse Building.

A total of eight school buses have been declared obsolete and surplus to district needs and will be auctioned along with an assortment of other vehicles, student desks and chairs, office furniture, typewriters, projectors, record players, tape recorders, kitchen ranges and refrigerators, shelving, auto shop machines, metal lockers, chalkboards, and even a pile of scrap metal.

Making Progress In American Education: What Is Working

By Congressman Augustus F. Hawkins

In spite of the efforts of this administration and the previous administration, to consistently characterize all of public education as a failure, there is overwhelming evidence to the contrary.

For example, since long before the education reform movement, school districts and local schools have been instituting creative educational improvement efforts. These efforts have been in areas of curriculum development, instructional strategies, improving the way teachers teach, and the way students learn.

There have also been initiatives adopted by local school districts, and by teacher and community organizations to improve the ways in which school personnel and parents organize and work together to localize important decision-making.

With fourteen major national organizations attending, I recently hosted a symposium on Capitol Hill on, "What Is Working In Education." The purpose of the symposium was to bring together educational practitioners, researchers and other participants to talk about education programs that are working at a high quality level for both teachers and students. These education programs are at the classroom level, the local school building level, and at the district level. These programs are located in urban, suburban and rural areas of the United States.

Very briefly, the programs entail:

1. Significantly improved student learning

2. Significantly improved teaching and school administration

3. Restructuring a state's Department of Education

4. Innovations in early childhood education

5. Mainstreaming special education students

6. Integrating "state of the art" technology and teaching

7. Critical thinking in mathematics

8. Career teaching programs for high school students

9. Dual language programs in elementary school

10. Local school building reorganization based on teacher-based research

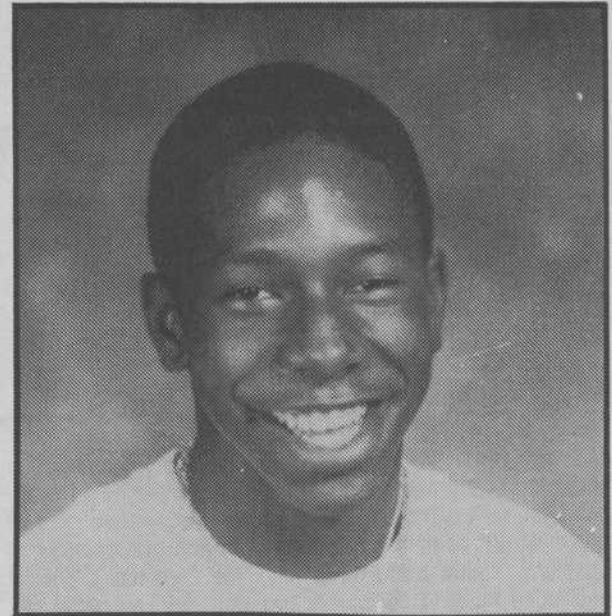
11. An organized cooperative arrangement between urban schools and colleges

12. Keeping students in school, and promoting high school completion

It is important to note that the majority of these programs receive federal funds and have large numbers of poor and minority students. It is equally important that federal, state and local funds invested in these programs are maximized because teachers, school administrators and others have worked long hours and over many weekends, on their own time, to accomplish their objectives.

These programs are working, and working well. The proof is evidenced in improved test scores, high student attendance, fewer disciplinary problems, and a decrease in suspensions and expulsions.

The symposium on successful educational practices was a welcomed antidote to the general gloom about prospects of American



DONDRE S. ANDERSON, a sophomore at Western High School, was selected as a student ambassador to the Soviet Union as part of the People to People program. He is one of 32 students who will stay in Russia for three weeks this summer. Anderson runs track for Western High, enjoys baseball and participates in the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Upward Bound program. He is a disc jockey in his spare time and a member of St. Paul Church of God in Christ. Anderson's itinerary while in the Soviet Union will include meetings, discussions, visits, sight-seeing and attendances at various cultural events in several cities.

education. I am not disputing the fact that there are clear and present dangers in our educational system. However, many have been working to address these problems. The federal government can help invigorate the education of our children

by providing adequate resources so that quality programs, such as those identified in the symposium, can be repeated in areas throughout our nation currently experiencing low student achievement levels.

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