

Phyllis Wacker's Free School RecordsMM.013

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1963-1964



Title Statement

Phyllis Wacker's Free School RecordsMM.013

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

MM.013

Unit ID

/repositories/4/resources/240

Unit Date

1963-1964

Text [1000523467]

01 of 01 (box)

Language

English .

Creator

Wacker, Phyllis

Extent

.5 Linear Feet 1 legal Hollinger box

Repository

Moton Museum

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

Some of the materials are restricted, please note in the objects description if it is specifically restricted. There are no other restrictions on access or use for research purposes.

Biographical / Historical

Dr. Phyllis Wacker moved to Farmville around 1962 with her husband and three children. In 1963, she heard from a friend that the Federal Government along with state and local officials were trying to open a privately funded free school in Prince Edward County to reopen schools in Prince Edward since their closing in 1959. The same friend informed Dr. Wacker that the school would need a licensed guidance counselor to be certified. Dr. Wacker, a licensed guidance counselor, took an interview in August with the Free Schools administrators, Billy Baldwin, the Business Manager and Dr. Neil Sullivan, the Superintendent. She accepted the position immediately and served as the schools Guidance Counselor for the one year of their existence. After serving as the Guidance Counselor for the Free Schools Phyllis would go on to earn a Doctorate and became a professor of Psychology at Longwood University.

Biographical / Historical

The Prince Edward County Free School Association was official announced at a press conference on August 14, 1963. Funded privately the Association was developed to help alleviate the school situation in Prince Edward County. Schools in the County were closed in 1959 when the county school board and supervisors chose not to fund public schools to avoid an integration order from the Supreme Court. While white children in Prince Edward County were able to attend a private school funded by tuition grants, African American children either, left home to attend school in other counties and states, or went without a formal education. The Associations first order of business was to hire Dr. Neil Sullivan as Superintendent of Schools. Dr. Sullivan was an educational innovator and had helped establish nongraded school systems in New England. The nongraded school system allowed students to advance at their own pace rather than being placed in grades simply by age. The Free Schools used this nongraded system as well as team teaching to help aid students who had been deprived an education for so long. In addition, the free schools offered free lunches, clothes and medical care to students all to help combat attention and attendance issues.

Scope and Contents

This collection includes records of the work Phyllis Wacker did as Guidance Counselor of the Free Schools, including reports and data on pupils at the Free School. In addition, the collection includes bulletins and memos sent by Neil Sullivan and James B. Cooley President of the High School, as well as a few others. In addition, the collection includes an introduction to the Free School written by Dr. Sullivan, the schools Statement of philosophy, and handbook for teachers.

Related Materials

In Spring of 2022 Dr. Wacker participated in the Moton Magazine project and shared her story with Longwood University Students, you can find the article in the "A Little Way Down the Road: Stories from Prince Edward County Magazine on pg. 50.

Keywords

Segregation in Education -- Virginia -- Prince Edward County
Prince Edward County (Va.) -- History -- 1962-1969.
Prince Edward County Free School Association (Va.)

Custodial History

This collection of materials was donated by Phyllis Wacker in May of 2022 to the Moton Musuem.

Description of Subordinate Components

Prince Edward Free School Association Statement of Philosophy

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/13801

Text [1000523467] 01 of 01 (box)

Prince Edward County Free School Association Introduction by Neil Sullivan

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/13802

Text [1000523467] 01 of 01 (box)

Prince Edward Free School Association Handbook for Teachers by Principal James Cooley

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/13803

Text [1000523467] 01 of 01 (box)

Free School Bulletins

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/13804

Unit Date September 17, 1963 - March 07, 1964

Text [1000523467] 01 of 01 (box)

Memos and Announcements

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/13805

Unit Date September 17, 1963 - June 12, 1964

Text [1000523467] 01 of 01 (box)

Outline and Notes for Faculty Meeting on Guidance

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/13806

Text [1000523467] 01 of 01 (box)

Survey of Graduating Classes 1953, 1954, 1958, and 1959

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/13807

Text [1000523467] 01 of 01 (box)

Absentee Study*

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/13808

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Conditions Governing Access

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Sam Kendrick Recommendations for Free Schools

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/13809

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Letter from Sam Kendrick

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/13810

Unit Date July 21, 1964

Text [1000523467] 01 of 01 (box)

Report of Dr. K. E. Whitehurt "Guidelines for Selection of Students for Spcial Classes at the Prince Edward County Free Schools"

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/13811

Unit Date 1964-07-21

Text [1000523467] 01 of 01 (box)

Audio Visual Center Memos

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/13812

Unit Date November 25, 1963 - March 26, 1964

Text [1000523467] 01 of 01 (box)

Free Schools Directory

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/13813

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Virginia Retirement Plan for Public Employees

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/13814

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Articles about Free School Students visiting New York and City College

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/13815

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Remarks made by Neil Sullivan at the Virginia State Teachers Association

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/13816

Unit Date November 1, 1963

Text [1000523467] 01 of 01 (box)

Remarks made by Neil Sullivan at the Virginia Federation of Parents and Teachers Convention

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/13817

Unit Date December 7, 1963

Text [1000523467] 01 of 01 (box)

Moton High School Alma Mater (Song and school colors)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/13818

Text [1000523467] 01 of 01 (box)

"The Eagle" Moton High School Yearbook

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/13819

Unit Date 1964

Text [1000523467] 01 of 01 (box)

"The Effects of Age at the Beginning of Reading Instruction on Reading Achievement" by Phyllis Wacker

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/13820

Unit Date August, 1965

Text [1000523467] 01 of 01 (box)