



STUDENT-BUILT HOME is fronted by members of the morning Building Trade class.

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Iowa Park's citizens should be most proud of the various vocations offered to their students. Through the vocational program, the students have an opportunity to become better prepared citizens of our society, whether they are college bound or not.

The purpose of a vocational course is to teach the students knowledge, skill and attitude of

a salable trade. Through knowledge of a trade, the student learns the how and the why but through learning the skill, the student has the opportunity to actually practice with his hands the knowledge he has. Through acquiring attitude, the student learns how to get along with his fellow workers.

The Building Trades class is certainly no exception. In this class, students learn by doing the skills of concrete, carpentry, plumbing, electricity,

bricklaying and cabinetmaking. Building Trades is in its second year at Iowa Park. Last year, being new to the school system, the class undertook small projects such as work on the bus barn for the school, remodeled an old house, built dugouts for the Little League, paneled the walls for the Chamber of Commerce office, built a marquee for the high school, and helped work on the new vocational building.

This year, however, instead of small jobs, the class has undertaken one big challenge, that of building a 2158 sq. ft. house plus a double garage for Mrs. Frank Mahler and needless to say, the learning experiences have multiplied as well as the interest of the boys.

Safety is the first major unit taught in Building Trades. Due to its great importance, the first three weeks are dedicated to it. Before a student is allowed to use any of the power tools, he must know all the safety factors concerning that particular power tool. At the completion of the safety unit, each student is given a written safety assignment on each tool, and must make an A on this assignment to use any of these tools.

This assignment, with the grade, is then sent home to show the parents that their child has been taught the safety features of the tools and his knowledge of same. The parents then sign the assignment sheet giving their permission for their son

to use the power tools. It is then returned to school to be kept on file. Power tools in the shop include a radial arm saw, circular table saws, circular power hand saws, drill press, power hand drill, shaper, jointer, router, saber saw and a brick and masonry saw.

During classroom work, the student studies the various aspects of the Building Trade. Each student must keep a notebook on every lesson which will become his own personal reference book at the completion of the course. The first two months of the course is, due to necessity, mostly classroom work. After starting on the house, only bad days are spent in the classroom because when the weather is suitable, the boys are out working on the house.

The school has furnished the class a school bus for transportation to and from the job. The boys took out the seats leaving only enough to properly haul the boys in the front. The back of the bus is used to haul necessary tools and equipment for the job.

In this year's class, there are 27 members in one of two three hour classes. Each class elects its own officers to carry out the business of the class before the days lessons or assignments are begun. To work on the job, the class members are divided into eight work crews, each having 3 or 4 members. Each crew rotates foreman each week - the foreman having the responsibility of his crew to

Building trade class popular among students

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second in a series of articles on vocation courses offered in Iowa Park schools. The articles are written by the instructors themselves.)



SHEET ROCK for walls going into place.

see that they carry out the work assignment each day.

The morning class has eleven members with three crews. They are:

Gold Crew: Lyndel Berry, James Brookshier, Gary Davis and Wayne Radford;

Orange Crew: David Bottles, Kenny Lyons and Larry Wakefield;

Yellow Crew: Tony Cole, David Durham, Charles Ellzey, and Steve Webb.

The afternoon class consists of 16 members in five crews which are:

Black Crew: Robert Adkins, Donald Durham, Roy Puder and Kenneth Thomas;

Blue Crew: Randy Fulbright and Hollyes Hill;

Green Crew: Ronald Hathaway, Rocky Hogg and Larry Sauls;

Purple Crew: Mike Hodson, James Medlinger, Rodney Stewart and Joe Voyles;

Red Crew: Terry Caldwell, Richard Jagers and Roland Reddell.

Since starting on the house, the students are enthusiastic and anxious to learn. There is little problem in motivating the students as they are self motivated. They can see progress with every step and they take pride in that progress.

The boys have done all the work on the house beginning with the first steps of reading blueprints and using the transit level. Since then they have done such things as lay out and square the footing, pour and finish concrete, build sills and

girts, install sewer plumbing, sweat copper pipe, cut and fit corners and tees, build rough-in window and door openings, install all electrical wiring and circuits (both 120 and 240 volts), install the heating and cooling ducts, exterior and interior trim, cabinet making, bricklaying and countless other jobs too numerous to mention.

To finish the house this year, there are a lot of challenges yet to be met. As the finish work is begun, the student will have the opportunity to prove his skill as an artist, not only to do his best job, to see that every joint fits correctly, but as he builds cabinets, lays brick, etc., to do so with pride. Each boy strives for perfection of the Three H's on the poster hanging in the shop which reads:

"The man who works with his Hands is a laborer.
"The man who works with his Hands and Head is a craftsman.
"The man who works with his Hands, Head and Heart is an artist."

who have consented to give of their time, efforts and knowledge in this department. These are: Royce Echols, manager of the Gary Nees Lumber Company as chairman, Jesse McCullough, building contractor, and Buck Voyles, County Commissioner, Precinct #3. They will meet at least twice a year or when necessary, to review the operations, equipment, etc. of the class and to make recommendations for the future progress of same.

The state office of Vocational Industrial Education have just recently required that each of the vocational classes have an advisory committee of business men to serve in an advisory capacity to help strengthen the vocational course. Serving on this committee for the Building Trades course are three successful local business men



COPPER TUBING for plumbing nearing completion.



MASONRY WORK includes fireplace.

Pupils learning saleable trade; productive labor is honorable

MAN, WHERE'S YOUR HEAD AT?

this is the stuff
that funerals
are made of!

So, you've been rappin' with
the guys on the corner. And
it's all just a lotta scare talk.

Drugs? You can take 'em
or leave 'em. Okay, man. Don't
get scared, but do get the facts.

The people at the morgue record very
complete, cold, clear numbers. If
you don't think about you, who will?

After all, it's your funeral.



IOWA PARK
LEADER



