School Improvement Council

This year the School Improvement Council handled many important issues. Among these were the changing of course titles and the graduation ceremony.

Over the years, courses were stated as being advanced, college preparatory, general, or practical. Yet a few years ago, the advanced placement program was introduced. This course provided students with the opportunity to receive college credit. Because the advanced placement course title was being confused with the advanced course title, the School Improvement Council voted on changing the name of the advanced course program to the honors program. Council member and assistant principal Debra Moody stated that "changing the course title would help to lessen the confusion between the advanced placement course and the advanced course."

One of the biggest problems that the school Improvement Council had to face this year was the graduation ceremony. Some seniors wanted to change from having the ceremony held in the gym, where it had been held for the past years, to having it held at the football stadium. The reason for this change was that the seniors felt that there would be more room provided for parents and relatives at the stadium than there would be a the gym. Also, the seniors felt

Changing Ideas Through School

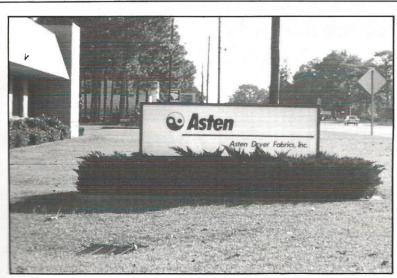


that more tickets could be available to graduating seniors to give to their relatives if the ceremony was held at the stadium. After debating on this issue, the School Improvement Council decided that it would still be better to have the graduation ceremony held at the gym because it would be difficult to predict what the weather conditions would be like on graduation night. The council felt that it would be easier on the teachers who participated in the ceremony because it would be easier to control the number of people in the gym than it would be at the stadium.

The School Improvement Council gives the students, parents, and school faculty members the opportunity to discuss important topics that affect the school's function in the community. Mrs. Moody remarked that "the School Improvement Council is an information giving and gathering organization that gives students and parents the opportunity to get involved in school activities."

By Jon Lohr

Mrs. Joan O'Briant, Spanish teacher and School Improvement Council member, helps her students with a piñata. Mrs. O'Briant's concern for her students led her to become an active member of SIC.



Asten Dryer Fabrics Post Office Box 5000 Walterboro, SC 29488 (803) 549-6333