

PROSPECTIVE DRIVERS EDUCATION STUDENTS

Parents and Students:

It is hard to believe that the first semester of school is completed. The end of the school year will be here before we know it. It is now time to start planning for the Drivers Education Program. The summer course of Drivers Education will once again be offered to all students who are of appropriate age. Individuals are eligible for driver's education instruction when they are of 14 years of age. We recommend that your child not be enrolled until such a time that he or she, will have reached the legal licensing age by the time of course completion. One must remember that it is a privilege to drive a vehicle and it must be earned. Not all young people are ready physically or emotionally. Others may lack sufficient maturity. These students should delay the Drivers Education Program to a later date.

Drivers Education, including both the classroom and behind the wheel driving instruction, will be offered at Wyndmere High School. The drivers education program will provide our youth with an opportunity to learn how to use a motor vehicle wisely and safely. The classroom instruction will begin on May 27th –May 30th. See the attached registration sheet for fees.

All students must have driving permits before behind the wheel instruction can take place. No person may legally drive any vehicle upon public highways or streets, without a valid permit or license. It is a misdemeanor for the owner of any vehicle to authorize, or knowingly permit, such use on any roadway by a person who is not properly licensed. On the attached sheet are ND laws that govern permit and licensing information; as well as primary enforcement laws, regarding safety belt and child restraints use. **Please read them carefully.** These laws were passed with the intent, to help ensure the safety of our young drivers.

Students and parents, should keep the following facts in mind.

- North Dakota is unique in allowing 14-year-old teens to obtain a driver's license. Most states require children to wait until they are 16.
- Driving is not a "right." It is a privilege that gives individuals the opportunity to go places and do things they could not do without a license.

Lets all work together to provide your teenager with a sound basis for a lifetime of safe and efficient driving.

Enrollment for the class can take place by picking up a form from the office; downloading it from the Wyndmere School webpage, or by simply calling the High School Office at 439-2287.

If I can be of any further assistance, please feel free to give me a call at the school(439-2287) or e-mail me at michelle.orth@sendit.nodak.edu

Michelle Orth
Classroom Drivers Education Instructor

PERMIT AND LICENSE INFORMATION

The North Dakota legislature passed a minor licensing law for individuals under the age of 18 in 1999.

- Any person **who is at least 14 years old** may apply for an instruction permit. Applicants must pass a vision test and a test of rules of the road and traffic signs. The booklet for studying for this test may be picked up at any local Department of Transportation. Testing will also take place at the same local sites. The nearest sites would be Wahpeton, Lisbon, or you may test at Fargo.
- Students must have a **CERTIFIED copy of their birth certificate** and **social security card** when appearing for the test.
- Instruction permits are **valid for one year and may be renewed**.
- The permittee **must be accompanied by a license driver at least 18 years of age, who has had at least three years of driving experience**. An individual other than the supervising driver and permit holder may not be in the front seat unless the vehicle has only a front seat (like a pickup), in which case the supervising driver must be seated next to the permit holder.
- The instruction permit **must be held for twelve months** prior to attempting the road test for an operator's license. If under the age of 16, a driver education course must also be completed prior to road test. Road tests **must be scheduled** with the testing agency.
- Upon successful completion of the road test, a restricted license will be issued. **Anyone under the age of 16 is restricted to parent or legal guardian's vehicles**; or to vehicles equipped with dual controls. Anyone under the age of 16 cannot carry more passengers than the vehicle manufacturer's suggested passenger capacity.
- The director **shall cancel the permit or license of a minor under 18 of age** who accumulated six or more points on their driving record or commits an alcohol-related offense while operating a motor vehicle. Any person under the age of 21 is presumed under the influence if the BAC is .02% or higher.
- A minor, under 18, whose permit or license has been cancelled in this manner will be considered as never having a permit or license before. An instruction permit will be issued after successful completion of another driver education course and the required six months holding period of the permit.