

Drivers Education at DHS

Getting ready to hit the road

by Malik D. Cooke

Unlike many schools, DeKalb High School offers a Drivers Education class your sophomore year. For most sophomores, they take health for one semester and then drivers Ed for the other semester.

The class is meant to teach unexperienced drivers how to drive in the real world. It also not only teaches driving itself, but it teaches the rules of the road and all of the book work behind driving.

When students take the class, if they pass with an A or B, they do not have to take the driving test at the DMV. But if they pass the class with a C or D, then the student must take the drivers test at the DMV. Since not everyone has time outside of school, it gives some students motivation to really do well in the class.

The class is also not just limited to sophomores though. There has been cases where upper classmen have transferred and did not have a drivers education class at the school from which they came. Those transfer students have the opportunity to take it at DHS.

For some students who have taken the class and got their license, some have said they were really prepared for real road driving. After talking to senior Zuerek Day, he felt as if the class helped him and that there was stuff said that he would not forget.

“When I was in the class, Mr. Sykes said that everyone will have some type of accident. Not meaning to have a big one and it being really bad, but just an accident in general. And sure enough, I got into one.”

While some students feel that the work gets repetitive, they say it is worth it. When asked, her favorite part of the class, Sophomore Uriah Hedgewood states that it is the learning experience.

“I really enjoy being able to drive here since my mom doesn’t let me drive that

much at home. So being able to drive here is really great.”

For driving instructor John Cordes, he has been teaching drivers Ed for 16 years in the summer and 8 year during the school year. Cordes also loves the growth of students from the beginning of the driving experience to the end when students are very confident.

“Going out with students behind the wheel. Seeing how nervous they are when they first start driving and how much they improve throughout the rotation of drives, some improve faster than others. Getting to know students in one on one Behind the Wheel situations.”

Being able to have a drivers Ed class at DHS is a great privilege that not many other schools get, and students at the high school should take advantage of it.



A look at one of the cars students get to drive for the drivers ed class. photo by Malik D. Cooke