

**PARENT/GUARDIAN DRIVER EDUCATION
PERMISSION LETTER**

Dear Parents:

Your son/daughter _____ has requested enrollment in the behind-the-wheel phase of the driver education program. This course consists of 14 hours of a combination of range, or on-road instruction, and a final road skills examination. The course is taught by state certified teachers with an endorsement in driver's education. The driver education vehicles are equipped with dual brakes, restraint systems, extra rearview mirrors and other safety devices. *The School Division provides full support for this instructional program.*

To be eligible for in-car instruction, the student must have a Virginia learner's permit, have completed or be currently enrolled in an approved classroom driver education course, and must have driven a minimum of two hours with parent supervision. *Parental involvement in the instruction of the student is recommended by using the 45-hour Parent/Teen guide. It is recommended that parents drive with their student and complete 10 hours of driving using sessions 1- 7 in the (Parent Guide) before you begin in car instruction."*

Upon successful completion of classroom driver education, in-car instruction, and the road test, students may be issued a *180-day temporary driver's license.*

The 180-day temporary driver's license will become valid on the day the student turns 16 years 3 months, only if he/she has held a learner's permit for at least nine months. This document, accompanied by a valid learner's permit, allows the student to operate a motor vehicle with no adult supervision.

Students driving with a learner's permit are usually covered by their parents' insurance policy (check with your insurance company) but will need additional coverage once they receive their 180-day temporary license. *Virginia State Law requires that a student must be properly insured on the day the 180-day provisional license is issued. Thus, 180-day provisional licenses that are post dated will be given to the parent/guardian only and will not be given to a student.*

It should be emphasized that successful completion of a driver education program does not and should not imply that your child is a safe, accomplished driver. Many skills are practiced during the course; however, *we provide only 7 periods of actual driving instruction.* State law requires that you provide a written log showing that your child has driven *45 hours* of additional supervised behind-the-wheel driving, *fifteen* of which must be after sunset, (conducted before, during, and after program completion). It is recommended that students drive with a parent 10 hours before they can take Range/Road instruction. As the parent, you must make the ultimate decision to determine if your child is ready to handle the responsibility of operating a motor vehicle unchaperoned.

All high schools in Prince William County will charge a \$250.00 fee to each student taking the behind-the-wheel program. *Checks or money orders should be made payable to the school the student attends.*

Please complete the next section and return this information to your child's driver education teacher

I hereby request that my son/daughter _____ be enrolled in a state approved behind-the-wheel program. I understand that completion of this course does not signify that his/her driving skills are proficient enough to operate a motor vehicle without adult supervision.

Signed _____ Date _____
(Parent/Guardian)

I hereby allow the school to issue my child a 180-day temporary license when the student is older than 16 years 3 months and has held a learner's permit for a minimum of 9 months and has successfully completed the Virginia State Driver Education Requirements.

Signed _____ Date _____
(Parent/Guardian)

I hereby do not allow the school to issue my child a 180-day temporary license. I understand that until the school receives written notification from a parent or guardian, this document will be kept in the student's file.

Signed _____ Date _____
(Parent/Guardian)