

Julie Starts School

Orientation For a New Teacher

Atlantic Beach, Fla.

The school bell signaled the start of another year for Atlantic Beach Elementary School yesterday and Julie Nixon Eisenhower slipped into her seat just on time.

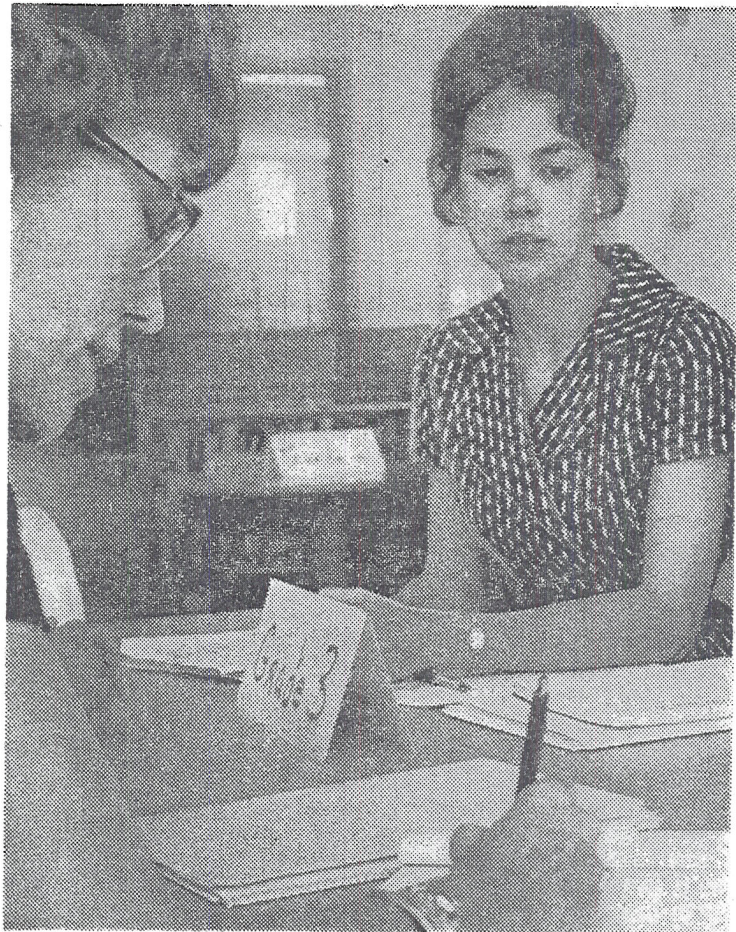
The daughter of President and Mrs. Nixon joined 31 other faculty members of this school in the northeast Florida oceanfront town in starting a two-week planning period. Pupils join them September 7.

"She suddenly popped into the library just as we were getting ready to start the meeting at 8:30," said Principal Ray Bailey. "She was right on time."

Secret Service agents accompanied Mrs. Eisenhower to the school but remained in cars outside the tan, one-story classroom building. Julie earlier said she did not want Secret Service men in the classroom with her.

Mrs. Eisenhower declined to hold a news conference or consider interviews. She did agree to pose for pictures with other third grade teachers as they planned play court area assignments and chose textbooks. Mrs. Eisenhower wore a lavender and white dress with red belt, and white shoes and carried a chartreuse bag.

"It was real cute when we were talking about play areas," another teacher, Margaret Holloway, said. "She asked if teachers shouldn't be dressed in shorts to get out and play with the kids."



UPI Telephoto

Julie Eisenhower discussed her third-grade teaching duties with Tanya Roche at Atlantic Beach elementary school

"She was charming and enthusiastic," said Tanya Roche, a 17-year teaching veteran elected chairman of the five third grade teachers. "I know she is going to make a wonderful teacher."

"She deserved to be let alone," said Rachel Cohen, also a third grade teacher. "I'm real uptight because a small group expressed disapproval of her teaching assignment and got the headlines."

There were cries of special treatment when it was announced early in the summer that the President's daughter

would teach in Atlantic Beach, three and one half blocks from the apartment she and her husband, Ensign David Eisenhower, rented while he is stationed at Mayport Naval Station.

The Duval Teachers Association said it had complaints from more than 70 members, some of whom had to drive many miles daily between home and school.

That's only a small percentage of the 5000 classroom teachers in the Jacksonville school system, Mrs. Cohen said.

Associated Press