

On October 19, 1974, I visited certain Boston Public High Schools relative to a possible clean-up of the Neponset River. During my visits, the theme of school disturbances was constantly brought up in conversation and certain possible solutions were mentioned. I am taking the time to write down the most frequently mentioned suggestions in the hopes that someone might reach them and that the situation might be eased.

Expulsion - The faculty and administrators at both Hyde Park High and Roslindale High agree that:

1. Out of a school population averaging 1,500 pupils there are 25-35 malcontents and disruptions of both races at each school.
2. The only answer to the problem is the expulsion of the few for the benefit of the many.
3. The power to expel must be vested in the individual Headmaster - not, as in the present, in the hands of the School Committee.

Satellite Learning Center - Federal monies should be made available to open satellite learning centers to house disruptive students once they are removed from the normal school situation. The reasons for the centers are as follows:

1. If alternate housing and education is not found for disruptives there will be an outcry that they are being deprived of an education.
2. The expelled students will hang around outside their former school causing trouble from ~~with~~ outside the school.
3. Many student when placed, even temporarily, in alternate learning areas will be able to adjust to the process of education.

School Psychologists - There is a general feeling among the more sensitive educators that many student who come from a racially isolated housing and educational background are having difficulty adjusting psychologically to an integrated school environment. There is much sentiment to having these psychologists funded by mental health monies rather than school funds so that the School Committee could not interfere with the definition of a psychologist.

Transportation - It is generally felt that where possible (availability ^{subject to the} of existing public transportation lines) students should be issued passes to the T.

Federal monies should be made available to reimburse the T. This would:

1. lower the visibility of the busing effort
2. give flexibility on arrivals and departures ^{so} in that students could engage in extra curricular activities.
3. This idea is restricted to years 9-12

Extra Curricular Activity - It is universally felt that a massive infusion of money is necessary in order to restore student pride and interest in the individual schools. There is not one school band in the City of Boston. Drama, debating, oratory, etc. are almost non-existent with the possible exception of the Latin Schools. Girls athletics on all levels and boys athletics on most levels are woefully underfunded. The litany is too long to continue so suffice it to say that most of the enjoyable school functions are either non-existent, dead, or dying in Boston. If we are to achieve success in education, we must make the school a social and recreational center as well as a learning center. Federal monies are badly needed.....NOW!!!

Identification ~~System~~ - It is considered to be absolutely vital that a system of identifying properly registered student be implemented as soon as possible. This should be checked for both legality and funding.

Paul F. T. D. D.

List of Persons for Meeting

Donald Burgess - Headmaster - Roslindale High School

John Best - Headmaster - Hyde Park High School

Warren Toland - Headmaster - Dorchester High School

Charles Ray - Assistant Headmaster - South Boston High School

Michael Donato - Guidance Counsellor, Coach - Roslindale High School

Joseph Collin - Guidance Counsellor, Coach - Roslindale High School

Stanley Swartz - Guidance Counsellor, Coach - Dorchester High School