

An essay by

When I heard that I might be bused to another school with a lot of blacks in it, I didn't want to go. I never spent a whole year with blacks before. Once I went to school with blacks for about three months. I knew that some blacks were mean and I didn't want to get hit or anything like that. I thought that there wouldn't be anybody that I knew there. When my mother said that the Holmes School was old, I said that I didn't want to go to another old, broken down school.

When I heard that I was going to an integrated school, I didn't know what it meant. Then I found out that it meant blacks and whites going to the same school, right away, I didn't want to go. I had always gone to an all white school before except once. That school after a while, wasn't bad, but I didn't want to go to another school just like it.

When I came into my classroom I looked around and I saw a few people I knew. My first day at school I didn't really talk to anybody. I didn't think anyone would talk to me and I didn't think I would talk either. My first friendship came when I was seated in the back row of the class. He was sitting in front of me. I think I was working when he started talking to me. [REDACTED] was my first friend, until I started talking to another boy named [REDACTED]. Surprisingly enough, both of them were blacks, but as it turned out they were both good friends. I don't like being bused, but since I made a couple of friends, and I would have to come here anyway, I don't complain. All I knew was that my brother was taking a language and I didn't think that I was going to take one. But the first day in school the spanish teacher came. So when I came home I asked my mother if I was taking a language and she said "yes". So everyday was normal until we had the Christmas Party. It was the most exciting part of this whole year. It started with a couple of movies, and then before and after lunch we had tonic, potato chips, pop corn, and a few other things. You got to talk, run around and play a lot of games. I also took the Latin Test in December or January, but I don't know if I made it or not because Judge Garrity had to make a decision on whether or not there would be a seventh grade in the Latin School. Our school got the scores in February, but they couldn't tell us until they got the decision from Judge Garrity. Well on May 10 at 6:00 Judge W. Arthur Garrity made his decision to have a seventh grade in the Latin School. So in a couple of days I should know, if I made it or not.

In March we started going to Franklin Park Zoo for 12 weeks, but really, I think we'll be going to Franklin Park Zoo for 11 weeks and to the Stoneham Zoo once. While my class has been going to the zoo, I've been learning a lot about animals, like their habitats, food, and a lot more. The zoo trips started in March and I think they will end the second week of June. On April 6 our cluster went to Hale Reservation for a day. I had a good time. I went to a bear today, but I couldn't go in to sample dirt, and went in the woods, and also saw a lot of rocks that the Indians chipped at to make arrowheads. On May 20th our class and an 8th grade class are going to go to the Prudential Center in Boston. We're going to have lunch there and be able to go on the skywalk. I've been on it before and you can see a lot of Boston. I'm really looking forward to this trip.

I'm expecting to be going to the Latin School or a catholic school. But I hope I don't have to come back to the Holmes School again. I want to go to the Latin School because I think I got a good or pretty good score, and its a good school. I think I'll be going to a catholic school, because I think I'm going to take a test to see if I can get in. But if I get in both the Latin School and the catholic school, I'll go to Latin. I don't want to go to the Holmes School again because I don't really like it at all. I don't like it because it looks cruddy and I think that the Latin School has a better inside than the Holmes.