

An essay by

I didn't think busing was very fair. I think everybody should be able to go to whatever school they want to. The busing is too much trouble and money. Why do they have busing? They should have left everything alone.

I thought integration would be terrible because all the whites and blacks would always be fighting. And all the teachers would always be breaking up fights and I wouldn't learn anything and I'd get hurt in a fight or riot. I was scared because I thought I wouldn't know anyone in the room.

This September was mixed up. Everyone taking a bus and nobody knew where they were supposed to go. I hardly knew anyone. In a couple of weeks I knew some of the kids, and the school and the teachers. Everyday I have to take a bus and it's sort of fun. In December we had a Christmas party, it was fun, we watched movies then we listened to music. Some of the kids were dancing. The whole day was fun. Then came February vacation. I had lots of fun in the snow, sledding and ice skating. After vacation we went roller skating, it was fun holding hands and going around around the rink. It was fun until a girl broke her arm but we still had lots of fun. Then we went to Hale Reservation in April. We split up into groups, observed animals and how they lived. In March we started to go on zoo trips. Some of them were fun, some of them were boring. Pretty soon we are going to the Prudential. I think it will be fun. Some parts of this year were fun, but some things weren't. Most of the trips were real fun. But I think some were real boring.

Next year I'm looking forward to going to Girls' Latin. But I'm not certain if I passed the test or not. I hope that whatever school I go to I'll make new friends. I think next year will be better because some of the kids will be used to an integrated school. I'm really looking forward to being in a nice school with nice kids and teachers.

I never thought about being bused because I had heard that I was going to the O.W. Holmes or to the Trotter School. If I were to be bused, I might not know what to do. I would be scared. I would not know where to go or what to do, or what neighborhood I would be in. I would not know anything.

Integration is a good and a bad thing. It is good because the blacks and the whites can get to know each other and their ways. It is bad because they think they can't get along.

This year was the best year of my life. I met lots of new friends both black and white. In December we had a Christmas party for the whole cluster. We put all the desks in the hallway to have more room. Then we put our money together to buy tonic, potato chips, and popcorn. It was lots of fun eating and watching movies. I really had fun roller skating. We brought things to eat and there were games to play while we were there.

In April we went to the Hale Reservation. We found a real bird's nest and we also saw some baby birds. We climbed rocks and had a fun time. Then a couple of weeks later we saw some more movies and ate leftover popcorn from my birthday party. On May 20th we are going to the Prudential Center, free!! On May 21st we won't have much work to do and then on the 23rd we're going roller skating again. That's going to be a fun week.

I'm looking forward to be going into the 7th grade next year. I'm looking forward to being either at the Latin School or here. It really doesn't matter to me. I do want to be in an integrated school again. I had the best time of my life this year, but the way things are going now, nobody really knows where they're going next year.