

To the Board of Trustees for Clark County School District  
10 September 2009

Equity comes from integrity ... not a plan or policy and definitely not something with a title like "Quality Urban Education for Students and Teachers"! This may or may not be a good program (same goes for all the other "new" programs, etc. begin proposed to be passed this evening). The problem is the language being used and the superficial approach this Administration and this Board of Trustees is taking to deal with a real problem. Just the language smacks of placation and looks a whole like a little pinky finger in the hole in the Hoover Dam.

We don't need a new plan -- we need equity and integrity in our School District Administration and Board of Trustees!

This Board cannot eliminate the inequity sourced in institutional racism from the classrooms and the schools of Clark County with the old, outdated model of dealing with problems it is currently following.

There must be a renaissance of ethics and change in leadership in alignment with the Vision of this Board at the District's highest levels in order to eliminate institutional racism in the hearts and minds of the Administration of Clark County School District. This Board of Trustee, thus far, seems to be lacking in the fearlessness in leadership required to make these changes.

Our daughter was expelled from Jo Mackey Academy of Leadership and Global Communication. Our daughter was expelled because her parents would not allow Site Administrator Kemala Washington, Academic Manager Kelly Bucharie, Associate Superintendent Karlene McCormick-Lee, Chief of Staff Craig Kadlub and Superintendent Walt Rulfes to bully us into allowing Clark County School District to teach our daughter how to have a racist mind.

The curriculum of Jo Mackey Academy of Leadership and Global Communication is required to teach the children about life skills such as truthfulness, integrity, personal best, courage, perseverance, etc. When the Administration of Jo Mackey expelled our daughter because we REFUSED to require that she endure the daily inequity of truth during the recitation of the school's pledge, "At Jo Mackey Academy, "The Dream" is Alive," Mrs. Washington's actions revealed the truth of Dr. King's words in a darker context.

Revealing that indeed, it is truly the content of your character and not the color of your skin that reflects the truth of a person's moral and ethical compass that will ruthlessly reveal the hate and racism that lies deep within the heart and mind. I am here today for one reason -- I know Dr. King's precious Dream to be true, my husband knows it, my daughter knows it, most of the teachers at Jo Mackey Academy know it, and almost all of her classmates know it. It is the Site Administrator and the chain of Administrative command that will not allow them to

live it -- that will not allow the Vision of Clark County School District to be fulfilled.

As some of you know, when we filed Public Concern Form No. 92 in May of 2007, we asked Clark County School District's Administration to RESOLVE our Public Concern relating to the racial profiling and policies of Jo Mackey Academy of Leadership and Global Communication and this District. And, as you same people know, the response we received on paper was a joke and the retaliation against our daughter, a third grader, for our persistent dedication to resolving this issue of race in her educational environment is evil incarnate.

What if this Administration of this School District paid due attention to the simple but deep public concern raised in good faith by its parents? Clark County School District could have been a leader in our nation as the issues of race have resurfaced so clearly and deeply in our current times. Instead, you are back here scrambling to find a knee-jerk reaction to spend our money that we certainly could use elsewhere, to hire some alleged "expert" to do what? To change the hearts and minds of people or to implement some new policy or procedure so it doesn't look like what it is -- more of the same. That "what if" reflection is offered to reveal the kind of leadership potential that is seeded here in Clark County School District.

If this Board thinks this Administration can handle the current upswell of public concern and discontent it now faces with what appears to be the same tenor, competence, and concern for real resolution of these deep issues and problems we've experienced, this Board is foolish and irresponsible to the parents, teachers and tax payers of Clark County.

Thank you for listening and for your continued service to our community.

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