



**21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY SCHOOLS**

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**BALTIMORE**

Fort Worthington 1963 Time Capsule Presentation | May 23, 2016 | Berea Community Association Meeting  
Facilitated by: Karen Summerville, Communications Coordinator, CSP













A LETTER TO OURSELVES  
A MESSAGE FROM THE NEGRO COMMUNITY

Negro Section Asks Equal Treatment



BALTIMORE, MONTGOMERY, JUNE 21, 1964



Red Tape Stalls Overcrowded School

Expansion Delayed



REPORT

When Baltimore City Schools opened early in September, 1963 the situation was in evidence. The first problem in the housing of children was slightly overcrowded schools in school with marked classrooms. The other problem for this case was to provide an equal quality of education to all children. The second problem occurred when the income level of the children was handed down a decision stating that proper resolution and 1963 should be made place to adjust our own programs so as to comply with this interpretation of organic law.

The School-Community Relations Committee in an effort to assess reaction to both of these practices, canvassed all principals in the Baltimore City Public Schools and is now reporting the results of this study.

1. The permanent members in all matters of housing should be the representatives of the people.
2. See that community relations will be facilitated by principals and through principals who are to be involved in the housing of children and notified will to advance of the opening of schools.
3. Better liaison and rapport between principals and "neighborhood" schools will be achieved if the sending principals and the receiving principals will be involved in the planning process to the housing of children.
4. The number of sending and receiving can be made to function more smoothly if the principals listed in these operations will meet

U.S. News & World Report

# "NEIGHBORHOOD" SCHOOL SYSTEM IN DANGER?

## Story Back of School Boycotts

Now it's white people who are going to court to sue for their civil rights.

Their fight is to save neighborhood schools. The danger they see is spreading from city to city throughout the North—wherever Negroes find schools that are almost all-Negro. It's not the kind of segregation you find in the South.

But Negroes call it illegal—and say that the "neighborhood" school system is to blame.

Under pressure of boycotts, some cities already are busing children to schools outside their home areas to get a "better racial balance."

But white resistance is rising—and a legal battle is heading toward the U. S. Supreme Court.

Americans suddenly are waking up to the fact that their traditional system of "neighborhood" schools is in danger.

Negroes are attacking that system in one Northern city after another. The recent rash of school boycotts in New York, Chicago, Boston and other cities is part of that attack.

As the Negro attack spreads across the North, white resistance is rising. White parents are organizing. Legal suits are being filed to stop school boards from yielding to Negro demands. What Negroes demand is a large

## NEW YORK'S NEWEST INTEGRATION PLAN



"School pairing" is to begin next September. It works this way: A school with one



*Building  
Progress  
Report*

by Addy

&  
Snappy



This is a photo of the  
Contractors Club or Offices

Directly in front of our present building, ground is dug into an excavating begins.

## SCHOOLS' CUT PART-TIMERS

Brain Says Most Classes  
Will End By November

By ADAM CLYMER

Most part-time classes will be eliminated by November 1, Dr. George B. Brain, superintendent of schools, said yesterday.

Dr. Brain reported that 80 to 90 per cent of parents agreed eagerly when asked if they would accept transportation to get their children out of part-time classes.

He said the percentage was only a "preliminary report" because school principals had found it difficult to get in touch with many parents during the summer, and said he would not guess how many children would be left on part-time classes.

School officials have announced plans to transport about 4,700 children from overcrowded schools on part-time schedules to classrooms in 41 schools. (Last year only 1,600 children were transported.) They said last week that if all parents accepted bus transportation, they could eliminate part-time classes by using between 70 and 80 new portable classrooms.

### 11,202 On Part Time

Last year 11,202 children were on part-time schedules, getting only four hours of school each day instead of the regular five. Two part-time classes meet in one classroom, one in the morning and one in the afternoon.

Only the heaviest overcrowding will be eliminated.

## School Board Policy

The record of the Baltimore school system on desegregation has been an exemplary one ever since the 1954 Supreme Court ruling. The policy stated soon after that decision was firm and it has been consistently implemented. Moreover, its application has been singularly successful in the avoidance of ugly incidents. The city accepted the change with good will and understanding. There has been a steady development of the basic policy over the course of the past decade. In June the School Board took two new steps to continue the progress that had been made. It announced that this fall boundaries would be removed from the schools that were districted and that requests for transfers from one school to another "for educational or other reasons" would be granted except when overcrowding made the transfer unfeasible.

The board's latest policy statement is in keeping with the wise course which has been followed. The present problems which confront it are two and although they overlap to some extent they are essentially separate. The one is to relieve the pressure on overcrowded schools.

## School Transfers

Opponents of the School Board's new policy of transporting children from overcrowded schools to others with free space are losing sight of an important point. The overriding obligation of school officials is to provide the best possible education for all pupils in the city. Whatever merits there are in the neighborhood school concept—and there are some—they cannot deflect the School Board from fulfilling its primary responsibility. As a result of the new policy almost 5,000 pupils in the city who otherwise would have attended split-shift schools, and received the equivalent of four days' education a week instead of five, will receive the full school experience which is their right.

The debate over the transfer policy has unfortunately got off on the wrong track. Implicit in virtually all of the objections to it is a racial argument. The grossly overcrowded schools are largely inner-city schools, which means their student bodies are overwhelmingly Negro. The newer schools, with spare rooms, are in outlying sections not yet fully developed, whose





**Safety Corner**

Have you seen the boys and girls assisting in traffic patrol spots in the various corners in this vicinity? I'm sure you have noticed the very fifty yellow hooda and coats and raincoats they are wearing. Through the generosity of the Christ Parent-Teacher Association the school was able to purchase 34 coats and hats for our school. How our students will be able to perform their duties in all types of weather. These coats are very durable and we hope to add to this group year by year until our supply becomes adequate.

#### Heer Ye! Heer Ye!

Have you seen the first Building Progress Report by Andy and Shoppy? It is compiled and issued by our physical education instructor, Mr. Rosen. These reports will be issued regularly to keep us informed of the progress of the construction of our new school building.

#### Timely Film Reviewed

The boys and girls in Mrs. Ashby's first grade in Room 16 reviewed a film called, "The Snows of In the Snow." In the film they saw that (1) snowflakes are tiny bits of frozen water vapor, (2) snow comes from clouds, and (3) each snowflake has six points.

As a follow-up and during the early morning blizzard of January 13th the class had a delightful time experimenting on making paper snowflakes and trying to make each design have six points.

#### First Graders Give Performances and Party

In Mrs. B-cote's first grade class in Room 13 the Christmas season was reflected in poetry, songs and plays. During these

## School Tribune

SIXTH GRADERS VISIT JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL #90

**Glee Club Performs**  
The Port Washington Glee Club, directed by Mrs. Lewis, gave a concert on Wednesday, April 15, 1964 at the Bear School.

**The Glee Club is**  
planning to present a Spring Concert for parents of School #90.

**Assembly Highlights Program**  
For Seventh Grade  
By Maria Lindsey

The sixth grade pupils of School #85 visited School #90 on March 18, 1964 to be shown a program of what to expect in Junior High Schools.

When the sixth graders arrived at the Clifton Park High School, students from that school directed them to the auditorium.

After opening remarks five children, dressed as bookworms, told the audience what the pupils in a Junior High school program learn in their classes.

A square dance was presented by a group of seventh grade girls. Several girls from the home economics class modeled outfits they had made. Boys from the physical education program performed several stunts. These were only a few of the activities presented by the pupils of the Clifton Park Junior High School.

Closing remarks and an invitation to attend School #90 were given by the principal.

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# FOCUS ON CHANGE

An illustrated summary of Focus on Change—Guide to Better  
Schools, a report of the Commission on the Experimental  
Study of the Utilization of the Staff in the Secondary School.

The commission was appointed  
by the National Association of  
Secondary-School Principals (a  
department of the National  
Education Association) and has  
been supported by the Fund for  
the Advancement of Education  
and the Ford Foundation.



My Adventure as President of the Parents and  
Teachers Association of Fort Worthington Elementary  
School No. 85# June 1963 to June 1964

I would first like to express my deepest  
sense of gratitude to <sup>the</sup> parents and teachers  
you and children for affording  
an exciting experience.  
Mr. Harold



## Fort Worthington School

Population	2,140
Built For	<u>2,140</u> 624
Overage	1,516



## Fort Worthington School sees another crowded year

Fort Worthington Elementary School No. 85, Lakewood Ave., and Oliver St., is the most overcrowded school in Baltimore with 2140 pupils jammed into 26 classrooms and eight additional portable units, and it's likely to remain so at least for another year.

Originally built to house 624 pupils, the school now has some 1,500 in excess of that number. The portable units

Morse Elementary No. 99."

**BOTH TEACHERS** and pupils assist in the school-wide safety program so necessary in an overcrowded condition.

Within the building, organized safety council six grade pupils and teachers direct pupil traffic through the school; an intercom system connects the main building with the portables; an automatic fire alarm system runs throughout the main building and portables, and

the ground clear of disturbances.

Finally, the school gets extreme co-operation from parents in the neighborhood who alert office to community needs and safety measures.

...

**AN ADDITIONAL** measure of transporting children to No. 209, 1101 Winston Ave., was tried, but laments Mr. Galperin, "We have so many children involved, it doesn't help very much."





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ON WEEK

6, 1963

...ect to be finished by the  
end of August in time for the  
school year.

Together, the existing facility  
and the one now rising will ac-

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fully. In 19  
conditions  
decided to  
most disap



**SCENE OF PROTEST** — Policeman  
shepherds group of Negro pupils  
to former all-white School No. 236  
at Old Harford Rd. and Christopher

Ave. White parents, many of whom  
objected to the integration move,  
line approach to school.

—News-Post Staff Photo.

YOUR AFRO  
FRIEND



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Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_

**GROWTH AND AGE:**  
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when he be

- Weight: 40 lbs.  
Height: 43 inches

GENERAL A  
Can Your Child:  
Pay att  
and

- The parents did not attempt to take about 90 children from the school, but

**LIST**

Age of Child \_\_\_\_\_ yrs. \_\_\_\_\_ mos.

**YES** \_\_\_\_\_

**NO** \_\_\_\_\_

  

The Baltimore School Board has adopted a policy that:

- Completely eliminates school boundary lines
- Grants children the right to attend any school in the city as long as there is available space in the school to which it applies and his parents are willing to furnish transportation.
- Recognizes that "the right to a free and equal education" is a valid reason for transfer.
- Cities intergroup understanding as an important school objective
- Views the task for the schools as "being not merely to eliminate the educational problems inherent in racial imbalances but more positively to counteract the discriminatory aspects of the practical problems that result from the countless practices of modern urban living."

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WALTER J. SHANDROWSKY  
SENIOR BUILDING INSPECTOR

BUREAU OF BUILDING INSPECTION  
ROOM 10 MUNICIPAL BUILDING

BALTIMORE 2, MD.



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...judiciary  
...the  
...Board of Examiners  
...other municipal  
...from the  
...development; it  
...raised by the  
...gry feelings



NEXT STEPS:

1. Present findings to Berea Neighborhood Community Association **(complete 5/24)**
2. Form Fort Worthington alumni focus group (those who attended during and shortly after the time of construction)
3. Capture stories from Fort Worthington alumni focus group
4. Present findings to current Fort Worthington students
5. Engage former and current Fort Worthington students (together)
6. Secure collection

THANK YOU!