Human relations dept. in Minneapolis schools

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. — A newly formed Department of Intergroup Education has been established by the Minneapolis Public Schools' Board of Education upon recommendation of Supt. John B. Davis Jr.

Heading the department as assistant superintendent is Dr. Robert L. Williams, former science teacher, guidance counselor and assistant director of the department of urban affairs.

The new department, according to Dr. Williams, will help to facilitate the efforts of Minneapolis schools, individuals, groups and community in affecting a climate for better human understanding.

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Presently the department is involved in re-developing a city-wide set of human relations guidelines and is involved in the development of a program on desegregation.

Dr. Williams works with school-community groups in helping to identify their concerns relative to intergroup understandings. Another segment of his duties include representing Minneapolis schools in the state and national level programs relative to desegregation integration.

In an effort to involve the community in the early desegregation efforts, Dr. Williams sent more than 300 questionnaires to community, individuals, agencies and civic-government groups in a search for a viable definition of desegregated integrated schools.

Dr. Williams reports that the department has received to date moderate responses generally of a middle-of-the-road nature.

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A second community packet is being mailed to the community which solicits specific suggestions in terms of community expectations.

Dr. Williams said. "Hopefully the community input will give thrust as well as direction to the administration and the board of education."

"The Minneapolis Public School system is examining its position relative to the proposed Minnesota state regulations on desegregation," according to Dr. Williams.

ROBERT WILLIAMS

These regulations require every school in Minneapolis to have a minimum of six per cent non-white children.

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Dr. Williams is liaison to a Minneapolis Public School — Upper Midwest Regional Laboratory project involving four behavlorally engineered classrooms in the inner-city.

Bethlehem... a town with many pluses

BETHLEHEM, Pa. — From Bethlehem Steel to Bach Choir, from Head Start to Lehigh University, this eastern Pennsylvania community runs the gamut in many ways—ethnically, educationally, culturally.

Situated in the heart of the beautiful Lehigh Valley, Bethlehem has the advantages of leisurely-paced rural/suburban living plus the intellectual stimulation of an in-town college and university.

The metropolitan centers of New York and Philadelphia are within easy reach — less than two hours drive — and an hour in another direction takes the outdoors types to the heard of the Pocono Mountrain resort area with its lakes, golf courses and ski slopes.

Obviously a town with many pluses for its inhabitants; but a teacher spends his working hours in school! What about the school system?

The facts and figures show a school district covering a city, two boroughs, and two townships, with a combined population of 95,000. The 24 elementary, four junior high and two senior high schools house a student population of 17,350. About half of the graduates go on to higher education.

But what's behind the facts and figures?

More than six years ago, news came from England of a revolutionary medium for the teaching of reading. The initial teaching alphabet, invented by Sir James Pitman, was producing astounding results in Britain's first grades.

"Let's see what it can do for us," was the Bethlehem attitude. So, the program was instituted in 15 first grades in the 1963-64 school year. Fifteen more first grades followed the next year. By 1965 it was the accepted medium in all first grades of Bethlehem public schools.

The sharp upgrading of reading ability which followed upon this innovation has necessitated the upward revision of the post-Ita language arts curriculum as the initial group of students moved through the grades.

Bethlehem has become the mecca for educators from all over the country who learn about the program in district-sponsored workshops several times a year.

But flexibility and open-mindedness is not restricted to one area; it is a characteristic of every facet of the curriculum.

Does current research show that today's children have a constantly increasing exposure to modern media, such as films and TV?

mps milwaukee public schools

WHERE THE ACTION IS

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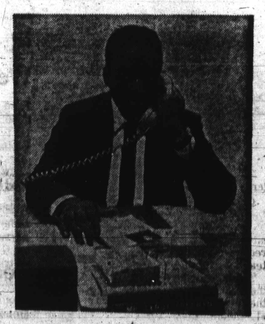

Saul Reeves
Hampton Institute '69
Teacher-AfroAmerican History

LeRoy Freeman
Youngstown University '59
Elementary Vice-Principal

Additional Information and Applications May Be Obtained From: DEPARTMENT OF CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL
MILWAUKEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
P.O. Drawer 10K
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201

Kenosha offers teachers opportunities for growth

KENOSHA, Wis. — Kenosha is ideally located on Lake Michigan approximately midway between Chicago and Milwaukee.

Located in Kenosha are the University of Wisconsin-Parkside, offering a four-year program similar to that of its parent institution in Madison.

Carthage College, a church-affiliated liberal arts school and the two-year Kenosha Area Technical Institute are also located in Kenosha.

Within reasonable commuting distance are the institutions of higher education situated in Chicago and Milwaukee. For example: the University of Chicago, DePaul University, Loyola University, Northwestern University, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and Marquette University.

There are schools of art, business, music, religion, technical studies, vocational education, etc. located in these two large American cities.

The public school system offers all of its 1,100 teachers opportunities for personal and professional growth through its new Teacher Orientation Program, special assistance to beginning teachers in the areas of supervision and the location of suitable housing facilities, a program of optional inservice workshops, service on various committees and in educational organizations and its promotional policy of giving preference to candidates within the district.

A wide variety of educational facilities and programs are provided to meet the individual needs and desires of Kenosha's 22,000 students in kindergarten through senior high school.

Of significance are a Head Start program; team teaching; a learning disabilities center; closed circuit television; the use of aides to supplement the instructional program; student work-experience opportunities; computer mathematics; outstanding building maintenance; enviable class size; "specialists" in elementary school art, music and physical education and programs in the several areas of special education.

Teachers in Kenosha are placed on the salary schedule according to training and experience.

Advance status is allowed for work beyond the bachelor's degree to the mster's degree plus 24 credits.

Also, credit is allowed for prior teaching experience, including three years for active military service, to a maximum of 10 years.

The Board of Education pays the total premium for single or family Blue Cross Blue Shield insurance and a partial premium on a life insurance policy.

Teachers may also earn tenure, obtain illness leave at the rate of 10 days per year and cumulative to 120 days at full salary, are members of the Wisconsin Teachers Retirement Fund as well as Social Security, have the opportunity to participate in a tax-sheltered annuity program, and are eligible for various kinds of leaves of absence.

AN AD TO ATTRACT teachers to the Charleston, W. Va. area is gone over by representatives of the Charleston Business and Professional Men's Club and Kanawha County schools.

Charleston wants best teachers

CHARLESTON, W. Va. — Black teachers want to teach in the best school system that can be found. Good school systems want to recruit qualified blacks. Both statements are perhaps among the top 10 truisms of today's educational dilemma.

But what's a school system to do, advertise?

Field an army of recruiters?

One of the major problems is the legal question of using public funds for advertising. Face to face recruiting isn't getting the teachers for many systems.

The school system asked the education committee of the business and professional men's club for help. Openings for both black teachers and administrators existed in the school system but there was nobody qualified to take the jobs.

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One member, Atty. Bill Lonesome, offered to pay half of the cost of an ad that would attract black teachers to the county school system around Charleston. Lonesome challenged the club to pay the other half.

The Rev. Moses Newsome and Richard Payne, president of the Charleston branch of the NAACP, both members of the business and professional men's club, suggested that Lonesome get in touch with AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers as a media for reaching black teachers.

"I have gone out on a limb to look for black teachers," Lonesome said. "I challenged a business men's club and my friends because I have faith in black teachers.

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"I know teachers will want to contribute to this community. If we can get outsiders to come in and fill these jobs it will help get our local blacks on the ball," he said.

They have employed qualified teachers and we will continue to do so.

"The balance at the time is precarious and will continue to be until we can get more black teachers and administrators," he said.

Henry Hale is president of the Charleston Business and Professional Men's Club; Dr. S. J. Baskerville is secretary-treasurer and David Scott is financial secretary.

You'll stand tall when you teach in Harrisburg, Pa. ...and you'll be helping kids who really need you to do the same.

The pay is good and the fringe benefits second to none, but that's not the chief reason a lot of superb teachers are coming to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. We are attracting the best because we are a progressive urban school district, where the challenge is real but the rewards of self- satisfaction are great. Our student body, faculty, administration and school board are all bi-racial, and we are making it together. Our innovative instructional program is designed to really reach the urban child with relevance and meaning. And with all our urban excitement, we are still small enough not to be impersonal. Come join us and help make young people stand tall.

HARRISBURG, PA.
WHERE THE TEACHING ACTION IS

For complete information write to:
Mr. Jack Taylor, Recruitment Director
Room 33, Harrisburg City Schools
P.O. Box 2645, Harrisburg, Pa. 17105