



AS I SEE IT

by Virginia Brooks Brewster

CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS

It has been such a depressing year. It is very difficult trying to get equality in a system that constantly plays games with you. At the end of the school year, there were two openings for head coaches. One position was at Chapparral and the other at Western. For your information, we do not have a Black Head Basketball-Football Coach in the Clark County School District. It is about time that our young men knew that a head coaching position is not out of their reach.

The following letter is one that was written to the Superintendent in March of this year. Those openings were filled, but not with minorities. I can only bring the matter to your attention.

Dr. Claude G. Perkins, Superintendent
CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
2832 East Flamingo Road
Las Vegas, Nevada 89121

RE: Minority Head Coaches

Dear Dr. Perkins:

If you recall, a few months ago I expressed concern over the fact that there were no minority coaches of varsity basketball and football teams in the Clark County School District. At present there are two head coach basketball positions open, one at Chapparral and the other at Western High School. I don't know if these openings are the result of the current investigation into alleged illegal recruiting activities, but I would suggest that if we have these two openings available that full consideration be given toward eliminating the absence of black, chicano and other minority coaches. I fully endorse having administration make every effort to fill these two current vacancies with minority coaches.

In the past I've been told that there were no qualified minority coaches for these types of positions. I happen to have a few names at my disposal, if indeed none have applied. But, it is my understanding that we have had several qualified minority coaches apply for these positions.

As previously stated, I am appalled at the lack of especially black coaches, since key members of the respective high school teams are comprised of black players. It's my feeling that we have a golden opportunity to correct a tragic wrong and get some minority leaders coaching these teams.

Sincerely,

Virginia Brewster
Mrs. Virginia Brewster, Board Member
cc: All Board Members
News Media

Many of our black young boys and girls attend Western High School. During the history of that school, There has never been a Minority Administrator (Dean, Assistant Principal, or Principal). Therefore, our minority youths do not have an identifiable person to create some kind of incentive. What more can I say. Those of you with youths attending Western High School should think about it. It has been brought to your attention.

Hopefully, our young people will get off to a good start in school. I am certainly Praying to that extent.

"FAMILY CHILD CARE HOME" Could Work

Once again this fall many parents face the problem of finding child care facilities for their children. Westside community residents face two difficult situations. One problem is paying for child care. Child care can take a substantial bite out of the income of the working parent or parents. With the possible closing of the Title XX Day Care Program, some parents will be completely unable to afford licensed child care. The second problem in the community is finding a child care facility. It is this second problem that I will discuss.

There is little doubt that more facilities are needed. Present centers have children on waiting lists. Working parents with a child under the age of two are having the greatest difficulty in finding a place for

their children. There is presently only one licensed infant nursery within the Westside. The solution to this shortage problem may be closer at hand than the building of new centers which may take years.

There are possibilities that have not been fully explored by the community. One of these possibilities is the family child care home. In this type of facility, which can be licensed, a woman can take care of children in her home. This is especially important for infants and toddlers who need cuddling and affection. The family child care home can provide stability for young children. Instead of having many adults supervisors as in a center, the child has one provider and can get consistent care.

Also, the word "family" is important. These homes can have a family like atmosphere. This can be crucial in helping the child with any problem she or he may have. In a family care home, the parents and the care provider can work together for the best interest of the child. There are three family care homes on the Westside. More could be used.

A second possibility which can ease the shortage is a child care co-op.

These are two possibilities that should be discussed. If there are any parents interested in co-ops or any women interested in becoming a family child care provider, call Ruth at 386-4581.

CITIZENS GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE FORMED FOR SCHOOL PARENTS

Jim Dreitzler, a former member of the Clark County School Board of Trustees, has organized a non-profit association to represent the taxpayers and parents of Clark County in school matters. The group, called "Citizens for Education Association", was incorporated this summer, with Dreitzler as president.

He is assisted by four board members who feel the group is needed to protect children from mental abuse and frustration and to protect the parents from being intimidated when they complain to the district.

The first goal of the Association is to establish a grievance procedure of its own at every school, as a step beyond the grievance procedure formulated by the School District.

Dreitzler claims not all schools have had this and that parents weren't aware such a grievance procedure had been designed by the District.

Based upon whatever complaints come to the Association through its own grievance procedures, Dreitzler thinks areas from educational programs, such as management programs, to the purchasing of athletic equipment will be touched upon.

The Association urges parents to use the District's grievance procedures first and then, if not satisfied with the results, to come to the Association for further action. Phone 453-2058

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