

Education

• Educator
• Journalist
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KEITH O. HILTON

Las Vegas: A Spring Call for HILTON: HIGHER EDUCATORS

Let us say from the beginning that we are not so vain as to believe that what is covered in HILTON: HIGHER EDUCATION encompasses the total word in education.

However, we have received enough positive feedback nationwide from newspaper publishers, college presidents, educators, students, parents, athletes, business persons and government officials to know that we are now a lead news source.

We understand, for instance, that the number of schools, industries, service organizations and individuals impacting on multi-cultural communities is staggering. Each one makes the claim of serving a vital segment.

For this reason, we are interested in officially net-

working with those readers and educators willing to be HILTON: HIGHER EDUCATORS, an informal, but fast-growing news source team.

Thus far, a major strength of our column can be found in our willingness to seek input and feedback from readers, critics, scholars and practitioners.

A key step beyond this is to formally continue to seek out those individuals and organizations interested in working closely with us and others with regards to cultural reaffirmation, accuracy, and consistency in news coverage.

The weekly readership of the African American press is well into the millions. It is our belief that there are thousands of positive stories to be

“Twenty-First Century Teacher’s Act”

By Congressman Augustus F. Hawkins

Growing enrollments, pending retirements, and educational reform initiative have given rise to an increasing demand for

written about African academic achievement. Likewise, there are tens of thousands of people who daily receive and distribute information that impacts on our communities.

Specifically, we are looking to build upon our group of resource persons in the following areas: college administrators, college faculty, high school teachers, guidance counselors, pre and elementary school personnel and student’ parents in all categories.

Those individuals outside of higher education, but involved in professional associations, community clubs and civic associations are also especially encouraged to join us.

Those interested in working with us should also be interested in working directly with those in their own immediate communities.

As you have noticed, we present constructive and positive articles, instead of focusing on negative press. This approach is consistent with that of the fundamental philosophy of the U.S. African press.

Send us your name (or persons you are nominating), address, phone number and a paragraph or two (interests, occupation, successes, education, etc.).

Also please enclose two self-addressed envelopes: c/o HILTON: HIGHER EDUCATION, 3139 N. Garey Avenue, Suite 101, Pomona, CA 91767. We will then commence networking and also send you the names of other identified HILTON: HIGHER EDUCATORS in your region.

The results of this nationwide spring effort (through May 31st) will enhance our services, the African American press, and our communities impacted by the powerful institution of education. Please share this information with others through May 31st.

teachers in the nation’s public schools. The supply of teachers, on the other hand, has been declining. It is anticipated that in 1992 the supply of newly graduated teachers will fill only two-thirds of the positions available. Inner city and rural school districts will have to contend with the effects of growing competition for teachers.

In response to this development, I have introduced the Twenty-First Century Teachers Act. The legislation focuses on the development of human resources as the most important ingredient of school reform. Briefly the legislation would provide funds to:

*assist individuals who want to commit themselves to teaching careers;

*institutions of higher education which will provide successful recruitment and retention programs for students preparing to enter the teaching profession; and

*local education agencies, together with institutions of higher education and other eligible entities, so that they may develop successful programs which reflect the best practices in school reform

In addition, the legislation provides the support necessary so that excellent teachers at various levels from across the country will be nationally recognized and honored.

In 1987, the American Association of Colleges of Teacher Education reported that demographic data projected a future in which minorities would constitute a third of the pre-school-age population and nearly a third of the elementary and secondary school age population while, at the same time, the percentage of minority teachers was threatening to fall below 10 percent.

The Twenty-First Century Teachers Act is a focused approach to helping restructure and reform our nation’s schools. The teachers of this country are the ones who are on the front lines, preparing our youth for the challenges of the future. Therefore we must direct added resources toward promoting the teaching profession.

SCOPE BROADENS IN BLACK EDUCATORS LAWSUIT

Two leading attorneys involved in litigating the school desegregation/discrimination lawsuit against the Clark County School District were in Las Vegas recently to map out strategy and to meet with plaintiffs in the case.

The racial bias lawsuit, brought on by members of the local black educators against the Clark County School District, took on a whole new dimension when it was approved to be amended recently by Federal Judge Lloyd George. This recent action broadens the scope of the lawsuit tremendously according to Tom Atkins, chief legal counsel for the team of lawyers who are representing the plaintiffs.

“This latest amendment to the suit opens up the entire school district for close scrutiny in terms of its treatment of black students, staff and parents dating back twenty years or more into past history,” Atkins said.

The suit was originally filed in June of 1989 on behalf of the Las Vegas Alliance of Black School Educators (LVABSE) in response to a recent administrative reorganization which reduced the rank of several of the district’s top black administrators. The suit later was expanded to include other areas of concern when LVABSE joined eight black parents and 13 black students, charging the school district with systematic racial discrimination and segregation.

Specifically, the revised complaint charges the school board and superintendent with: manipulating school attendance zones and feeder patterns to make student enrollments racially segregated; choosing sites for school construction and additions in a manner which increases racial segregation; deliberately utilizing grade structures which create or maintain racial segregation; practicing racial discrimination in hiring, assigning, promoting, and demoting administrators, teachers and school support staff, and failing or refusing to develop or select

classroom textbooks, and other curricula material which accurately reflect the role played by blacks in this country.

Lead attorneys in this action are Thomas I. Atkins of Brooklyn, New York, who formerly was General Counsel of the National NAACP, and Peter Graham Cohn of San Francisco and Petaluma, California, a former member of the NAACP’s National Board of Directors. Both attorneys have extensive prior involvement in federal court school desegregation cases.

School Holds Carnival To Theme “Under the Big Top”

Clyde C. Cox Elementary School, 3855 Timberlake Drive, will hold a school carnival on Saturday, April 21, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the school’s playground.

Decorations will carry through the carnival’s theme, “Under the Big Top”, and will feature clowns, balloons, popcorn, carnival games and food booths.

According to carnival coordinators Jim Mack and Donna Taylor, teachers at Cox, proceeds from the event will be used to buy educational supplies for the school’s students and teachers. The school is currently for kindergarten through fifth-grade students, but next year will change to a kindergarten through third-grade school. Therefore, many additional teaching materials will be needed for the primary grades, Taylor explained.

Numerous prizes will be raffled at the carnival including a trip to Disneyland, a bicycle and free dinners.

**NEED HELP
WITH READING,
WRITING, MATH,
& GED — AGE: 16+**

**CONTACT
A.O.I.P.
647-2117
1-4 P.M.**

**School's
Open**

**DRIVE
CAREFULLY**