

# EDUCATION

## Councilman counsels

Youth Day moderator Phoenix councilman Cody Williams kept the attention of students from some of the Clark County high schools who participated Friday in the West Coast Black Publishers Association's 14th Annual Convention held at Bally's Resort and Casino.



Sentinel-Voice photos by John Broussard



## NY education board railed for poison inaction

By J. Zamgba Browne  
Special to Sentinel-Voice

NEW YORK — Critics continue to raise serious questions about the wisdom of Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and Schools Chancellor Rudy Crew decision to house predominantly Black and Hispanic pupils in a Harlem-based facility heavily laced with cancer-causing chemicals.

The move, made nearly three years ago, resulted in panic at P.S. 141 after the danger was

discovered and disclosed to the media. The Board of Education hurriedly ordered the evacuation of the building and transferred the youngsters to other facilities.

Harlemite Samuel Roberts, a math instructor, said that had this been a white school in Queens, the Board of Education would have made it a top priority to thoroughly test the facility for toxins before daring to open the building.

Roberts said that, in part, "I blame Black

parents. They knew that the d—place used to be a dry cleaning plant, but didn't have the sense enough to ask and demand proof that there had been a test."

Assemblyman Keith Wright said there was no way the Board of Education could not have known that the problem existed. He recalled a town meeting he convened when he found out that the board was renovating the former commercial site to house P.S. 141.

"I made it clear that the site wasn't safe enough," Wright said. He said he also questioned the fact that the board had spent \$4 million in taxpayer's money on a facility that cannot be safely occupied.

"What bothers me most," Wright said, "is that we asked these questions in time enough not to waste such huge sums."

Wright said he also pointed out at that same

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## Monitor Internet use of students

By Teresa Thorne  
Special to Sentinel-Voice

We live in an amazing age in which information can literally be gotten at the tips of our fingers. I'm talking, of course, about the Internet.

Children doing research projects and certain homework assignments can tap into the Internet for the help and information they need. It's a marvelous learning tool.

More and more, schools are hooking into the Internet for students' use in the classroom. That's all well and good.

However, I do have some reservations about all this. For starters, when children are on the 'Net' at home, I believe they need to be monitored.

As you must know by now, there's a lot of garbage out there, such as pornography. There are also perverts in the various chat rooms seducing unsuspecting kids. Parents need to be aware of this. If your child is on the computer typing away, do not assume he is just getting relevant academic information.

You need to check constantly to be sure he's not in some chat room or tapping into pornography.

The same holds true for Internet use in school. How can one teacher in a classroom possibly monitor all the kids' computers?

Is there a way, technically, for this to be controlled with passwords so that the kids can only tap into what they're supposed to be doing? I don't know. I'm not a technical person, but I would hope so.

As one who has access to the Internet, I do find it fascinating. You can read

newspapers and magazines, tap into political goings-on, gather all sorts of information, consult dictionaries and encyclopedias — you name it. However, maybe I'm old-fashioned, but I still find the library a better source for actual hard-core research. (Maybe I just haven't mastered all this stuff yet!)

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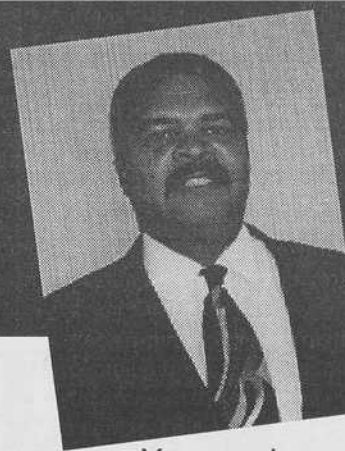
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