



President Jimmy Carter looks on with a smile as Patricia Harris is sworn-in as Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare by Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall in the East Room of the White

House. Harris' husband, William, looks on. The President called Harris' performance as Secretary of Housing and Urban Development "sterling" and said she is a manager "with a heart."

## Women support Jordan

Members of the Portland Area Women's Political Caucus voted unanimously Tuesday night to endorse Commissioner Charles Jordan for Mayor of Portland to replace departing Mayor Neil Goldschmidt, Sue Juba, Caucus president, announced.

After interviewing all members of the Portland City Council on issues of concern to the Caucus, representatives of the Women's Political Caucus reported the results of the interviews to its members. Commissioner Charles Jordan, as a declared candidate, met the Caucus criteria of administrative ability, involvement in and knowledge of the city, commitment to ongoing programs, a supportive attitude toward citizen participation and support for Caucus positions on affirmative action, job sharing, child care, civil service reform and economic development. "Women's Political Caucus felt it important to register its overwhelming support for Commissioner Charles Jordan as the most qualified of the announced candidates."

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Drs. S. Anderson, E. Briggs, R. Hallquist, K. Leitzel, W. Siddens

*The Place to Go is the Name You Know*

## Blanchard responds to recommendations

(Continued from page 2 col. 4)

not indicated that it would create a middle school without community acceptance. He responded to Steve Buel's questions that there is no plan for a middle school at Eliot or Boise and that he has not been directed by the Board to develop one. Members of the Coalition state that they recollect no meetings regarding an Albina middle school.

### Scattering

Dr. Blanchard reported that his new standard assignment plan has reduced scattering of students who are moved from Albina schools. Students are given standard assignments of one or more schools, with several options, and can still be recruited by others schools or be assigned according to "parent choice". The assignment pattern reduces the standard receiving schools from 168 to 45.

New students were assigned in the new pattern, although students already in schools will remain. For the coming year, 370 students on administrative transfer for the first time were assigned to 63 schools. Of these 64 will attend standard assignment, 34 optional assignment, and 86 other schools. Of the 370, 186 will attend middle schools.

According to statistics provided, children are still going alone or with one or two others to many schools. Woodlawn is sending 237 students to 25 schools; 263 Vernon children go to 25 schools; 389 King students go to 43 schools; 192 Irvington students go to 12 schools; 167 Sabin students go to 20 schools; 82 Boise children go to 20 schools; 33 Eliot children go to 12 schools; 211 Humboldt children go to 19 schools.

Buel said he does not consider this performance as responsive to the Board's directive "to reduce substantially" the scattering. Newman said that in some middle school clusters, Columbia/Whitaker for example, in order to maintain racial balance Blacks must be recruited to go elsewhere. Dr. Blanchard said their is also a heavy recruiting effort directed at students in grades one through five.

Other topics discussed included:

### MINORITY TEACHER PLACEMENT

A plan be developed for teacher placement that will enhance desegregation plans; emphasize placing minorities as teachers; not assign single minority teachers to a school; comply with regulation that minority teachers not be concentrated only in minority schools.

### Board Resolution:

Encourage efforts to place minorities in classrooms; directs Superintendent to remain in compliance with federal requirements; endorse Superintendent's willingness to consider alternatives; directs Superintendent to report to Board.

### Blanchard Response:

No action.

### Discussion:

In a legal opinion provided to the Board Monday, attorney Mark McClanahan pointed out that in response to a HEW finding in 1975 that Black teachers were assigned disproportionately to "racially identifiable" schools, the district agreed that "the schools' proportion of minority

group full-time classroom teachers is between 75 per centum and 125 per centum of the proportion of such minority group teachers which exist in the faculty as a whole." He said that it would be difficult to establish the educational justification to change that agreement.

The Coalition's response is to hire a higher percentage of Black teachers and to desegregate the schools so assignment of teachers would not be to "racially identifiable schools."

### MINORITY HIRING

#### Coalition Recommendation:

That the Board set a priority on hiring minority teachers and persons in direct contact with students; that a goal of 20 per cent minority staff be set; that this goal be reached in five years. Establish training program for teachers interested in administrative and for aides to become certified teachers.

#### Board Response:

The Superintendent shall, from time-to-time, establish short term and long term goals to achieve a reasonably balanced staff. The percentage of minority workers in the work force should not be any kind of maximum target for the District.

Give priority to recruitment and hiring of minority professional staff who are in daily contact with students. Assist aides to prepare for certification. Intensify efforts to employ minority social workers and counselors.

#### Blanchard Response:

From February 1, 1979 to April 15, 1979 44 temporary teachers were hired, 10 minorities. For 1979-80 school year, 99 new teachers hired, 26 minorities. Two oriental female psychologists and one Black male social worker hired.

#### Discussion:

McClanahan advised the Board that the legality of a 20 per cent minority goal would be determined by the degree to which the proposed "goal" would be a "preference" and whether it would be considered temporary or permanent.

Dr. Blanchard said in response to Steve Buel's questioning that the district does not now have minority hiring goals.

### MULTI-ETHNIC EDUCATION

#### Coalition Recommendation:

Include teaching of minority cultures with special emphasis on Black culture as a "Major Category" in its basic curriculum incorporated into courses now taught in Social Studies, Language Arts; have an independent survey of the districts' inclusion of minority cultures in current teaching.

#### Board Resolution:

Instruct the Curriculum Department to survey the extent and quality of instruction in minority cultures; instruct principals to encourage teachers to use multi-ethnic themes; provide materials; continue to review textbooks.

#### Blanchard Response:

Prepared curriculum outline that "identifies elements that should be included in the teaching of minority cultures" and which provides criteria for determining extent and quality of instruction in minority cultures. Survey will be conducted during 1979-80 school year. Textbook selection to be given special attention.

### DISCIPLINE

#### Coalition Recommendations:

Adapt a series of categories of discipline extending from two day "class exclusion" to expulsion instead of the current suspension-expulsion; students not be suspended solely to contact parents; assignments be given to suspended students; regular review of practices.

#### Board Resolution:

Request Superintendent to submit recommendations on: categories of disciplinary action; reporting; involvement of parents; regulations regarding homework for suspended students; provisions for bus riders; analysis of types of disciplinary problems and responses. Prepare student handbook written at fifth grade level.

#### Blanchard Response:

Recommendation to adopt Coalition recommendations on discipline categories. "It is also essential, in some occasions when parents simply refuse to work with the schools in connection with a discipline problem, to make parental involvement a condition for early return of a student who has been disruptive." Suspensions should be effective at end of school day.

When students are expelled, "Students and parents are and will continue to be counseled by appropriate staff members on the availability of other school alternatives and opportunities."

### DISCUSSION:

New discipline categories are not included in the rough draft of the new student handbook.

No programs have been developed to deal specifically with the cause of the disproportionate suspension/expulsion of minority students.

### ADVISORY BOARDS

#### Coalition Recommendation:

The Board should closely monitor representatives on advisory boards to avoid having the same person sit on several boards and to insure they meet regulations.

#### Board Resolutions:

Superintendent to report on (1) manner of selection, extent of and reason for duplication; (2) whether to conform to regulations; (3) recommendations to assure appropriate.

#### Blanchard Response:

One member is on Title I, Title VII, and Area Advisory Committee. Another is on Title VII and Area Advisory Committee. District is in full compliance.

### COMMUNICATION

#### Coalition Recommendation:

School Board establish an ongoing relationship with the Coalition to work on implementation of recommendations; provide information to Coalition; obtain relevant information from Coalition.

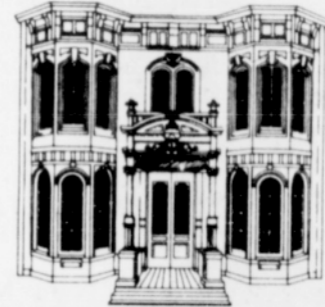
#### Board Resolution:

Board welcomes the advice of citizens, including Coalition. Board asks Chairperson to facilitate communication.

#### Blanchard Response:

District representatives met with Coalition representatives until Coalition terminated meetings. "Advice from citizens and citizen groups has been welcomed and used."

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Regardless, when you call us we will arrange for an initial consultation at your convenience. Cost: \$20. We probably can't solve anything in this meeting, but it is a chance for you to explain your particular problem and for us to give you some idea of what it'll take to reach a solution. If you want us to proceed, we'll give you an estimate of the fees you should plan on. In writing.

