

(letter no 1)

~~John B. Thompson~~

Lexington, Va.,
May 20, 1930.

To the Citizens :

We the petitioners opposing the reappointment of [redacted] as Principal and teacher in the Lyle Downing Public School have the following reasons for our action:

1. Because of the lack of educational ability on her part to meet the requirement.
2. Because she opposes the existence of the High School, which is without doubt beyond her capacity.
3. Because she ^{told} ~~had~~ certain authority that Negro children did not have the intellectual capacity to learn as white children, why they took two years to do the seventh grade and white do it in one year.
4. Because of the unusual number of children failing to pass from the grade to the High School (20 out of 28) apparently to defeat feeding the High School
5. Because her personality is not exemplary as a copy for the school pupils.
6. Because she refuses to visit, cooperate, or show any interest which should become the principal, pupil and parent.

The Colored citizens feel that they have a right to a High School and a competent head. Any colored man or woman who opposes it is either grossly ignorant or a traitor to our people. When an individual gets too small for the job, or the job too large for the individual they should step down for the sake of the peoples interest rather than fight to hang on and choke out the intellectual life of the people.

1- Because she is waging a silent campaign
there for hint to keep her discord in the
entire system, and refusal to cooperate
with the Principal

John B. Thompson, Chairman
E. H. Franklin

We the undersigned parents of children entering the 7th. Grade of the Lylburn Downing School will positively restrain our children from entering the grade under the instruction of the present teacher, [REDACTED].

- 1st. Because of educational ability on her part to cope with the times and requirement.
- 2nd. Because she told certain authority that Negro children did not have the intellectual capacity to learn as white children, why they took two years to do the seventh grade while the whites do the work in one.
- 3rd. Because she is a hinderance to the plans and policies of the principal in the development of an efficient High School.
- 4th. Because the discord evidenced at the school is charged to her account, because she is no longer the principal.

Signed:

F. D. Washington
H. C. Muckent
How Harris.
Mr John Johnson
Sylvester Evans
Verneta Morgan.
May Adanson
John B Thompson
Samuel Morrison

Amanda Alexander.

As the designated parent of a child entering the 7th
grade of the Lincoln Bowling School will positively re-
strain our children from entering the grade under the
instruction of the present teacher, Mrs. A. J. Howland.

- 1st. Because of educational ability on her part to cope with the class and curriculum.
- 2nd. Because she could certainly authorize that negro child- ren did not have the intellectual capacity to learn as white children, why they took two years to do the seventh grade while the whites do the work in one.
- 3rd. Because she is a hindrance to the plans and policies of the principal in the development of an efficient high school.
- 4th. Because the discord evidenced at the school is due to her account, because she is no longer the prin- cipal.

Signed:

Members of the

*W. B. Howland
John Howland
Mrs. J. B. Howland
L. B. Howland
M. B. Howland
J. B. Howland
W. B. Howland
J. B. Howland*