

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
RICHMOND

April 11, 1931

Mrs. H. L. Walker  
Blandome  
Lexington, Virginia

My dear Mrs. Walker:

Replying to your communication of April 8, I wish to say that my visit to Lexington was entirely unexpected at the time I left the Department here. I expected to spend two days in Amherst county but found that the roads were in bad condition and that we could not reach most of the schools for this reason. I spent only one day in Amherst and at the last minute decided to run up to Lexington and look over the school there, although I knew I had only a short time to spend in Lexington. I did not advise you that I would be in Lexington because I did not know myself that I was going, as I have already said.

In addition to what I have already stated I was reasonably sure that I would pay another visit to Lexington sometime in May before the end of the session at a time when I could stay longer and thresh the whole matter out with the board and with you patrons. I was in a hurry to get back the other day because my brother was visiting me and I had seen very little of him. For that reason I was not willing to meet with your committee and was not sure that Mr. Allen could get the committee together in the short time I had to stay in Lexington. If this explanation is not satisfactory I am frank to tell you that I do not care. I am also frank to say that I am very tired of the wrangles that have been in this school in Lexington. We had a hard time getting a school there and there has been nothing but bickering and strife during the whole time that the school has been open. I have told Mr. Waddill and Mr. Irby that if matters can not be adjusted properly during the present session I shall recommend that we select an entirely new faculty for next session, principal and all, and start over again. The school board is absolutely disgusted with things as they are now and I am frank to say that I do not blame them.

I shall not be in the office on any Saturday until Saturday, May 2. If your committee chooses to come down to see me on that day between the hours of nine and twelve I can arrange to meet them. However, it seems to me that it would be better to wait until I can go to Lexington in May in order that we may go over the whole situation with the school board and the people together.

I am

Respectfully yours



Supervisor Negro Education



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
RICHMOND

April 11, 1931

Mrs. H. J. Walker  
Blindon  
Lexington, Virginia

My dear Mrs. Walker:

Replying to your communication of April 5, I wish to say that my visit to Lexington was entirely unexpected at the time I left the Department here. I expected to spend two days in Albemarle county but found that the roads were in bad condition and that I could not reach most of the schools for this reason. I spent only one day in Albemarle and at the last minute decided to run up to Lexington and look over the school there, although I knew I had only a short time to spend in Lexington. I am not certain you that I would be in Lexington because I did not know myself that I was going, as I have already said.

In addition to what I have already stated I wish to say that I would pay another visit to Lexington sometime in the near future. I have been out with the board and wish to see through the whole matter but the other day because my brother was visiting me and I had seen very little of him. For that reason, I am not willing to meet with your committee and see not sure that Mr. Allen could get the committee together in the short time I had to stay in Lexington. If this explanation is satisfactory I am frank to feel that I do not care. I am also frank to say that I am very tired of the changes that have been made in this school in Lexington. We had a hard time getting a school there and there has been nothing but dissatisfied and strife during the whole time that the school has been open. I have told Mr. Walker and Mr. Juby that it matters can not be adjusted properly during the present session. I shall recommend that we select an entirely new faculty for next session and start over again. The school board is especially displeased with change as they are now and I am frank to say that I do not blame them.

I shall not be in the office on my Saturday until Saturday, May 2. If your committee chooses to come down to see me on that day between the hours of nine and twelve I can arrange to meet them. However, it seems to me that it would be better to wait until I can go to Lexington in May in order that we may go over the whole situation with the school board and the people together.

I am

Respectfully yours

Superintendent of Schools

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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
RICHMOND

May 1, 1931

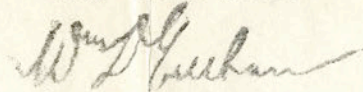
Mrs. H. L. Walker  
"Blandome"  
Lexington, Virginia

My dear Mrs. Walker:

Replying to your letter of April 30,  
I wish to advise that I am planning to go to Lexington  
sometime in May or June and shall be sure to let you know  
the exact date of my visit so that I may have a conference  
with you.

With best wishes, I am

Very truly yours



W. D. Gresham  
Supervisor Negro Education

WDG/LFW

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
RICHMOND

1881

Wm. H. L. Walker  
Richmond  
Virginia

My dear Mrs. Walker:

Replying to your letter of April 26,  
I wish to advise that I am planning to  
be in Richmond in May or June and shall be  
glad to let you know the exact date of my  
visit so that I may have a conference  
with you.

With best wishes, I am

Very truly yours



A. B. Hanson  
Superintendent of Schools

1881



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
RICHMOND

May 5, 1933

Mrs. H. L. Walker  
"Blandome"  
Lexington, Virginia

My dear Mrs. Walker:

I have your letter of April 22 and have looked over the papers which you have sent. I am returning them at your suggestion.

I wish to repeat that the removal of [redacted] from the Lexington school is a matter for the board to consider and the superintendent. If they do not remove her there is nothing that I can do in the matter. I recall sometime ago I suggested to the board that they make a clean sweep of the teachers in this school and start over but they did not see fit to accept my suggestion. You must understand that all the authority that I have is to suggest.

As a matter of fact the superintendent does not have the same opinion of [redacted]'s ability that you and some of the other colored people have. For my part, I do not believe that they would appoint her if they thought she was inefficient. I have sat in her classes a good many times and I am frank to say her work has always seemed satisfactory to me. I want to repeat that if she is to be removed from her present position it will have to be through the superintendent and the members of the school board.

With best wishes, I am

Very truly yours



W. D. Gresham  
Supervisor Negro Education

WDG/LFW



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
RICHMOND

May 5, 1955

Mrs. H. L. Walker  
"Richmond"  
Lexington, Virginia

My dear Mrs. Walker:


I have your letter of April 22 and have looked over the papers which you have sent. I am returning them to you as suggested.

I wish to repeat that the removal of Mrs. Rowland from the Lexington school is a matter for the board to consider and the superintendent. If they do not remove her there is nothing that I can do in the matter. I recall sometime ago I suggested to the board that they make a clean sweep of the teachers in this school and start over but they did not see fit to accept my suggestion. You must understand that all the authority that I have is to suggest.

As a member of the board the superintendent does not have the same opinion of Mrs. Rowland's ability that you and some of the other colored people have. For my part, I do not believe that they would appoint her if they thought she was inefficient. I have met in her classes a good many times and I am frank to say her work has always seemed satisfactory to me. I want to repeat that if she is to be removed from her present position it will have to be through the superintendent and the members of the school board.

With best wishes, I am

Very truly yours



W. B. Preston  
Superintendent of Education

WBP/55