

The Coalition For Education And Economic Justice

P.O. Box 6082 Kansas City, Missouri 64110

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PRESS RELEASE

August 21, 1992

UNDER DR. WALTER MARKS THE KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI SCHOOL DISTRICT'S SALARY POLICIES AND PRACTICES ARE UNFAIR, INEQUITABLE, AND DISCRIMINATORY TOWARD AFRICAN-AMERICANS

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Dr. Walter Marks has brought a plantation mentality to the Kansas City, Missouri School District. He pays his white employees more than he pays their African-American counterparts. For example the Director of Finance, Craig Cook, the white male retired military man, is paid \$77,299.92, which is more than Jim Coleman, The Associate Superintendent of Business and Finance, who is supposed to be his boss. On his staff, he pays Steve Finch, the white male Director of Data Processing \$72,192.00, as opposed to \$65,333.04 each to Juana Hishaw, the African-American Director of Public Information officer and Dr. Stephanie Robinson, the "Negro" Director of Governmental Affairs. The inequities are even more blatant in the Instruction Division, commonly referred to as Art Rainwater's plantation:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Ethnic Group</u>	<u>Directorship</u>	<u>Years with KCMOSD</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Brenda Thompson-Kistner	W/F	Instructional Programs	1	\$71,883.12
Thomas Evans	W/M	Middle Schools Schools Supervised = 12	1	\$71,883.12
Tonnes Staave	W/M	High Schools Schools Supervised = 10	Less than 1	\$71,882.88
* Dr. Ida Love	B/F	Elementary Schools Super-vised = 17	27	\$70,100.00

Janice Cade	B/F	Elementary Schools Super- vised = 18	23	\$69,800.00
* Dr. Felicia Blacher	B/F	Elementary Schools Super- vised = 18	1	\$65,332.80
Michael Charles	B/M	Instructional Training	23	\$60,267.12
Ike Gardner	B/M	Pupil Services	33	\$60,266.88

* It should be noted that the salaries shown include the annual \$600.00 stipends paid to Ms. Blacher and Ms. Love for their doctorates. Even with those stipends they earn less than their white colleagues who have less educational qualifications.

A Superintendent who places a higher premium on whites than he does African-Americans should not be allowed to lead a school district with a student population that is 70% Black. Any Superintendent who believes that the bigoted private and suburban school reject, Art Rainwater, should have any role in the education of African-American youth is not qualified to direct our education system! **CHANGES MUST BE MADE!**

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