

COALITION FOR EDUCATIONAL AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

- **LARGE NUMBER OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN CHILDREN SENT BACK HOME**
- **300 AFRICAN-AMERICAN KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS WAREHOUSED AT ATTUCKS ANNEX FAIL TO RECEIVE ADEQUATE TRANSPORTATION**
- **WALTER MARKS AND ART RAINWATER MAKE EXCUSES FOR MISTREATMENT OF AFRICAN-AMERICANS**

The community **must not** overlook the second class status and **mistreatment of African-American youngsters** by the KCMSD. While the KCMSD has been in the midst of a self-congratulatory PR campaign, they have failed to acknowledge the **trauma inflicted on Black students**:

1. Over 100 Black students at METRO High School were sent home on the first day of school according to our investigation (Rainwater says only 25, the Principal says 40-50).
2. Black Kindergarten students dumped into the OLD Attucks Warehouse did not receive adequate transportation services.
3. **Hundreds of African-American** secondary students assigned to Bingham and Van Horn **did not have** class schedules and spent several days packed into the auditorium and cafeteria doing nothing.

Unfortunately, neither the unenlightened white leadership of this district (Walter Marks and Art Rainwater) nor Arthur Benson are very concerned about the plight of **OUR** children. Despite these and other abuses of African-American children the school district called the opening a success. Marks and Rainwater dismiss these problems as minor cases of poor judgement or unavoidable occurrences. **WE DISAGREE!** Had a suburban or private school principal sent 25, 40, or **any** number of white students back home, for no reason, on the first day of school he would have been fired on the spot. Our children are entitled to similar standards. **Why do we have to accept second rate uncommitted and insensitive school administrators?**

Both the district and Arthur Benson showed more interest in and **did more** to transport, **one white child** from NORTH OF LIBERTY, MISSOURI, than they did 300 African-American kindergarten students **dumped** into the old Attucks annex. **Why do those people who apparently don't place much value on the education and treatment of our youth have control of our schools?**

*"It is far better to be free to govern, or mis-govern, yourself
than to be governed by anybody else."* KWAME NKRUMAH

**We can no longer accept the MIS-EDUCATION OF OUR YOUTH
CHANGES MUST BE MADE!**