

Motion to Amend Statement One of the "Proposed Policies on Grouping of Students" as adopted by the SOTF January 26, 1993.

I move that enrollment at each school shall be made so that each school will have a student population made up of the top two ethnic/racial groups in the district (+ or - 5%) and a third group called Other. The motion would eliminate the need for both Statement Two and Statement Three.

Explanation: Currently, the two largest groups are Black and White. All schools would have a White Group, a Black Group and an Other Group. Blacks in the K-12 currently make up 39.5% of the students. At any school they could be from 34.5% to 44.5% of the enrolled population. Whites in the K-12 make up 33% of the students. At any school they could range from 38% to 28%. The Other group, currently all students who are neither White nor Black, is 27.5%. At any school site they could range from 17.5% to 37.5%. The Other group could be made up of all one ethnic or racial minority. (i.e. Hispanic or Asian)

Arguments in favor of the Motion:

I believe the formula for distributing children is stated in a clear and understandable fashion. Special grouping for enrichment or language requirements are arrived through the Other category in a straightforward fashion without having to resort to exemptions and formulas as currently found in Statement Two and Three.

The virtues of a simple formula are many: It is easy to explain to the general public; people are less likely to feel that other groups are getting a special deal because of their racial or ethnic background; and, the formula is easy to adapt to changing demographics.

Janet Huseby
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527-1130