

December 12, 1993

Bruce Wicinas

Re: The four questions asked by the Oakland Tribune

- 1. Racial census: see accompanying sheet.
The ratios should be:
K-3 white 32.5% black 38.8%
4-6 white 30.2% black 43.8%

- 2. Total bussing cost; average bussing distances.
I have nothing on costs, but I have done a more careful comparison of average student travel distances.

The figure for the current system takes into account the change of schools at 3 to 4. It is not the "crow flies" distance but the rectangular grid distance, reflecting that diagonal travel is not possible on a grid of city streets. This includes the travel for all students, including those who are close enough to walk.

Current system: **1.34 miles**
Proposed K-5 system of choice in zones: **1.14 miles** (or greater)

- 3. Number of African/American kids currently bussed? % of African American that would be bussed under new plan.

This question cannot be meaningfully answered in these terms. Under both systems nearly all black children are bussed, for example. The difference is the length of time. So what I have computed is the average number of years "bussed" for the average student under each plan. The kind of bussing I am referring to here is not simply bussing to get to school, but bussing out of one's neighborhood for the sake of racial integration. The accompanying maps show the neighborhoods I assumed to be "bussed" according to this definition.

Average number of years bussed, current system (K-5 years only).
White children: .92 Black children 1.94

Average number of years bussed, proposed system.
White children: .16 Black children: 3.24

- 4. Arts Magnet: of current students in Arts Magnet, what percent of students would be in the new zone?

I sent along two maps showing these percentages. One shows the zones containing equal populations, the other shows the zones containing unequal populations, as I began to adjust them yesterday.