

# A NEW COMMUNITY VISION FOR DALLAS

2019 EDUCATION SUPPLEMENT REPORT

DALLAS TRUTH, RACIAL HEALING & TRANSFORMATION



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Dallas Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation

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Dallas Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation's mission is to create a radically inclusive city by addressing race and racism through narrative change, relationship building and equitable policies and practices.

### THE 2019 DALLAS TRHT EDUCATION SUPPLEMENT REPORT WAS WRITTEN & DESIGNED BY

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Community Visioning data collected by Elisa Gallegos, SMU CORE

### THE 2019 DALLAS TRHT EDUCATION SUPPLEMENT REPORT IS DEDICATED TO

The students of color in Dallas County who show up every day to school districts not designed for them, who work hard despite the racism they face every day and who are still here in the face of a system created to marginalize and criminalize them. It is also dedicated to white students who go to segregated schools they never asked to attend, who are underserved and lacking anti-racist conversations in their communities and whose parents uphold segregation by choosing to separate them from their fellow Dallas County kids of color.

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# REMEMBERING THELMA PAGE RICHARDSON

Teachers in Dallas County have equal pay regardless of race because of Thelma

Elizabeth Page Richardson.

**Why don't we talk about her?**

Thelma Page Richardson was a Dallas Independent School District teacher and sued the district in an unprecedented lawsuit to equalize salaries for Black and white teachers...and won.

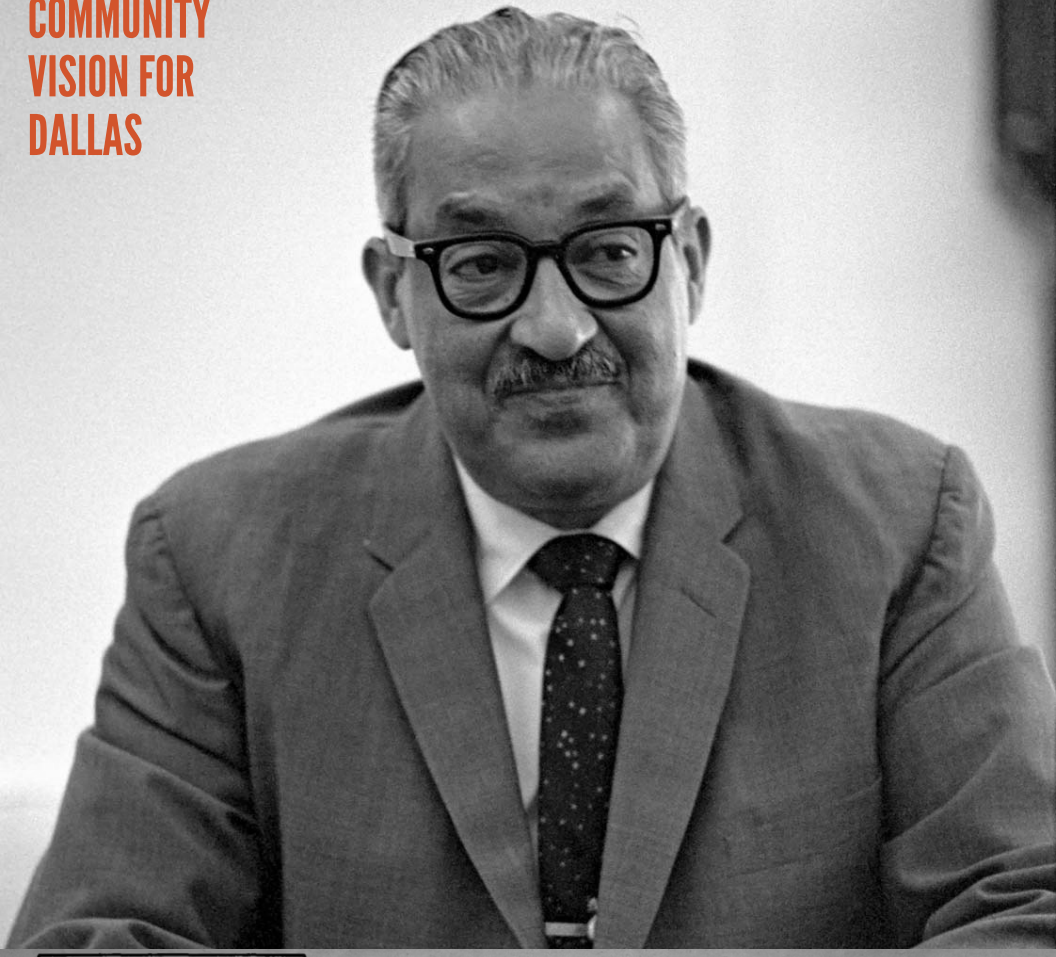


From the Texas State Historical Association: "During her career, she taught Spanish and French at Booker T. Washington, Lincoln, and North Dallas high schools. At the time Richardson was hired, she and all other black teachers made \$100 less than their white colleagues. In 1942 the Negro Teachers Alliance of Dallas decided to sue the Dallas Board of Education for the disparity in wages. The suit, filed on December 23, 1942, in federal court, "charged that for years the school district maintained a policy of paying black teachers and principals less than whites with the same education, experience and duties—even though all Dallas residents paid the same property taxes which was the source of all teacher salaries." **According to the suit, there was a \$540 salary disparity between white and black teachers with similar qualifications and experience. White teachers were paid \$1800 a year, while black teachers received \$1260.**

Thurgood Marshall (pictured on next page) of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) acted as the chief counsel of the case, and local attorneys William J. Durham and C. B. Bunkley gave legal assistance. The NAACP and the Negro Teachers Alliance of Dallas considered Thelma Page Richardson (then Thelma Page), who had been teaching at Lincoln High School for eight years by that time, as the ideal plaintiff for their suit...

**The Dallas (ISD) Board of Education's justification for the pay disparity was that black teachers were less qualified based on being products of segregated schools.** The case was ultimately settled out of court with the Dallas Board of Education acquiescing to the right of black teachers to receive equal pay for equal qualifications and equal responsibilities within the district. Black teachers received about one-third of the difference immediately and full equalization of salaries came two years after the suit was originally filed."

# A NEW COMMUNITY VISION FOR DALLAS



## Section Two Local News

# The Dallas Morning

Texas' Leading Newspaper

DALLAS, TEXAS, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1953

## Negroes Ask Equal Wage As Teachers

**Injunction Against  
Discrimination Is  
Sought Against  
Dallas School Board**

A permanent injunction against the Dallas Board of Education and Julius Dorsey, superintendent of schools, to prohibit alleged discrimination in salaries against negro teachers and principals was sought in a petition filed in federal court Wednesday by Thelma E. Page, Lincoln High School teacher, and the Negro Teachers' Alliance of Dallas.

The petition, which attacks the constitutionality of the Dallas



## Purchasing Agent Named For Court

**Gentry Dugat, cotton  
agent, named  
at caucus of the  
Commissioners Court  
Take Office**

Gentry Dugat, cotton agent and former deputy sheriff, Wednesday was named to replace B. A. Phillips, the important post since vacated ten years ago.

Dugat's appointment at a caucus of the Commissioners Court at the Jefferson Hotel to court's appointments



**EDUCATION  
HAS  
BEEN  
BY**

**IN DALLAS**

**ALWAYS**

**SEGREGATED**

**RACE.**

"One important measure the researchers use to gauge integration is minority exposure to white students, calculated based on the average racial composition of individual campuses. **DISD ranks dead last**, at least among the 50 largest urban school districts that have been on federal desegregation plans."

Eric Nicholson, Dallas Observer,

"Dallas ISD Is One of the Most Segregated School Districts in the Country,"

May 14, 2014

# HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Because of Native genocide and removal by white settlers, by the end of the Civil War, there are only White and Black people living in Dallas County. This racial binary, created less than 200 years ago, remains a constant and problematic delineation for measuring academic performance.

According to Glenn M. Linden, author of *Desegregating Schools in Dallas: Four Decades in the Federal Court*, "The official date for the beginning of public schools in Dallas is usually considered to be June 16, 1884" and "four white schools and two colored (Black) schools constituted the city's new public school system." The 1876 Texas State Constitution "...representing freedom from the restraints of the federally imposed Reconstruction...established something else important to the white majority - separation of the races and mandatory impartial provisions for each race." Public education in Dallas was segregated by race from the beginning, and remains segregated today.

Linden explains that since the beginning of public schooling in Dallas, "...most white Southern teachers were unwilling to teach blacks..." and that "Black parents were unhappy over the conditions of the children's schools. Facilities were substandard, and black children received instruction only 60 days a year compared to 100 days a year for white children...black schools continued to be greatly inferior...the value of the facilities for each white student was \$51 as opposed to the value of facilities for each black student at \$22. The huge disparity would not be significantly improved until the 1960s."

A significant amount of people migrating from Mexico begin to arrive in Dallas after 1910, and "in these early years Mexican-Americans were counted as part of the white race. This practice had begun with the census of 1850. It continued until the census of 1930...Elementary schools in particular were poorly maintained. Little attention was given to the special education problems of Mexican-Americans... Classified as white, Mexican-American students and their parents were an invisible minority to most Dallasites."

# BLACKFACE & MINSTRELCY IN EDUCATION

The racist practices of wearing blackface and minstrel shows with blackface performers were common for students and teachers. Dallas ISD, segregated white private schools and other school districts had high schools with several minstrel clubs. After recent blackface admissions in Virginia, more schools in Texas have come forward to admit to these heinous practices. Below are recent headlines featuring blackface in the news. On the next page, and below are yearbook photos of racist blackface and minstrel groups at 1920s-era North Dallas High School.

NEWS

## Ursuline Academy apologizes for old photos showing students in blackface for 'Senior Slave Day'

The photos, from the all-girls Catholic prep school's 1979 yearbook, show students participating in the fundraiser, in which seniors and teachers sold themselves in what appears to be a slave auction-style event.

## 'No excuse': Another student in blackface; this time in North Texas

A student at Mansfield Lake Ridge High School is seen in video putting on blackface and using a racial slur, the district said.

NEWS > POLITICS

## UT, A&M, other Texas schools have long history of blackface

Blackface isn't unique to Virginia. The University of Texas, Texas A&M and other state schools also have had blackface incidents through the years.

## Blackface, racist language found in UNT yearbooks from 1950 to 1963

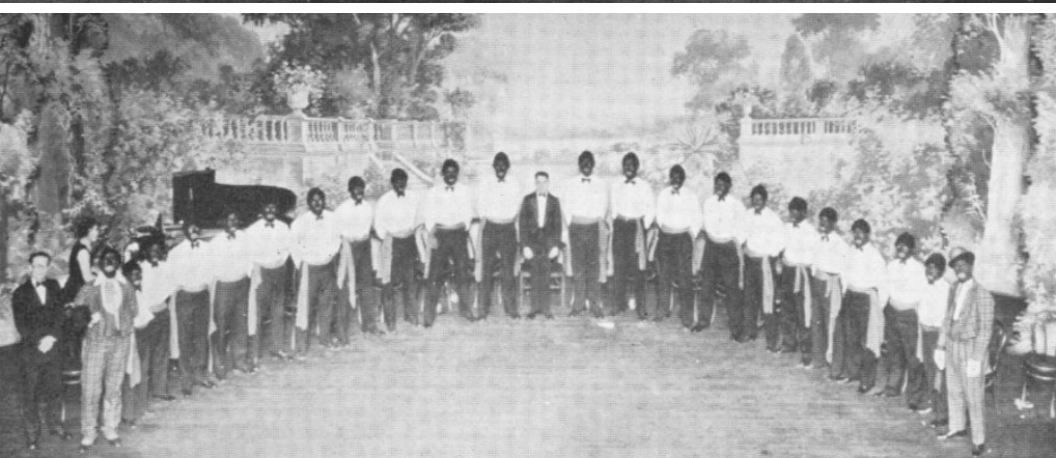
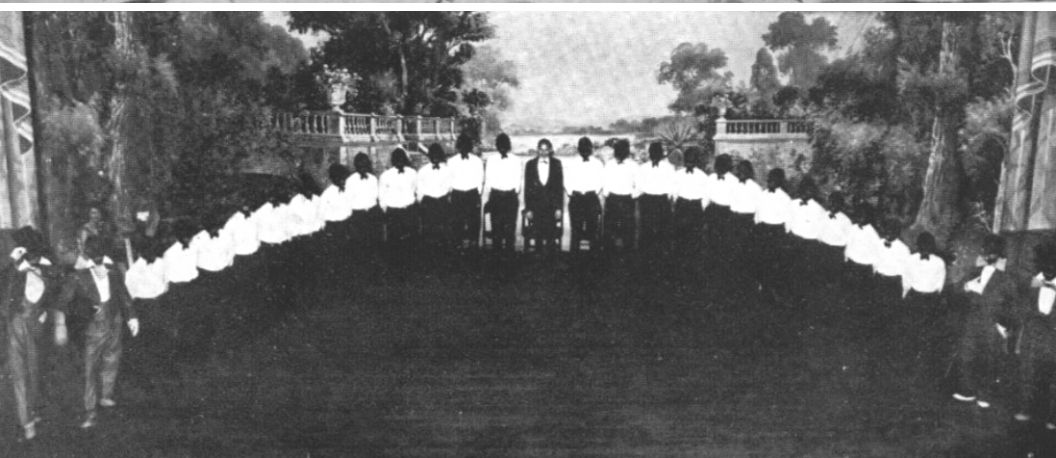
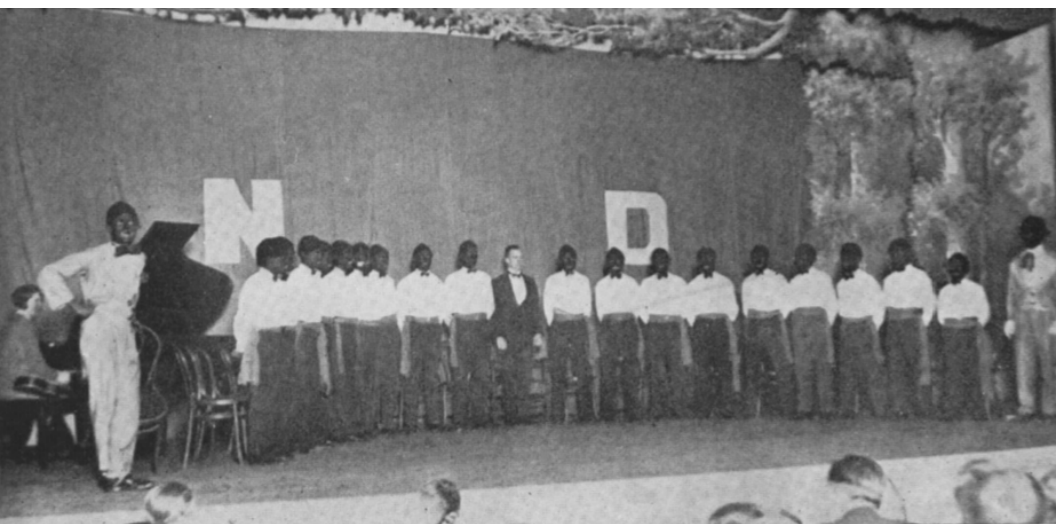
By Lizzy Spangler and Jasmine Robinson North Texas Daily Mar 29, 2019

## President R. Gerald Turner acknowledges SMU's history with blackface

2019/02/22 at 9:44 AM - CAROLINA SANCHEZ 50



# BLACKFACE & MINSTRELCY IN DALLAS ISD





# Morning News

**Section Two**  
**Markets**  
**Want Ads**

JULY 9, 1941

Oldest Business Institution in Texas

ew Baby



## South Dallas Threatens Violence If Negro High School Reopened

### City, County In Tiff Over Pool Hall

**Law Enforcement  
Agencies Wrangle  
After Raid Made on  
Sprague Lessee**

### Serious Danger of Bloodshed Seen, Delegation Warns School Board

Threats that white residents in South Dallas will form a guard around the Lincoln Negro High School, Oakland and Hunter, in September to prevent its opening again as a Negro school were made Tuesday night at a Dallas Board of Education meeting when a petition requesting discontinuance of

the school for use by Negroes was presented by a group of South Dallas residents.

William Reinele shouted that the School Board "is not going to open that school again to Negroes. If you do," he added, "call on your Defense Guard."

C. O. Goff, who presented the petition, which, he said, bore approximately 1,200 signatures, said, "Call on your Governor. There's going to be trouble if that school opens again."

### City Swim

# The Dallas Express

ESTABLISHED 1892

VOLUME 50; NUMBER 21—

DALLAS, TEXAS, SATURDAY, JULY 26, 1941

7 Cents Dallas; 10 Cents Elsewhere

## NOT THROUGH WITH THE LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL YET, SAY SOUTH DALLAS WHITES

### Threats Hurlled At School Children And Board In Meetings

**NEGROES WILL PROTECT CHILDREN IF  
POLICE FAIL TO DO THEIR DUTY**

DALLAS.—Despite a clear-cut decision of the Dallas School Board that it "declines to abandon the use of the Lincoln High School as a Negro School," members of the white South Dallas Civic League say they are not through with the situation yet. Although their demand that the school be turned over to whites was refused by the School Board, the view of the League's condemnation of the law, their failure to recognize proper authority, their invasion of meetings, threatening the School Board and the children of the school, private property of Negroes, their



### Federation of Clubs Contribute \$100 To Franchise Fight Fund

DALLAS.—During the thirty-sixth annual meeting of the Texas Federation of Colored Women's Club which met in Dallas, Texas, June 30 to July 3, a contribution of \$100.00 was presented to the Texas conference branch of NAACP to support the primary case.

Mrs. A. B. De Mont of Mineral Wells, president of the Texas Federation made the following statement in presenting the check to A. Macero Smith of State College:

**Weaver Cites  
Defense Jim  
Crow To Solons**

"I consider this small donation towards the effort to gain the right of franchise for Texas Negroes to be the most important feature of our convention. She further stated



## 1956 CRISIS AT MANSFIELD HIGH

Mansfield became the first Texas school district ordered to integrate when the U.S. 5th Circuit Court ruled that it was “unlawful” to prevent three Black students from enrolling at Mansfield High School on the basis of race. White mobs would gather three times in 1956 — on Aug. 30 and 31 and Sept. 4 — in front of the school, where they hung three effigies. It would take nearly a decade, until the fall of 1965, for Mansfield to finally integrate when it faced the potential loss of federal funding after the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. (From the Ft. Worth Star Telegram).



# Judge Okays Negroes' Plan For Desegregation in Dallas

DALLAS, Tex., Sept. 9 (AP) — Federal Judge William H. Atwell today approved a plan drawn by Negro attorneys which would admit Negro students to Dallas public schools on the same terms and conditions as whites.

The order is effective with the beginning of the mid-winter school term, Feb. 3, 1958.

Andrew J. Thuss, attorney for the Dallas School Board, said he had a "strong conviction the order was not consistent with the mandate of the U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals" and announced he would appeal the order to the Circuit Court.

Judge Atwell, who twice before had granted the Dallas School Board delays in carrying out integration only to be overruled by the Circuit Court, rejected an integration plan submitted by Thuss because it did not set a definite time to begin integration.

Dr. Edwin L. Ruppy, president of the school board, told newsmen before the board integrates its schools "we must find out our relations with the state law. We can not afford to lose funds."

He referred to a new Texas law that denies certain state funds to districts that integrate without holding a local option election. School officials estimate they would lose slightly more than a million dollars this year if they integrated without first holding an election.

Ruppy also said that the state law provides fines for officials and loss of accreditation for schools.

Judge Atwell opened today's session by reading a mandate from the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals at New Orleans, dated July 23, 1957. He said he had received it only today.

The appeal court returned to Judge Atwell the suit brought by the parents of 23 Negro children after they were denied admission to white schools in 1955.

It restrained the Dallas School Board "from requiring segregation of the races in any school under their supervision, from and after such time as may be necessary to make arrangements for admission of children to such schools on a racial non-discriminatory basis with all deliberate speed."

Judge Atwell then asked the attorneys if they had agreed on the order as he had requested last Thursday.

Thuss told the judge he had read the order prepared by attorneys for the Negroes but he could not sign it and believed it was not consistent with the court's mandate.

C. B. Bunkley Jr., attorney for the Negroes, said his order was in the language of the mandate and included an exact date.

"Do you find this a class suit?" the judge asked.

Thuss said it was hard to tell and the 88-year-old white-haired judge interrupted sharply: "It is not hard to tell."

Bunkley said the case was brought on behalf of 23 Negro children and all other Negro minors.

Addressing the crowded court-

room Judge Atwell said:

"That's all that matters. Now you see the wisdom for setting a date remote for this desegregation."

Judge Atwell read the orders prepared by Thuss and Bunkley, and said he would sign the latter. However, he directed Bunkley to first delete the last paragraph, in which a specific effective date was mentioned.

The final order said the integration would begin with the mid-term. That date, school officials said, is Feb. 3.

Judge Atwell told the school

board attorney, "you can sign this order, Mr. Thuss."

Thuss said he would not and added:

"I don't want to leave the court under any misapprehension..."

"I am not under any misapprehension," the judge interrupted pointedly.

Thuss replied "whatever you may think of it, we can not approve this order because we do not think it is in accord with the court of appeals mandate."

The courtroom was crowded as the judge entered the order. About a third were Negroes.

## Alabama Minister Beaten In Stir Over Integration

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Sept. 9 (AP) — A Negro minister was beaten today in an outbreak of mob violence set off by his attempt to enter Negro students at all-white Phillips High School.

The Rev. F. L. Shuttlesworth, 35, was knocked down several times and threatened with death by members of a white group which had gathered outside the downtown school.

Shuttlesworth's daughter, Ruby Fredericka, 12, suffered a bruised ankle when a car door was slammed against it.

Three white men were arrested by police who battled a dozen or more men until the minister was able to break away and escape.

Two hours after the incident, a car containing four Negro men drove past the block-square Phillips building and threw rocks into a window. No one was hurt. The Negroes escaped.

Police Commissioner Robert E. Lindbergh ordered Birmingham police to prevent persons "who have no lawful reason to be at the schools" from entering school grounds. This would include Negroes who have not been registered.

Shuttlesworth said, after Lindbergh's letter, that he would try to enroll the Negroes at Phillips again tomorrow, "whether they kill us or not."

Police also said the all-white Woodlawn High School, in the eastern section, had been notified by telegram that an attempt to enroll Negroes would be made tomorrow.

A petition to register eight Negroes at three city schools, including Phillips, is pending. Today's was the first physical effort by Negroes this year to enter Alabama schools. Several Negroes tried unsuccessfully to enroll at a Montgomery elementary in 1955.

Last year at the University of Alabama, located 60 miles from Birmingham at Tuscaloosa, Autherine Lucy, a Negro co-ed from Birmingham, tried to enroll but was driven from the campus by a mob.

The Shuttlesworth effort today was unexpected, since registration had ended last week.



## SAM TASBY

In 1970, 16 years after the U.S. Supreme Court ordered public school desegregation, Sam Tasby, father of six, got tired of waiting for it to happen in Dallas. He went to the Legal Services office in West Dallas on a public "interview day" and wound up at the desk of 25-year-old lawyer Ed Cloutman III. "He wanted to know why his kids were being bused past the white schools to schools in West Dallas," Cloutman said. "He didn't think that was fair." Cloutman took the case and a year later a judge ruled the Dallas ISD had not ended integration and must desegregate. The suit then bounced through a decade of appeals until a federal court agreement in the 1980s created magnet schools and other educational programs to encourage diversity and aid minority students. It also put the district under federal court supervision until 2003. (From KERA).



# City Council Fears Busing May Push Rush to Suburbs

## Calm response urged for integration order



Eddie Mitchell Tasby, left, and his brother Phil

...the countywide...  
...now 21...  
...his father...  
...12...  
...Eddie...  
...original...  
...high...  
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**BUSING OPPOSED IN RULING**

# Dallas Desegregation Plan Ordered

DALLAS, Tex. (AP) — A federal judge ruled Friday that the Dallas school system is not in compliance with desegregation laws and he gave it until 10 a.m. next Friday to come up with a new desegregation plan.

At the same time, U. S. Dist. Judge William M. Taylor Jr. said he opposed "massive busing" of pupils across town. He suggested "many other devices" were available to attain the desired end.

Concerning Mexican-Americans, Judge Taylor ruled that they are a separate minority group, although they have not suffered under self-imposed segregation as the blacks have. He decided they should be counted as a minority in any integration plan to be approved by the court.

Remarking "I am opposed to massive cross-town busing for the sole purpose of integrating pupils", the judge said: "Television is cheaper and safer than busing."

He was referring to one of the desegregation plans submitted by the Texas Education Desegregation Technical Assistance Center (TEDTAC), which suggested the use of TV for furthering integration.

"This is in no sense a court order," he said of the idea. "But the (school) board can be considering this type of plan."

The judge, who read his ruling in open court, said he found traces of segregation remaining in Dallas and he saw no reason why anyone should be shocked by his ruling.

Referring to the lawsuit filed by 21 minority group parents of Dallas school children, he said:

"It is difficult to believe that anyone or anybody should be shocked...at this lawsuit. And it is difficult to believe that anybody could be shocked at what I am about to rule."

"It would be less than honest for me to say that all vestiges (of segregation) have now been eliminated from the Dallas school systems. I find and hold that vestiges do remain."

Judge Taylor added that he noted the school board had failed to implement any plan for integrating school faculties until after this week's trial had begun.

He sharply attacked critics of TEDTAC, which has been under fire over one of its controversial plans for gerrymandering school attendance zone boundaries involving the extensive busing of pupils.

"Some politicians", he said, without naming them, had "harassed" the agency. And the judge added:

"It (TEDTAC) has been harassed and abused and does not deserve this treatment. Some of the staff have been obliged to get unlisted numbers because of harassing telephone calls. I have been tempted to issue an order that such harassment be considered obstruction of justice."

Immediately after the judge's ruling, Dallas school board President John Plath Green told newsmen that the board would start at once to draw up the plan ordered by the court.

"We will definitely present the judge a plan by 10 a.m. Friday," Green said.

Judge Taylor also appointed a three-member committee of one Anglo, one Mexican-American and one Negro to review school construction policies and other matters. The three named were State Rep. Zan Holmes, Rene Martinez, assistant director of the Dallas Community Relations Commission, and lawyer David Kendall.

There was no immediate decision on whether the school board will appeal the judge's decision to the U.S. 5th Circuit Court in New Orleans.





## TRINI GARZA

Trinidad "Trini" Garza was the first Hispanic elected to the Dallas Independent School District's Board of Trustees. Garza has also served as Deputy Regional Director of the Department of Education during the Pres. Bill Clinton administration, and in 2010, Trinidad "Trini" Garza Early College High School was dedicated in his honor. "They named a school in my name and I'm alive," Garza said, mentioning one of his greatest achievements. Even in his late 80s, Garza continues his life long work as a community leader, education advocate and activist in the Latino community.



## KATHLYN JOY GILLIAM

In 1974, Kathlyn Joy Gilliam became the first Black woman to serve Dallas Independent School District's Board of Trustees, and in 1980, became Dallas ISD's first Black Board President. Gilliam, a political activist and servant leader for South Dallas, served 23 years on the Dallas Independent School Board. Before her death, Dallas ISD dedicated the Kathlyn Joy Gilliam Collegiate Academy in her honor with Gilliam in attendance. The Kathlyn Joy Gilliam Museum and Learning Center is located in Mrs. Gilliam's former home in South Dallas and was designated a historical landmark by the City of Dallas.



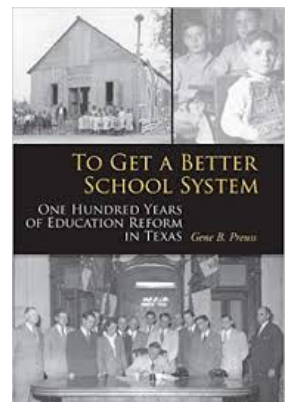
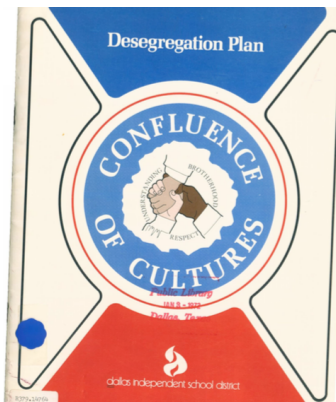
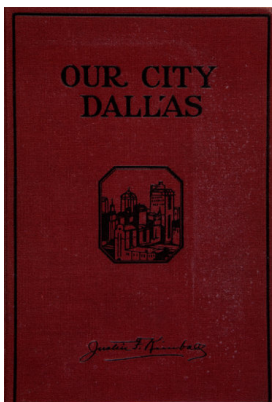
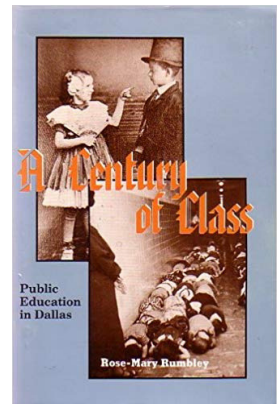
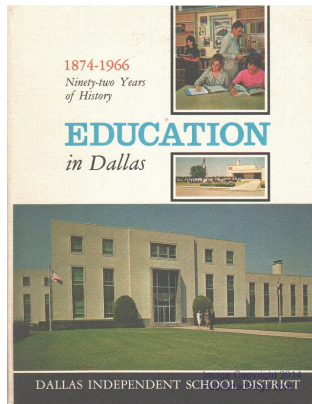
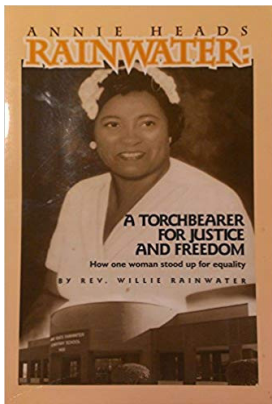
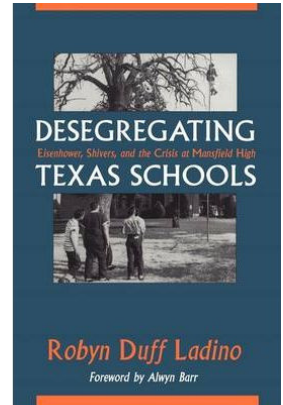
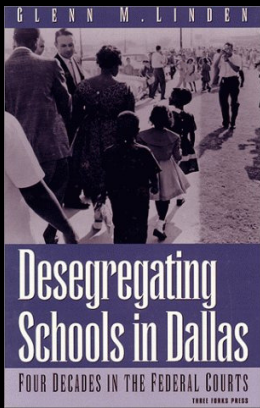


## KARLA GARCÍA

Karla García is the youngest and first-ever Latina elected to serve on the Dallas Independent School District Board of Trustees in the 100+ year history of the district. Elected in 2019, García represents Dallas ISD's District 4, which includes Southeast Dallas, Seagoville and Balch Springs. Born in Dallas and raised in the Pleasant Grove neighborhood in Southeast Dallas, García won her grassroots campaign by engaging young and neglected voters.

# SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY/RESOURCES

Although Dallas is one of the ten largest metropolitan areas in the United States, it is severely lacking in research centering the racial history of its past and present residents. Below are a few education resources we used that every Dallas-area resident should read, discuss and reference:



**DALLASTRHT.ORG**  
**@DALLASTRHT**  
**#DALLASTRHT**