

January 14, 1974

school board, they don't care if my child is cold. They don't care if there are no windows in the building for my child. But if your white child is there, they don't want rain to fall on your child, they want your child to be cold, so they will improve the heating system. They will see that some capable teachers are there. And these are the kind of things that will improve the ghettos schools by bussing white children in. If my child is bussed out he will have an opportunity to see what is available in the schools. It will give black parents a ready entry into the schools to what kind of things that are available in the public school system and make demands for those things in our schools. So there are many reasons why there should be cross bussing. If it's one way this is where the opposition occurs. If there's a better method to be...they talk about pairing schools, which would be a white school and a black school and mixing the schools. A magnet school which offers certain courses and children from all over the city can come to these schools. But however way you do it, it's a situation where transportation will have to be utilized to implement any of these programs.

SENATOR FRED CARSTENS: Well basically I have always been inclined to be opposed to bussing for the reason that it places the burden on the innocent. In other words, it places the burden, the cost, and the agony of the entire problem on the children. And they are helpless to defend themselves against it. And for this reason I think that's the reason most parents are opposed to it, because you are taking children of whatever age, from the youngest on to high school, and you are placing this terrible burden on them. By the simple expedient of bussing. Bussen as George Wallace calls it. We have to distinguish here. But at any rate it seems to me that there is some merit in this concern. And ..if there must be a better way. There must be a better way to attempt to put this grinding burden on the children. What I'm concerned about.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Carstens, my children are transported to school by me and my wife. Were we not able to do this they would have to go to school on a bus. So that situation exists right now with children who ride the buses.

SENATOR CARSTENS: Yes, they go on buses, I realize that.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So, I mean where is the problem. Rural.

SENATOR CARSTENS: They go in busses to their regular neighborhood schools.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: No. No.

SENATOR CARSTENS: They are not doing it now?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: They don't go to the school in their neighborhood.

SENATOR CARSTENS: Well, I know but you are transporting them yourself.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Right.