

Monacan Education and the Pupil Placement Board, Amherst County, 1963 (page 1 of 4)

MAY 13 1963

May 3, 1963

TO: PUPIL PLACEMENT BOARD
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

I, Thelma Louise Bramham parent or guardian of
Linda Lou Bramham do hereby request that
Linda Lou Bramham be transferred from the
Mission School to the Amherst Elementary School
because of the following reason or reasons:

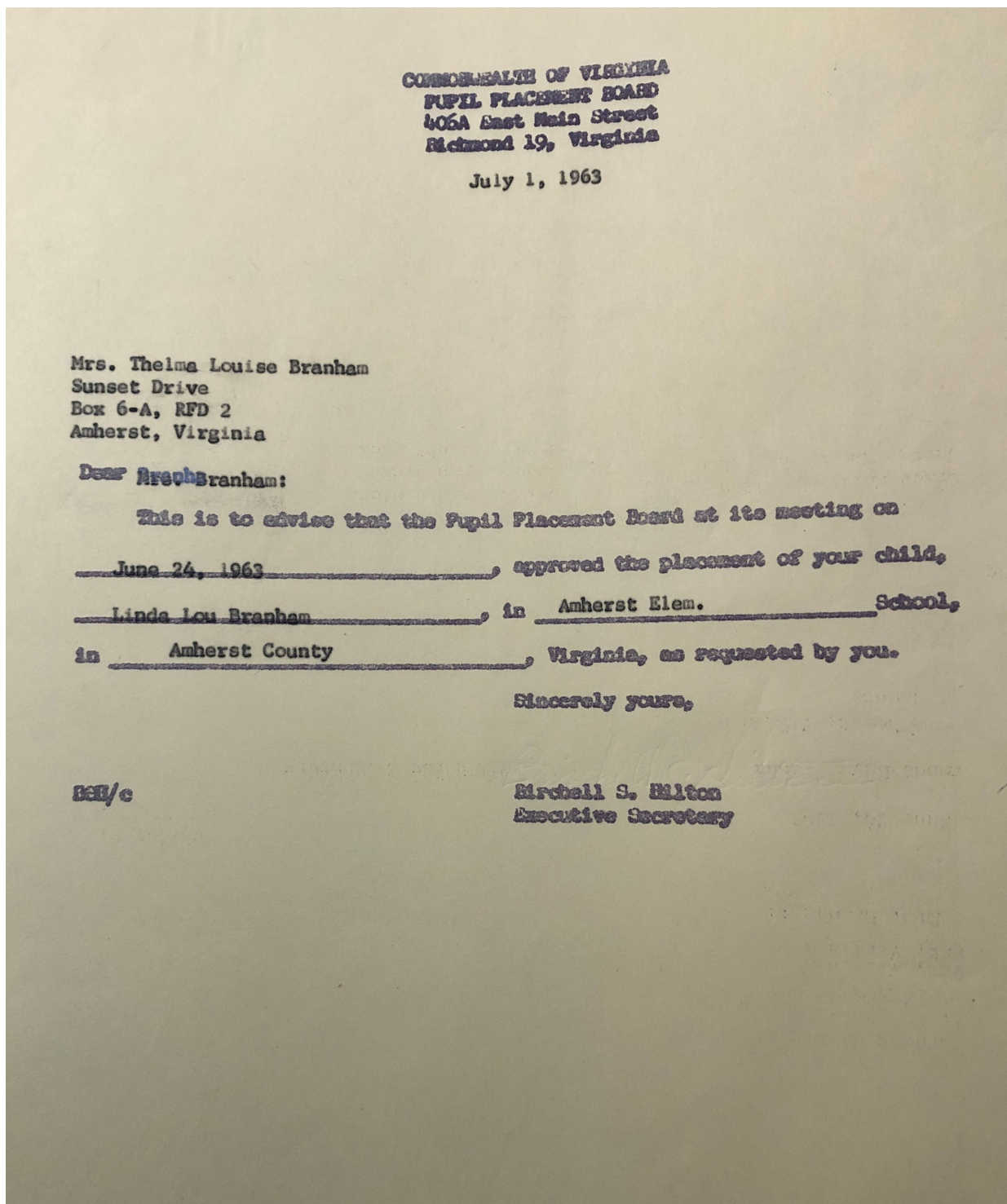
1. I live a few hundred feet from the Amherst town line. Linda has to travel out into the country for over five miles to get to mission school.
2. a school bus for Amherst Elementary passes ~~at~~ our gate.
3. No bus come by for mission school. Linda has to depend on getting a ride with a mission school teacher who lives nearby. Should this teacher retire or change school's Linda would have no way to get to school.

Thelma Louise Bramham
SIGNATURE OF PARENT

3. Amherst Elementary school has more teachers and other good things for children that mission school does not have. and I am sure Linda will have a better opportunity for education there.

Citations County Transfers, Amherst-Approved, 1963 (box 40), Records of the Virginia Pupil Placement Board, 1957-1966, Accession 26517, Library of Virginia.

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Sanitation Report On Schools Made

In his report to the Amherst County School Board and Superintendent Tyler Fulcher today, County Sanitation Officer Thomas D. Lewis points out that 16 county schools are still without flush toilets and a like number have to obtain their drinking water from wells and springs which in some instances are not sanitary.

Of the total 25 schools in the county, only two white, two mixed Indian and 14 Negro schools are without the necessary sanitary equipment, Lewis' report shows.

Mr. Lewis recommended in his report that "the School Board proceed as soon as possible with a school building program so that these small and inadequate one and two room schools can be abandoned."

In the meantime, he urges, there are certain minor repairs needed which would do much to improve sanitary facilities.

Noting that some springs furnishing water are open to contamination, the sanitation officer suggests that the areas surrounding the supplies be fenced. He noted that "fresh cow manure was observed as close as 18 inches to one spring."

He suggested that teachers in schools which use unprotected sources, be given chlorine to sterilize the drinking water. He also urged that paper cups be provided in these schools.

Screening of toilet room windows in order to keep out flies was another sanitation recommendation he made as well as painting of the toilet rooms at Monroe, Clifford and Temperance.

In reporting on the cafeterias, Mr. Lewis reported that the new Pleasant View school is equipped "excellently" and praised the late A. J. Camden, former superintendent, and the school board for "their part in making this up-to-date service possible."

Recommendations for cafeterias were:

Monroe: Install hood and exhaust system for kitchen range. Complete the laying of tile floor in the cafeteria. Re-screen the screen door.

Elon: Replace element in hot water heater in kitchen. Replace old water main, or make the necessary arrangements, so as to have more water pressure.

Madison Heights: Provide a better and more easily cleanable floor. Install hood and exhaust system for kitchen range.

Clifford: Paint the kitchen. Construct shelves so as to eliminate floor storage of foodstuffs.

Amherst High: Provide a larger kitchen and dining room so that plate lunches could be served.

Amherst Training School: Provide a better and more easily cleanable floor. Re-arrange faucets in 3 compartment sinks so that sanitizing baskets for proper dish-

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Schools Report

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washing can be used.

He also pointed out unsafe conditions at several of the schools such as bad steps etc. He urged that the St. Domingo one-room school be "abandoned without delay." He said that the building and the chimney are "leaning to such an extent that it is considered a hazard to the safety of the teacher and 22 pupils."

He also urged that something be done to alleviate the crowded conditions at Bear Mt. Mission School with 81 pupils in two small rooms.

In commenting on general cleanliness of the schools, Mr. Lewis had this to say:

"It is thought that if considerable painting were done at the schools it would aid materially in both helping to keep the buildings clean and in giving the janitors an added incentive. Large portions of the interior of four of our permanent brick buildings have not been repainted but once since the buildings were erected fifteen years ago. These are Temperance, Clifford, Monroe, and Madison Heights (col) old portion. It is hoped that these interiors can be repainted either during the Christmas recess or during next Summer."

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4-Room Addition Approved By Board

Amherst County's school board Monday approved tentative plans for four more rooms to be added to the proposed enlargement of Madison Heights Elementary School at an estimated cost of \$35,000 and delayed action on the closing of the St. Paul's Bear Mountain Mission School.

The Madison Heights school addition plan was brought in by Charles Vail, architect, after the chairman of the board of supervisors, Elmo Baldwin, asked for plans to accommodate 800 pupils instead of the 660 which was the capacity of the school as planned and presented to the board of supervisors last month.

This ups the total cost of the school, estimated last month at \$282,000 including fees and equipment, to \$317,000, and the school board's entire projected program to \$559,000.

The board read a letter from Rev. Richard D. Tyree, rector of Grace Episcopal Church, Lynchburg, and chairman of the department of missions, under whom the mission school for children of a mixed race is operated jointly with the county school board. The letter stated that Mr. Tyree was informed by Miss Florence Cowan, that there would be less than 10 children attending the school, and the executive board of the department of missions had resolved that "the operations arrangement for this school be terminated as soon as possible."

Tyler Fulcher, county superintendent of schools, said the school board had a record of 15 pupils who had not applied for transfer to white schools and three more had requested to attend the school if it were to be kept open. (This week, the pupil placement board in Richmond approved the transfer of 41 issues and Negroes to white schools in Amherst County).

Calvin Irvin, Madison Heights representative, suggested that the school be closed, saying "if we close it down, we'll save money. Let's do it while we have the
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Citation: "Four-Room Addition Approved by Board" (excerpt), Amherst New Era-Progress, July 9, 1964,
Library of Virginia.