

There is no hope for the satisfied man"

FREDERICK G. BONFILS

School Employer-Employee Relations

To The Denver Post:

HURRAY FOR Art Branscombe and his recent analysis of the Denver Public Schools' reactionary Board of Education. However, he missed informing the public about the most crucial shortcoming of the present board. A shortcoming which transcends politics, busing, and even the irksome policies of ignoring (paraphrasing Branscombe) the input of the public.

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Denver Is Great

To The Denver Post:

I JUST arrived home from Denver after attending the Catholic Library Association meeting at the Hilton Hotel. I wanted you to express for me my thanks for the kindness and generosity of the people of Denver. No matter where I went one of the Denver people would assist me, showing me around the city or paying my bill for meals. Denver is great! Keep it so.

SISTER MARY PELAGRA,
RSM
Louisville, Ky.

Classroom Teachers Association, the group that is supposed to negotiate with the board concerning policies that affect education and educators in Denver.

This impasse is readily translated into a basic administrative/management inadequacy. Human beings (including teachers) that are employees work with innovation, enthusiasm and creativity when their employer (in this case the board) provides a milieu conducive to the conditions described above. It is a basic postulate of human nature that an adversary relationship between employer and employee cannot produce the morale it takes for either party to be productive. Both combatants waste their energies in polemics instead of cooperation.

In trying to increase the school day 90 minutes (with no increase in salary) the board is, in effect, saying that they don't trust their staff. Obviously, the grading of papers, the preparation of examinations and learning experiences take (pro-rated) longer than 90 minutes a day. These efforts require concentration found only

in a quiet office or study. What public school provides its teachers with such an arrangement?

Besides that, the position of the board is an affront to the integrity of the Denver teacher. The teachers resent this affront, are in turmoil due to it.

In order to improve the schools, install a Board of Education that has some basic insight in employer-employee relations—individuals who will not be combatants with the teachers, but who will encourage them, treat them as professionals, and provide an atmosphere conducive to creative endeavor.

It is time to get rid of the three members who are running for reelection on a platform of anachronistic-paternalism (Knight, Berge, and Valdez) and vote for individuals who will encourage productivity by the teachers. I believe that Omar Blair, Kay Schomp, Lila Swallow, and Ed Robran are candidates that will help reverse the trends taken by the current board.

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George Washington High
School

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INCOMPLETE SENT

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