

The paper work, etc., is involving too much time and some administrators are neglecting other tasks to prepare and administer projects under various legislation.

Numerous conflicts have developed between local education agencies and OEO officials, especially in the development and administration of the Head Start Program. I am including statements from officials in Coffee County relative to their experiences and beliefs about Head Start.

Superintendents over the State feel that they have experienced a certain amount of unfair pressure brought about by articles in magazines, newspaper releases, and speeches made by various officials.

As to complying with Civil Rights Act of 1964—many school boards have the following concerns:

1. Are the requirements of the guidelines in keeping with exact intent of Congress?
2. Clearer definitions should be provided for many terms such as desegregation, discrimination, dual systems, etc.
3. In many cases, USOE officials have changed requirements, interpretations, instructions, and opinions from week to week.
4. The inability of school officials to secure from USOE officials timely and pertinent information in writing.
5. In several school systems of West Tennessee during the month of August, one or two weeks prior to the opening of school, local school officials were told that Freedom of Choice Plans were ineffective, therefore, it would be necessary to pair certain schools, close certain schools, or to close a few grades in some schools. At any rate, these demands, in fairness to local officials, should have been made weeks in advance of school opening dates.

COFFEE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION,
Manchester, Tenn., December 5, 1966.

Mr. JULIAN BREWER,
Executive Secretary,
Tennessee School Boards Association,
Nashville, Tenn.

DEAR MR. BREWER: Enclosed you will find an article which was approved in the local newspaper the day after Dr. Evans, Clyde Evans, and myself talked with Robert Moore, of the Atlanta Regional OEO office, via a three-way telephone hookup. Neither of us had talked with the news media concerning the conversation and as you can see in the article there are quotations from each of us. This article is almost word for word the conversation which was carried out on the three-way hookup. At this time they were trying to get one "Head Start" program for the entire county which consist of three school systems.

Enclosed also you will find a copy of a letter which was written to a person who is doing a paper, in a course in Public School Administration at MTSU, on the effects of OEO Programs at the local level. The chairman of our board wrote her this letter, which sums up our feeling toward Federal programs which do not come through the proper channels.

I hope this information will help you get across to the Congressional Subcommittee some of the things which are happening to us at the local level with respect to Federal programs.

Sincerely yours,

JAMES G. JARRELL,
Superintendent, Coffee County Schools.

[From the Manchester Times, May 13, 1966]

"HEADSTART" PROGRAM FOR COFFEE IS URGED

The Federal Office of Economic Opportunity has proposed that school systems of Tullahoma, Manchester and Coffee Counties operate a consolidated "Headstart" kindergarten program for children of low-income families this summer.