

INNER CITY ORGANIZING COMMITTEE
Education Workshop, September 9, 1967

COMMUNITY CONTROL BOARDS FOR INNER CITY SCHOOLS -

Suggested Composition and Functions

OBJECTIVE - To organize Community Control Boards which can eventually assume the duties and powers of local Boards of Education in accordance with the specific needs of the black community and the growing recognition of the need for decentralization in administering education.

COMPOSITION - Representatives from local parents, black teachers, rights organizations.

JURISDICTION - a high school constellation.

FUNCTIONS -

1. Alert inner city parents to the ominous fact that inner city schools have completely failed to educate black children and explain to them that black children will be motivated to learn only when our schools visibly and dramatically counteract the sense of inferiority which stems from the actual powerlessness of black people in this society.
2. Convey to inner city children a perspective of self-determination and self-government by the black community, e.g. a) through regular assemblies which present the leaders and programs of civic organizations like the Citywide Citizens Action Committee; b) through the analysis and understanding of the many urban problems which must eventually be solved under black leadership.
3. Watchdog facilities and equipment in inner city schools - to guarantee that these are being distributed equally throughout city schools.
4. Watchdog instructional personnel - to eliminate racist teachers and to assure equal distribution through city schools of specially certified, unqualified personnel.
5. Watchdog textbooks - to assure elimination of racist textbooks and the selection of texts and library books which give black children a knowledge and pride in their own history, culture and destiny.
6. To work out and propose revisions of curriculum that will develop the distinctive creative capacities of black children and to propose timetables for the organization of teacher workshops in accordance therewith.
7. To establish criteria and timetable for the upgrading of black personnel and the removal of white personnel from inner city schools, and particularly from administrative positions in inner city schools.
8. To establish criteria for the employment of non-professional staff from the community who can contribute their own special knowledge and experience to the education of black children.
9. To explore the institution of new teaching techniques.
10. To establish criteria for the evaluation of student performance through testing and other methods.
11. Organize community pressure behind the School Redistricting Bill.