

March 8,
1940

Honorable William T. Smith
Chairman, County Board of Education,
Lincoln, Virginia

Dear Mr. Smith:

The County Wide League and certain parents and patrons of the Loudoun County Schools have asked me to represent them in their efforts to equalize educational opportunities for Negro children in the public schools of Loudoun County.

I have this day written Mr. Emerick asking for a conference in his office Tuesday, March 12, 1940. I am herewith presenting a formal request to you as Chairman of the County Board of Education for permission to address the Board at its meeting Tuesday, March 12. It is my understanding that at the March 12 meeting the Board of Education will adopt the budget which it will recommend to the Board of Supervisors for the coming fiscal year.

It is my desire to be heard before the new budget is adopted because I believe that a clear explanation of the rights and liabilities involved will produce an equitable distribution of facilities and funds.

My research has convinced me that the District Superintendent and the members of the County Board of Education are exposed to personal liability in damages for many of the discriminations which they now inflict upon the Negro school children.

Will you please advise me as to the hour when the Board will hear me, how much time will be allowed me for my presentation, and the place where the meeting will be held.

Assuring you of our desire to cooperate if possible, I am

Yours very truly

Charles H. Houston