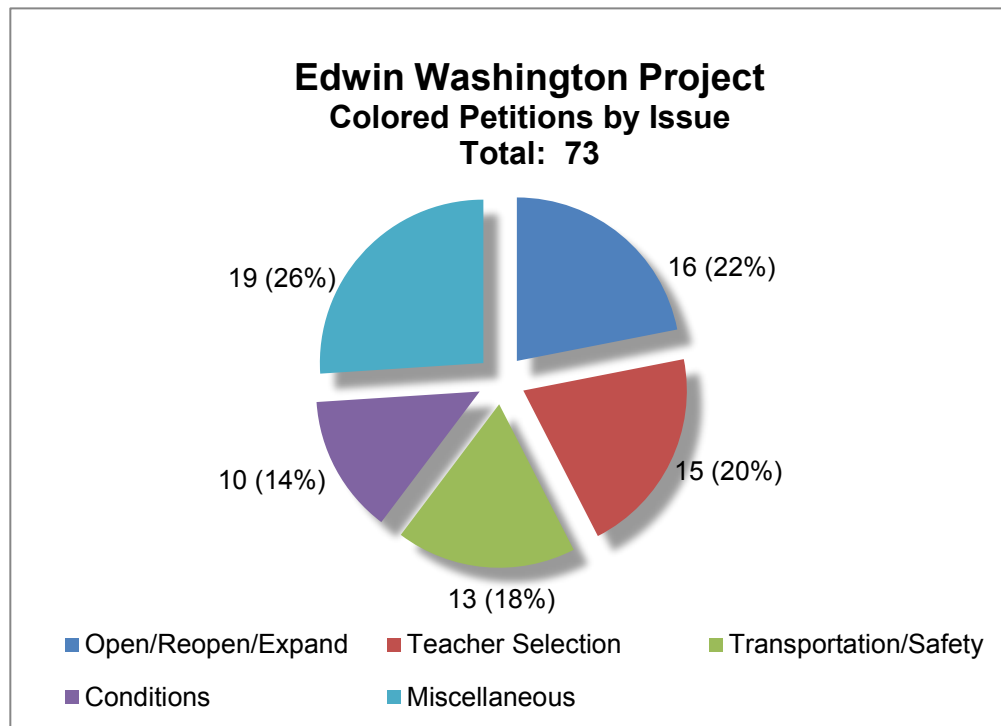


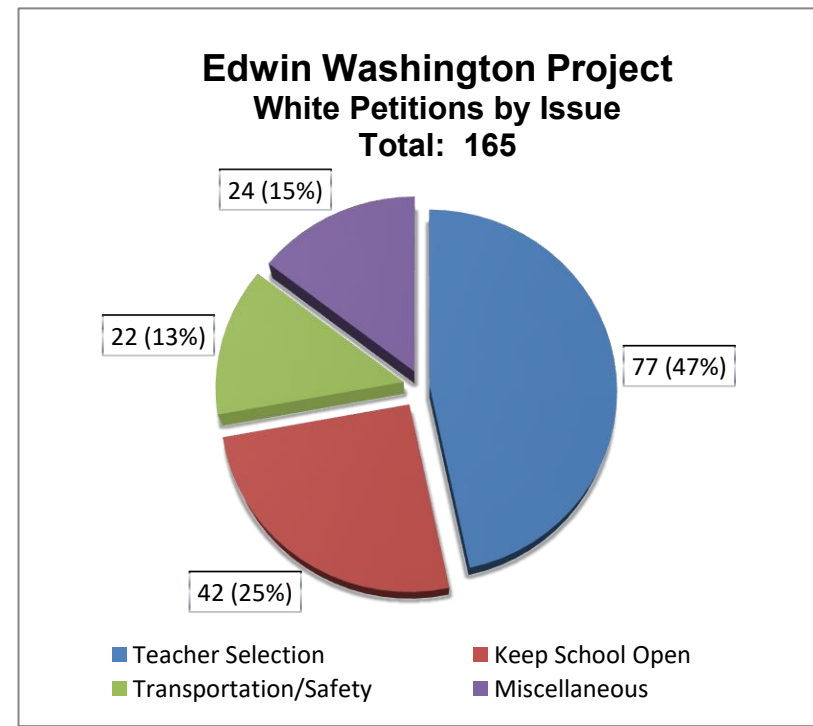
Edwin Washington Project Petitions

Project volunteers read, transcribed and analyzed over 230 petitions from parents (patrons) teachers, civic groups and other stakeholders from dozens of African American and white communities around the county. Petitions dated from as early as the 1900's to the 1950's and addressed issues or requested redress of problems ranging from school hours to fire hazard(s).

Since graphing every individual issue would render the charts below unreadable, we graphed the top four issues from each set of petitions and placed the remaining issues into the Miscellaneous category.



Miscellaneous Issues:
-Commendation -Student Lists -Staffing -Location -Salaries



Miscellaneous Issues:
-Commendation -Discipline -Salaries -Hours

Leesburg, Va.

March 16, 1940.

The Board of Education
Leesburg, Va.

Gentlemen:-

On Tuesday, March 12, 1940, Mr. Charles D. Houston called your attention to the fact that the Loudoun County Training School building is a fire trap. We respectfully call on you to make a personal inspection on the building without delay so that you can see the conditions there.

The fire escape is inaccessible and the open drum of oil, which has saturated the floor under the steps with oil, has created a death trap. If a match were dropped on the floor or if the electric wire short-circuited in the building while school is in session, scores of children would be trapped and their lives could be saved only by a miracle.

We call on you to see that the children are immediately removed from this building and sent to safe school buildings elsewhere.

11
until this building is made safe for
school purposes.

yours respectfully,
County Wide League
(members)

Parent Teachers Assn (Reesburg)
William Harris President.

Loudoun County School Board,
Leesburg, Va.

Honorable Sirs:

It having been brought to our attention that you contemplate closing the Arlington School and transporting the pupils to Lovettsville for the next term, we wish to go on record as unequivocally opposing such a change and as most respectfully requesting that this school be kept open.

There are many reasons why we feel this school should remain open. We will not enumerate any of those that would apply with equal force to every community where schools have been or will be closed, but we do wish to call attention to a few reasons that apply especially to Arlington School,--

A large part of the patrons of this school are people without means. They are unable to clothe their children and furnish lunches in the same manner that town children enjoy,

They are at home and in the majority at Arlington. They are not forced out of school because they have been laughed at and have had an inferiority complex that may go through life with them forced on them,

Another very unfortunate sequence to the closing of this school would be the loss of school consciousness by the entire community. The patrons would not follow the school activities to Lovettsville, where they feel they would not be wanted,

Still another item is the fact that our roads are far from being adapted to bus transportation and with an average winter there would be weeks that a bus could not travel,

Another item peculiar to this particular school is the fact that the attendance is sufficient to justify its continuance. An enrollment of 35 would mean the employment of another teacher at Lovettsville with an added expense to the County.

Many other reasons could be given why we so strongly urge you to continue the Arlington School. We do not wish to be tiresome, but will appreciate an opportunity of going into detail if the reasons given are not considered sufficient.

Very truly yours,

THE LOUDOUN COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD:

We, the undersigned patrons of Arlington School in Lovettsville District, respectfully petition your Honorable Body to continue the school known as the Arlington School, and not close it and transport pupils to Lovettsville School, as contemplated.

Respectfully,

J. E. L. Cooper C. P. R. Frye
H. S. Cooper. Florence Frye
Hazel White. Mrs. Albert, winner.
Thos. R. White. Carrie Kelley
John E. Shumanaker. Charles Kelley
Edith Shumanaker. Bevil. Drivison.
George Simpson Jare Drivison
Mary W. Simpson
Richard Kelley
Lydia Kelley
Lesse V. Shumanaker
M. Baker,
Bessie Baker
Blanche Danner
Henrietta Danner
Cela Danner
O. P. Danner
Carl W. Frye.
Veta Frye.
Glossie Danner
Lester Danner,
Lydia Cooper.
Reuben R. Cooper
May W. Cooper