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2021 Pennecraft Court
Ann Arbor, Michigan

February 4, 1964

The Ann Arbor Board of Education
1220 Wells Street
Ann Arbor
Michigan

Dear Board Members:

We wrote to you two years ago recommending that more Negro teachers be added to the faculty of the public schools, particularly in the elementary grades where we feel the potential benefit would be the greatest.

Because young children naturally love and admire their teacher, it effects the self-esteem of the Negro student and helps create a favorable image for the white child. This kind of an experience counterbalances the effects of racial prejudice and misconceptions which exist in our society. We also believe that it would act as a catalyst in bringing about a greater sense of unity and mutual appreciation between the children and between their parents.

We are aware of your concern and your efforts. However, we feel that there are not enough Negro teachers to be effective. We strongly urge that you take action to increase this number so that each child will have the benefit of this experience at least once during the elementary grades.

Respectfully yours,

(signed) Maxine Thompson

Mrs. Maxine Thompson, Chairman
The Human Relations Committee
The Ann Arbor Bahsis