

IN OUR SCHOOLS

EXPULSIONS: Are Black Students Targeted?

WANTED

▲ Black Male Teachers In High Demand

By RICHARD L. WILLIAMS
Chronicle Managing Editor

Although black students comprise 36 percent of the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School system, black teachers represent only 21 percent of their total number.

Of the 37,891 students in the school system, 13,793 are black. But among the 2,320 teachers in the schools here, only 498 are black.

"That's not unusual," said Engin Kornac, chief consultant of the Information Center for the state Department of Public Instruction. "Most (black) kids who go to college — if they are going to go through the trouble — they are going to get better paying jobs. There are better opportunities out there for them than being a teacher."

Across the state, the numbers get worse. Of the 64,838 teachers statewide, only 10,321, or 16 per-

cent, are black.

"What can you do? You can't go out there and say we are going to pay more to a minority teacher," Kornac said.

Schools Superintendent Larry Coble says he sees the need for more black men as teachers.

"The black male teacher is a teacher in high demand," he said.

"Just staying even is harder work," he said. "The talent pool is shrinking. We ought to just literally go into some of the inner cities and just buy black male teachers."

"I think that so much of what we're seeing in the school as it relates to suspension and expulsion can be tied to the lack of excellent black role models in the schools and in the community," Coble said.

He also sees where black men are difficult to recruit as teachers.

"There are certainly more opportunities in the private sector than

there are in education," he said. "But that doesn't lessen the need at all."

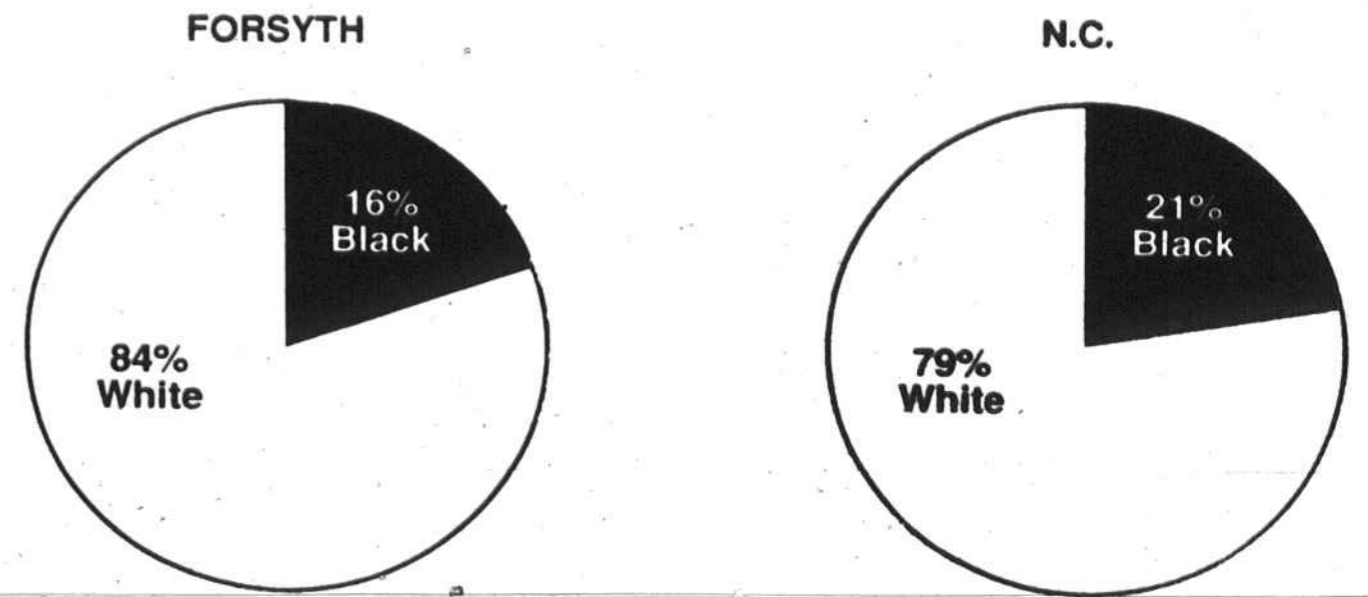
"Schools systems like Charlotte and Wake (County) are able to know on the basis of growth how many new students they are going to have," he said. "They can go into colleges and universities and hire the cream of the crop and give them an early contract before these students graduate. They have a full-time recruiter. Places like Forsyth typically have to wait until the spring when we get resignations. Our new teachers are basically replacing ones who resign. We're punching away at that," Coble said. "We've already gotten more aggressive in our recruiting."

He said recruiters are increasing visits to historically black colleges, are attending job fairs and are marketing the district outside the immediate area.

Reba J. Smith, president of the

TEACHER MAKEUP

% of black and white teachers in N.C. and Forsyth



Source: Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools Office of Pupil Assignment

Forsyth Association of Classroom Teachers, agreed that most blacks are accepting more high-paying jobs after they leave college.

"Money motivates us all," she said.

DWINDLING NUMBERS?

▲ Blacks Are 30% of Forsyth Principals

By RICHARD L. WILLIAMS
Chronicle Managing Editor

Of the 57 principals in the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School District, 17 are black.

"I'm biased, but I think that's very good," Schools Superintendent Larry Coble said.

"In light of what that percentage has been in the past I'd say we're making great strides," said Lalor A. Smith, principal at Brunson Elementary School.

Statewide, there are 1,937 principals, of which 404, or 20 percent, are black and 23 are other minorities.

"Thirty years ago, this wasn't the case," said Engin Kornac of the state Department of Public Instruction. "Even 10 years ago we had a lot of principals who were black. But that principal had 25 years of experience. And he went to school in the 1950s and '60s. To him, to be

a principal or a teacher was a good job. The real problem is in the future. Whose going to replace these when they retire?"

Rose J. Stowe, principal of Hall-Woodward Elementary School, said several of the current principals replaced several principals who retired some years ago.

"I think that the numbers that are here now will be here for a while," Stowe said. "I would think that down the road that may be a problem."

She also said a lot older blacks are becoming disillusioned in corporate jobs and seeking jobs in the education field.

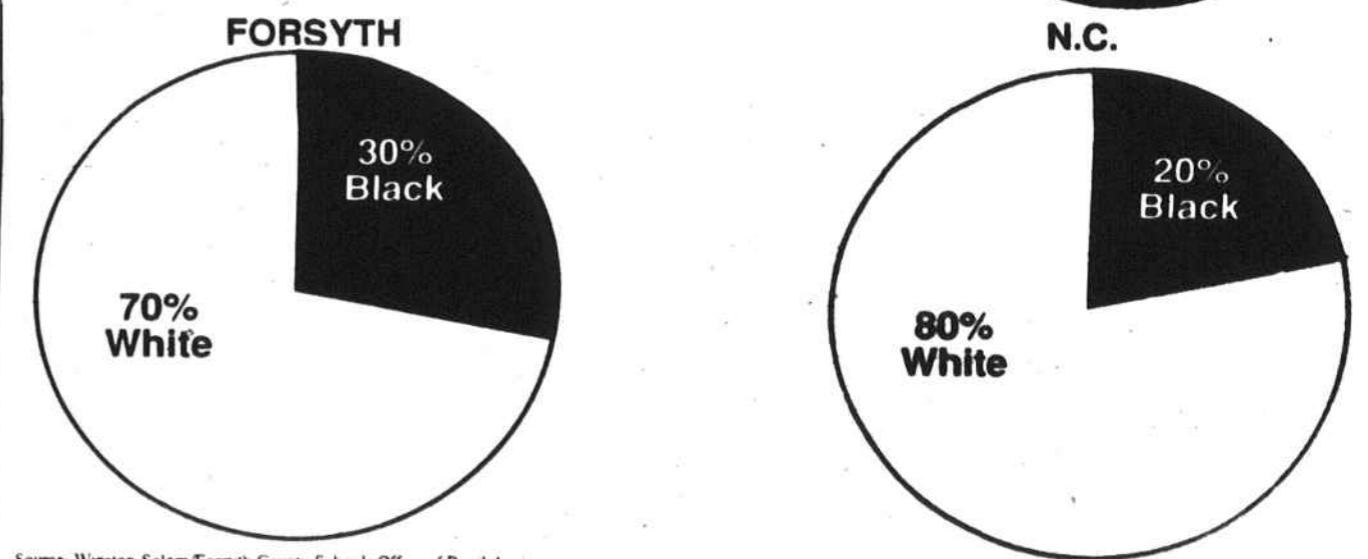
"I think a lot of people are finding that the jobs just aren't there," she said.

Listed are the black principals in the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School District:

- Vincent Parker
Clemmons Elementary
- Fran Douthit
South Fork Elementary
- Lalor Smith
Brunson Elementary
- Norman King
Easton Elementary
- Herman Lane
Forest Park Elementary
- Rose Stowe
Hall-Woodward Elementary
- Larry Fields
Latham Elementary
- Faye Chavious
Sedge Gardens Elementary
- Peyton Hairston
Union Cross Elementary
- John Beaty
Ashley Middle School
- Curtis Little
Hill Middle School
- Ben Henderson
Petree Middle School
- William Peay
Philo Middle School

PRINCIPAL MAKEUP

% of black and white principals in N.C. and Forsyth



Source: Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools Office of Pupil Assignment

•Adolphus Coplin
Glen High School
•Dan Piggott

Independence High School
•Jim Brandon
Parkland High School

•Sam Puryear
South Park High School

Hunt Speaks to NAACP About Equal Education

FAYETTEVILLE (AP)— Equal opportunities in education must begin at the bottom because children must be given an equal chance. Gov. Jim Hunt told regional delegates of the NAACP.

"Why are we not doing better?" Hunt said. "I've concluded that one of the problems is that a lot of children are being ignored, neglected and sometimes abused in these first five years of life."

"This is the one organization that has fought the longest, hardest and most successfully with win equal rights for black Americans," he told the gathering. "As governor of this state, I stand 100 percent behind your fight for equal rights and equal opportunities."

More than 1,000 members of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People from North Carolina, South Carolina, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida and Tennessee attended the 41st Annual Southeast Leadership Development Training Institute. The southeast region is the

largest in the national NAACP organization, with approximately 600 branches and 200 youth and college chapters.

Hunt told delegates from the regional conference he will release details next week for a public-private partnership to provide an early childhood development program that would provide access to good health care and proper nutrition for every child from birth to age 5.

Children of poor families could attend the program for free and the cost for "the working poor" would be subsidized, Hunt said. Parents would be required to attend classes to learn how to be good parents.

He said that he wants a pilot program to begin in July in 12 counties that would involve 12 percent to 20 percent of the children in the state. Within five years, he said, the program would be statewide.

The program would need approval from the state legislature. Hunt said he has strong legislative support.

Hunt said he will ask for \$20 million in next year's state budget and \$40 million the following year to

pay for the program. He declined to say how much private money he hopes to raise for the program.

He said a state board would be appointed to develop the program with members including corporate, business and education leaders. The program will use existing day-care centers, help to build others and encourage work places to offer day care, he said.

Eventually, every county will create its own board to supervise the program and draw on local resources in each community.

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