

**From:** James Ross <rossjam@gmail.com>  
**To:** Jody Carreiro <jbcarreiro@sbcglobal.net>; Tommy Branch <tommy.branch.jr@gmail.com>; Dianne curry <currydianne0405@yahoo.com>; "gregadams.lrschoolboard@yahoo.com" <gregadams.lrschoolboard@yahoo.com>; "norma.johnson@lrsd.org" <norma.johnson@lrsd.org>; Michael Nellums <michaelnellums@yahoo.com>; leslie fisken <lesliefiskenlrsd@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** Dexter Suggs <suggsd@ips.k12.in.us>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 22, 2013 9:12 PM  
**Subject:** West Little Rock Land

Dear Board Members:

I want to continue to be on record that I am disappointed that we are rushing forward to build this West Little Rock school. I know it is inevitable and that I am fighting against the tide, but someone must say it.

This will be, like Roberts Elementary, a majority white segregated school. Yes there will be a few middle class African American, Hispanic, and Asian families, but the the overwhelming majority will be white children whose parents are afraid to have them in schools with African American kids. I realize I can not change that.

I want to call on you tonight to make sure our purposefully segregated majority African American schools have equal access to new computers, structurally safe buildings, and the best teachers in the district. They do not have this now. That's right, we are reduced to calling for equality in our separated schools.

I am writing this in anger tonight, but I want you to know that I will continue to speak to you for and work in our majority African American schools. For 50 years, whites have been depriving African Americans of quality education in this city. We have tried the courts to no avail. They seemed to simply further segregate us. The only solution I can see is strong dedicated leadership from you all and Dr. Suggs. In many ways I think this is our last chance.

I hope you all will dedicate yourselves tonight to making sure our underserved, poor schools -- those that are majority African American and Hispanic -- will receive the lions share of the budget to equalize them with Roberts and the new white majority west Little Rock middle school.

Don't misunderstand me -- we have separate and unequal schools in Little Rock today; this can no longer be tolerated. It must be fixed. No more studies; no more plans; we must spend the money and allocate the material and human resources it will take.

Thank you for your service,

Jim Ross