

Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Race and Discipline Task Force

Status Report to the
Board of Education
October 17, 2002

Words like “freedom”, “justice”, “democracy” are not common concepts; on the contrary, they are rare. People are not born knowing what these are. It takes enormous and, above all, individual effort to arrive at the respect for other people that these words imply.

James Baldwin

What is the Race and Discipline Task Force

- Representatives
- Norms and Format

Why was the Race and Discipline Task Force Formed?

- Institutionalized Racism
- Lower Educational Expectations and Outcomes for Students of Color
- Criminalizing youth of Color

Representatives

- Local Clergy
- Santa Monica Police Department
- ADL
- NCCJ
- Mothers for Justice
- NAACP
- Parents
- District Classified Staff
- Teachers
- Administrators
- Students
- PTA Council
- Community Liaisons
- Community Members
- St. John's

What are the goals of the task force?

- Ensure equity in disciplinary procedures
- Close the achievement gap

What has been accomplished?

- Policy review
- New Protocols and Procedures
- Staff Training
- Community discussion and Collaboration

What are the next steps?

- Closing the Achievement Gap
- Strategic Plan Equity and Equality of Education

Recognitions

- Board of Education and Superintendent John Deasy
- Santa Monica Police Dept.
- Mothers for Justice
- Community Members and Agencies

*“True peace is not merely the
absence of tension: it is the
presence of justice”*

Martin Luther King Jr.