

September 15, 1967

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Mr. Irvin K. Kailer, Chairman
Atlanta Community Relations Commission
1830 Fulton National Bank Building
Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Mr. Kailer:

This comes to acknowledge your message requesting the Superintendent of Schools and the Atlanta Board of Education to meet with the Atlanta Community Relations Commission within the next 48 hours. I was happy to hear from you.

I shall be happy to meet with you and other members of the Atlanta Community Relations Commission anytime after 9:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 16, 1967. I will be able to remain in session until a thorough discussion of the problems facing schools and the Atlanta community are discussed and resolved. I am, therefore, cancelling all of my appointments after 9:00 p.m. on Saturday night up to Wednesday of the following week in an effort to meet with the Board of Education, the Atlanta Community Relations Commission and any other group that wants to discuss and aid in resolving the problems confronting the Atlanta School System. I find it very inconvenient to cancel engagements of long standing that are scheduled for today and tomorrow through 8:30 p.m., however, as foretated, I will be happy to meet at 9:00 p.m. tomorrow night and as long as necessary thereafter.

It is not my opinion that the Board of Education refused to accept the invitation to meet with the Atlanta Community Relations Commission on yesterday. The board had a meeting scheduled for 2:00 p.m. and would have found it very disrupting if cancelled.

The meeting which began at 2:00 p.m., lasted until approximately 5:10 p.m. At that time, the board began a preliminary discussion on the matters presented to it by the Summit Leadership Group and the NAACP leaders last Monday evening.

I wish to congratulate you and the members of the Atlanta Community Relations Commission for the splendid work that you are doing and would like to pledge my support to your commission in its continued effort to bring about better harmony and better conditions for all of Atlanta's citizens. Again I wish to reemphasize the fact that I will be happy to meet with you and the commission anytime after 9:00 p.m. this Saturday.

With kindest personal and professional regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

H. E. Tate
Member of Atlanta Board of Education

HET:dt

CC: Mr. Ed S. Cook
Dr. John Letson
Mayor Ivan Allen
Mrs. Eliza Paschal