

Good morning! I am here today to share my daughter's friendship with another little girl and how your decisions will impact it.

This is my daughter. She is [REDACTED] elementary. Recently she kept talking about her new BFF, best friend forever, Cheyenne. They really want to have a play-date with each other, even though they play together at school everyday. They made cards for each other and Cheyenne gave a small stuffed animal to my daughter and my daughter hold to sleep everyday. She named it Cheyenne Jr. My daughter never mentioned to me Cheyenne is African American. BTW, my daughter is Chinese American. I know this does not make any difference for them. They love each other because of she is.

At school, a teacher read them a book called "freedom summer". It is about two boys who are friends and could not swim together because of their different skin colors. My daughter wrote the following " I would feel mad because I love to swim with friends. If I wanted to swim with Cheyenne and couldn't that would feel terrible"

She doesn't know that, in a report out there, she has been categorized, as " over-represented" in HGC and Magnet programs, because of her skin color. And if Recommendation 3a is implemented, different admission standards would be applied to her and her BFF, because of their races, family socioeconomic status and other labels of groups. Would they understand why they are being treated differently? Would they still love each other?

Recommendation 3a, even though may be well-intended, if implemented, would segregate people psychologically rather than unite people. For the healthiness of MCPS community's relationship, I ask you to please kindly consider Not to adopt it. The kids want to be with their friends, regardless of their races.