

DPS Ignores Manual Selection Committee, Picks Sandoval as new Principal

By Roger K. Clendening

Joe Sandoval, a Denver Public School (DPS) administrator and former principal at North High School, was named this week by DPS as Manual High School's new principal in what a selection committee member is criticizing as a "backroom deal" because Schools Chief Tom Boasberg ignored his own committee's recommendation for the post.

Antwan Wilson, Assistant Superintendent for Postsecondary Readiness at DPS, Wednesday announced Sandoval's selection in a letter to Manual students, parents and community members, writing that DPS, "in agreement with the recommendation of the Manual High School selection committee," had appointed Sandoval.

But Lisa Calderon, an activist and member of the selection committee, wrote biting in an email to her fellow committee member, Vernon Jones, that "I'm part of the selection committee and I was not invited nor kept informed of this backroom deal making,"

Jones' email to Calderon had justified the appointment, saying that Sandoval's selection over the committee's recommendation – who happened to have been a white candidate – was "comfortable" to Boasberg, DPS administrators, teachers, staff and "even Rob (Stein) felt comfortable," a reference to Manual's last principal.

Calderon told Jones that "if you and DPS wanted him to be principal, he should have applied like everyone else."

"I didn't know that our job as a selection committee was about making people comfortable – I thought this was about getting an exceptional educator and leader for our children, and not recycling convenient administrators," Calderon wrote.

"Fool me once..." she added.

Calderon told Jones that she was getting calls from Northwest Denver that "Joe Sandoval didn't do much for North High – why on earth is he being given the helm of Manual?"

People are "angry," she reports, but "I can tell them that you were 'comfortable' with him, but that the selection committee didn't approve this – a small inner-circle did who were 'comfortable' with him."

Calderon and John McBride, president of the Northeast Community Congress for Education, have put Sandoval's selection on the agenda for their next meeting Tuesday, July 6th at 6:30 p.m. at the Ford Warren Library, 2825 High Street in Denver.

"Yes," Calderon wrote to Jones, "we would like you and Tom Boasberg and Joe Sandoval to come and explain how on earth this happened. Perhaps you all can also explain how our top choice got pushed aside in this 'political' process, and how 'comfortable' Joe Sandoval was the best DPS could do for our kids in Northeast Denver."

Farrakhan: Blacks are True Children of Israel

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on to compare them to usurpers who stole a birthright and are now masquerading as the choice of God when the real chosen are "sitting under their feet."

The Biblical Exodus story involving Moses and the Children of Israel in bondage in Egypt is an accompanying prophecy that only seems to be fulfilled by the Black experience in America. Min. Farrakhan related how Deuteronomy 18:18 promises a future people that a prophet like Moses will be raised up for them and stated that "you can't have a man like Moses" without a pharaoh and a people in the same condition that the Children of Israel found themselves in. To laughs, he reminded that Moses came preaching separation and not integration and was opposed by the elders of Israel who sought nearness to pharaoh whose position, in modern times, would be that held by President Barack Obama.

Nation of Israel a sign for us?

Getting political, he referenced the establishment of the nation of Israel in 1948 and how political leaders, Zionists and others used scripture to justify the removal of Palestinians from their long held territory and moving them out to pave the way for thousands of Jews to set up their own government and homeland, heavily backed and protected by the United States government. If Blacks are the true chosen people to whom God intends to give some land, as promised to Abraham, then, in the same manner, "some people are gonna have to be moved," Min. Farrakhan said. "This is serious religion and politics."

Citing a recent report that the White population in America will soon be the minority and that the birth of Black and Hispanic babies will soon outnumber White births, the Minister asked listeners to ponder why there is mass promotion of birth control in the Black, Hispanic and Native American communities. "Why are they scientifically rendering you unable to produce?" he asked. "The walls of your uterus now, so weak that you can't hold a child," which has caused an increase in the number of miscarriages for Black women. He encouraged all to begin looking at the obstacles and difficulties Blacks are encountering, through the lens of scripture. "Are we strangers in a land not our own? Have we been afflicted every day? Are we the people of the promise who should be expecting God to come?"

He said there are no other voices

calling for pharaoh to "let my people go" which is a sign that Black leaders are not fulfilling the role of Moses, while Elijah Muhammad and the NOI have long been identified with their call for separation. Muhammad is no longer on the scene as NOI head but Min. Farrakhan is referred to by many as the only Black leader of note who will not compromise or water down his positions when advocating on behalf of Black issues and concerns. "This is the day, this is the time and I am the man to bring it about," he said in recognition that – as in Biblical times – there will be opposition to any leader seeking freedom and justice for an oppressed people who are considered the chosen of God.

Charges of anti-Semitism

He has, for many years, been called an "anti-Semite" for leveling criticism toward Jews, as he has against other groups, and he outlined how even President Barack Obama is now feeling the wrath because he has refused to "tow the Jewish line." Min. Farrakhan noted that, once the darling of the media, Pres. Obama is now receiving a beat down "like no other president" has been subjected to. Years ago, the Minister declared that Jews control most major media outlets and those who doubt this might begin to wonder after considering that not one of the local Atlanta news stations allowed reporting of the "Who Are the Real Children of Israel" event. Three days later, however, the CBS affiliate did an investigative piece asking why taxpayer dollars were used to provide police escorts for the Minister while he was in the city.

DWN spoke with Steve Schwaid, CBSAtlanta News Director and he said his station did not know the Minister was in town until a source called to report the large police motorcade at an Atlanta hotel. He also said, that had they known, the station would have provided coverage as they did when Min. Farrakhan spoke at the Civic Center in 2007. In contrast, Richard Muhammad, Editor in Chief of *The Final Call*, the NOI's weekly newspaper, told DWN that only one Atlanta media outlet attended the event, all others received invites in advance but declined to provide coverage. He added that, as of publication time, the newspaper that sent a reporter had yet to publish an article about the event.

Fear of the Jews?

The reach of Jewish influence and

power runs deep, the Minister explained in his address, and causes many to fear and bow down even if that means sacrificing truth and support of the Black community. DWN calls to mind how several Denver Black ministers chose to side with a local Jewish rabbi when he was accused of mistreating and putting his hands on a Black/Chicana activist, "Rabbi Responds to Activist's Allegations, Ministers Lend Support," (DWN 04/02/09). When DWN met with some of the ministers and the rabbi, the latter-at one point-asked the ministers if they liked Min. Farrakhan. "A heavy silence filled the room .. as the men sat as though afraid to answer," the article states.

At one point in his address, Min. Farrakhan said any who are walking in fear are out of line with the Bible which says the fearful will have their place in a lake of fire, (Revelations 21:8) and he told those leaders who are intimidated and afraid to handle the showdown that is surely coming to "sit down, shut up and tell your master to come on out and deal with this."

Min. Farrakhan said that as Jesus had an argument with the Jews in his day, he will soon be found arguing with them over who the real children of Israel are and for pointing out the role Jews, as well as others, have played in the oppression of Black people. Fallout from the event has now started and seemingly only because Abraham Foxman, Director of the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) - a Jewish advocacy organization-issued a response to having received a copy of SRBBJ.

During his weekend address, the Minister mentioned that he had mailed a copy of the book, along with another book entitled "Negros at Auction," and an explanatory letter to Foxman, the leaders of major Jewish organizations, Pres. Obama, Rahm Emanuel, Obama's Chief of Staff; Timothy Geithner, the president's Treasury Secretary; Ben Bernanke, Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board; David Axelrod, Obama's spokesperson and economist Larry Summers. The same were also sent to the presidents of Black colleges, Black leaders and major talking heads like Hannity & Colmes, Larry King, Glenn Beck and "all the people who should know what was done to us and can no longer hide." He said any who can, after reading the books, defend the actions outlined in them are of Satan and not a friend Blacks can rely on.

