To the Freedom of Choice Committee:

I want to thank you for the hard work and dedication this committee took in putting together this undertaking. It was very fitting that it was presented in February, Black History Month, as it was also a history lesson for me. While I understood the struggles we as a people have suffered I did not know that some of my fellow classmates suffered similar injustices personally at Chatham High.

I would also want it known that whoever put the idea for this should be know and thanked for this also. This should be another star in their crown.

Again, thank you and God bless you all.

Juliet Hodnett, class of 1971 261 Marysville Rd APT 1 Altavista ,VA 24517

Additional Freedom of Choice Background Material

This information was compiled by Lisa Tuite to share scholarly background information on the Freedom of Choice period and school desegregation in Virginia.

In addition to these articles (open source, retrieved from scholar.google.com), other online resources about the Freedom of Choice policy and era include:

Old Dominion University DOVE (Desegregation of Virginia Education) links, at https://guides.lib.odu.edu/doveresources . The resources are sorted by region (Southside is Region 2) and contain books, articles, theses and dissertations, court cases, web sites and other guides. There is a timeline at www.odu.edu/library/special-collections/dove/timeline

Unequal Access:

The Desegregation of Public Libraries in Northern Virginia by Chris Barbuschak and Suzanne S. LaPierre for the Fairfax County Public Library Board of Trustees

University of Richmond Law Review, Volume 39, Issue 1 Annual Survey 2004 Article 3 11-1-2004, The Promise of Equality: Reflections on the Post-Brown Era in Virginia Robert R. Mehrige Jr. Hunton & Williams, LLB

School Desegregation: Participant Perceptions of a Freedom of Choice Initiative in the South by Cristen Medora Pratt Herring A dissertation submitted to the Graduate Faculty of Auburn University in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy Auburn, Alabama August 1, 2015

2008 - "Keep on Keeping On": African Americans and the Implementation of Brown v. Board of Education in Virginia Brian J. Daugherity - Virginia Commonwealth University, bjdaugherity@v

May this information be available and be used in the future to remind us of where were, what we came through and help us not to go through it again.

Henry Meyers Freedom of Choice Committee March 29, 2024