Student Assignment Comparison:
BUSD Choice Lottery outcome for 2001 Round 2, 6/5/01
versus
"Choice Lottery" employing 3 Parent Education groups instead of 3 Racial/ethnic groups.

The table below details the outcome of the choice lottery software for two scenarios. The non-shaded rows details the actual BUSD choice lottery outcome for entering kindergartners as of 6/5/2001. The current standard procedure involves three super-rounds of assignment: the language emersion round, the magnet school round which is race-blind, and the "controlled choice lottery" which employs race. The shaded rows indicate the outcome of a lottery based upon a partition of Berkeley population according to average "parent education". Note that both trials assign the somewhat incomplete student population accumulated by June.

	Gr	Tot	Wh	Bl	Oth
John Mui	g0	29	14	8	7
John Mui	g0p	30	7	11	12
Emerson	g0	40	12	14	14
Emerson	g0p	45	23	9	13
LeConte	g0	42	13	11	18
LeConte	g0p	33	10	12	11
Malcolm	g0	60	17	13	30
Malcolm	g0p	83	27	17	39
Washingt	g0	53	22	12	19
Washingt	g0p	57	22	15	20
Whittier	g0	59	20	12	27
Whittier	g0p	56	22	16	18
Franklin	g0	42	5	15	22
Franklin	g0p	39	5	9	25
Oxford	g0	38	15	5	18
Oxford	g0p	30	19	5	6
Cragmont	g0	51	15	12	24
Cragmont	g0p	41	12	4	25
Thousand	g0	60	29	7	24
Thousand	g0p	65	29	8	28
Rosa Par	g0	60	16	8	36
Rosa Par	g0p	55	20	7	28
Jefferso	g0	50	21	9	20
Jefferso	g0p	52	19	11	22

Methodology BUSD has been soliciting "parent education level" on its registration form for several years. The gradations are: not high school grad, high school grad, some college, college grad, grad school, decline to state. This accumulating information has provided a map of average parent education level for the city. Two "break points" were selected on this parent ed. distribution to allow the city to be "divided" into three ranges of average parent education. This yielded a map depicting three "zones" of parent education level. The "zones" are not contiguous but "splotchy". I allowed them to remain that way, rather than arbitrarily trying to regroup these splotches to make simple boundaries. I used these three zones as a replacement for the three racial categories, and ran the choice lottery. A "map" of Berkeley indicating the three "zones" has been generated.

This work is guaranteed to be free of errors. In particular, the 83 kids assigned to Malcolm X is a mystery I did not have time to explain. But I don't think there were major invalidating errors.

Bruce Wicinas for BUSD
bwicinas@value.net