

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Emmett Slingsby

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Alternatives in Illinois Education Oral History project

Interview # EA-A_L-2018-036

Emmett Slingsby, Deputy Director of Education for School Recognition, both public and non-public, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Education is Key-Alternatives in Education* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: Jun 20, 2018 Location: Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, Springfield, IL

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Philip Pogue, ALPL volunteer

Transcription by: _____

Edited by: _____

Interview being
processed

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 1:30 / 1.5 hrs.

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on November 13, 2018.

The interview is archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

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Abstract

Emmett Slingsby, *Education is Key*, EA-A-L-2018-036

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Emmett Slingsby was born in 1938 in Ottawa, Illinois. He attended rural one room elementary schools and graduated from Ottawa Marquette High School. After high school, he graduated in 1960 from Illinois State University with a social science major. Emmett later earned both a MS (1963) and Ph.D. (1968) from Illinois State University. He began his teaching career at Bloomington High School in 1960. He also taught at Morton Jr. High (1960-63), and DeKalb High School (1963-68). Emmett also taught at Northern Illinois University as well as at Aurora University and the College of DuPage. Eventually, he worked at the Illinois State Board of Education from 1971-2002. While at the State Board, Emmett worked on federal grants/civil rights innovative programs. He later served as Deputy Director of Education for School Recognition, both public and non-public. In his position at the State Board Supervisory Division, Emmett served as a consultant with the Florida, Indiana and Minnesota Departments of Education, as well as the Upper Midwest Interstate Regional Project. Emmett also has helped his local school district in Riverton (school improvement, parent study skills, discipline, and long-range planning). Volunteer work includes the Special Olympics, St. James Parish Hospital Ministry, and the Come Share Program.

This interview reviews the process for non-public schools being either registered or recognized. In that area, Slingsby discussed the process by which schools are recognized. He further discusses the topics required for the recognition and compliance team who go to the school site in order to review the schools' progress on those compliance items. Differences in requirements for non-public and public schools were discussed. Also, included in the interview was the ISBE's (State Board of Education) role in approving programs in foreign language studies in ethnic schools, non-public driver's education, and residential boarding schools. Home schooling was also discussed as a form of private education as found in the School Code and the various court rulings related to these topics.

Subject Headings/Key Words: Illinois State School Board of Education; recognition of a non-public school; foreign language in ethnic schools; IL School Code definition of home schooling; non-public school driver education; evaluation responsibilities for residential schools; special needs schools; non-public school compliance team organization

Notes to the Reader: Readers of the oral history memoir should bear in mind that this is a transcript of the spoken word, and that the interviewer, interviewee and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library is not responsible for the factual accuracy of the memoir, nor for the views expressed therein. We leave these for the reader to judge.

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