

Hayes, Katherine

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To: Friis, John
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ECA

Was the most amazing experience of my high school life. I dare say I learned more from the teachers there than I learned in college or graduate school. (A sad statement on behalf of those schools, a testament to the quality of the educators at ECA).

Proposals that endanger the future of programs that have a positive impact on the lives of teenagers should be very carefully considered. Many of the teachers who were amazing and life-alteringly awesome did not have teaching certifications. When I did not receive funding in my first year, my parents and I considered paying tuition. Ultimately, I waited until funding came through. By the time I was a senior in high school, I had earned national recognition for my poetry, and the local school board in my hometown was trying to take credit for my success (which they had been unable to support that year they did not have funding for my attendance).

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"Every time I take a flight I am always mindful of the man people who make a successful journey possible -- the known pilots and the unknown ground crew. So you honor the dedicated pilots of our struggle who have sat at the controls as the freedom movement soared into orbit. You honor the ground crew without whose labor and sacrifices the jet flights to freedom could never have left the earth. Most of these people will never make the headlines and their names will not appear in Who's Who. Yet when years have rolled past and when the blazing light of truth is focused on this marvelous age in which we live -- men and women will know and children will be taught that we have a finer land, a better people, a more noble civilization -- because these humble (people) were willing to suffer for righteousness' sake." --Martin Luther King's Nobel Prize Acceptance Speech
<http://nobelprizes.com/nobel/peace/MLK-nobel.html>