

Court Ruling Is Given on Method Of School Change

Integration Will Be Done When Feasible, High Court Decides

The U. S. Supreme Court has handed down its long-awaited decision on ending racial segregation in public schools. In a unanimous decision the nine justices declined to fix a specific deadline or order specific procedure. It was almost a year ago that the court ruled that school segregation is unconstitutional. The decision this week is to implement the original decree.

The opinion handed down by the justices said local school authorities have "primary responsibility" for integrating separate white and negro schools.

It added that there are widely varying local conditions, problems and obstacles to integration. Therefore, it said, the local courts can best see to it that the decision is enforced in "good faith."

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THE COURT obliquely suggested that school boards may submit plans to the local federal courts for carrying out integration.

Local courts were directed "to take such proceedings and enter such orders and decrees consistent with this opinion as are necessary and with all deliberate speed."

Chief Justice Warren, announcing the decision, said lower courts, sitting as courts of equity, "may properly take into account local problems."

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Court Ruling

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As a result of Tuesday's decision, the Hillsboro school case apparently will rest, ultimately, in the hands of District Judge John Druffel at Cincinnati. In fact, the Cincinnati jurist's decision on the local case, given Jan. 28, was somewhat prophetic of the higher court's ruling. He said that the local board had plans for integration in two years and refused to grant the NAACP an injunction.

Paul L. Upp, superintendent of Hillsboro Schools, said that he had no particular comment other than that plans of the local board for integration "apparently coincide with the decision of the court." He expressed a sincere hope that the program here could be carried out in accordance with the court's decree of "feasibility."