

**SUGGESTIONS  
REGARDING COMPLETION OF IN-BASKET ITEMS**

**1. First, read the instructions.** You are Lynn Davis, the principal of Rolling Hills School, which has both elementary and secondary students. The item was in your in-basket or was brought to your attention when you came to your office. You will have to deal with it in the allotted time of twenty minutes.

**2. In a Word Document,** you are to write the response to the item. While you are limited to two pages, it is important to be thorough. *Remember you are answering as the principal.*

**3.** As you read each item, ponder what you will do with it. Consider all the significant aspects of the item. **BE SURE THAT YOU DEAL WITH THOSE ASPECTS WHEN YOU DO YOUR WRITING.**

**4.** When completed, please e-mail your response to: [drudder@tarleton.edu](mailto:drudder@tarleton.edu).  
Or, you can print your response and mail to:  
Debbie Rudder  
NCELP Program Specialist  
Box T-0210  
Stephenville, TX 76401

## IN-BASKET

To: Lynn Davis  
Rolling Hills School

We the undersigned take extreme exception to the teaching of Claude Brown's Manchild in the Promised Land in the Promised Land of Rolling Hills. The Book presents some of the worst aspects of our society and does nothing to show students more positive characteristics of our great American culture.

It is clear from only a cursory reading of the novel that its author is a troublemaker who is trying to promote feelings of anxiety and guilt on the part of white people about the Negro problem.

In addition, we strongly object to the school's approval of a book that uses such foul language and depicts sexual activities in detail. We demand that this book be immediately eliminated from the school curriculum and from the required reading of any student at Rolling Hills. It is time that someone in a position of authority take a strong stand in support of those parents who want the school to become more responsible to the moral climate of our community.

Signed –

Concerned Parents of Rolling Hills.

### Background of the Problem

The teacher of an 11<sup>th</sup> grade class had assigned the book Manchild in the Promised Land to be read and discussed by the class. Claude Brown is a black American author. At least one father of a girl in the class strongly objected and refused to have his daughter complete the assignment or participate in any discussion of the book.

NOTE: This item credited to Richard A. Gordon from this book, Conflict, Controversy, & Crisis in School Administration & Supervision: Issues, Cases, and Concepts. Wm. C. Brown Company Publisher, Dubuque IA, and Dr. Kenneth E. McInyre, The University of Texas at Austin.