

BLANCHE KELSO BRUCE ACADEMY
MIDDLE SCHOOL
“A Big Picture Inspired School”
5690 Cecil, Detroit, Michigan 48210

2014 Annual Report

August 18, 2014

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2013-2014 educational progress for the Blanche Kelso Bruce Academy – West (Cecil). The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by Federal and State laws. The school's report contains information about student assessment, Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) and teacher quality. If you have any questions about the AER, please contact Mrs. Deirdre Bruce, Instructional Leader, for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site www.bkbademy.org or you may review a copy located in the principal's office at our school. Due to our Strict Discipline Academy status – we are exempt from traditional AYP requirements.

Students are assigned to the Blanche Kelso Bruce Academy Middle School location under several provisions. Students may be assigned by an officer of the court. A student who has been placed on long-term suspension from his or her prior school district, may apply, and be admitted to the academy. Students who have been expelled are also eligible for admittance into the academy.

The current School Improvement Plan is being applied to drive the daily instruction of students in addition to providing guidance on research based best practices that are being implemented to promote academic and personal growth of our student body. The School Improvement Plan is also the guiding force behind decision making with respect to the allocation of financial and human resources.

The Blanche Kelso Bruce Academy Middle School is designed to service students grades 5th – 8th who have been unsuccessful in the traditional educational school setting. We are a strict discipline academy that provides core academic instruction with rigor and relevance, and we determine success by using a myriad of measures to evaluate and assess mastery of the prescribed skill sets mandated by the Michigan Curriculum Framework. We are a Big Picture influenced school, which provides for a purposeful, experiential based model for our entire student body that is immersed in real world experiences that are aligned to the curriculum framework.

To gain access to a copy of the schools core curriculum, please feel free to stop by the school office or email a request to dbruce@bkbademy.org. The core curriculum is implemented using a design model that allows students, staff members and parents to identify by subject area the sequence in which students will master required skill sets (Grade Level Content Expectations). The Big Picture model employs real world experiences, externships, career explorations and other opportunities that are then tied to classroom instruction and aligned to specific content areas (cross curricular) to ensure mastery.

The aggregate student achievement results for competency tests or nationally normed achievement tests are not available or required currently by our school due to the transient population and special circumstances and time frames that are unique to our student population.

During the 2013 – 2014 school year, the percent of students represented by parents at parent teacher conferences was between twenty and twenty five percent of the population.

Our campus does not currently provide a dual enrollment program, therefore the number and percent of students enrolled is zero.

Our campus does not currently offer AP/IB level courses, as our student population is highly transient therefore the percentage and number of students participating is zero.

This information is available at the school and district offices. Please contact Mrs. Bruce if you wish to review this information.

The highly qualified staff and education assistants who work at the Blanche Kelso Bruce Academy Middle School are making every effort to ensure that each of our students are provided an educational program based on high expectations for student achievement and respect for the individual human dignity. We believe that the individualized approach to student achievement will be a true reflection of student growth.

We eagerly approach the new school year with innovative solutions to educational challenges that will help each individual student reach his or her full potential. We wish to congratulate all the students and parents who have successfully completed last year's plans and have returned to a traditional school or those who will continue with us in the upcoming school year.

Sincerely,

Deirdre Bruce

Blanche Kelso Bruce Academy
Middle School