

BLANCHE KELSO BRUCE ACADEMY
"A SMART SCHOOL WHERE LEARNING RULES"
8045 Second Avenue, Detroit, Michigan 48202
Phone: 313-656-2600 Email: www.bkbacademy.org

August 15, 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 (BKBA) at the Wayne County Juvenile Detention Facility (WCJDF). The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and state laws. The school's report contains information about student assessment, accountability and teacher quality. If you have any questions about the AER, please contact Site Leader Nadolyn Hoskins for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site www.bkbacademy.org or you may review a copy from the BKBA – WCJDF Site Leader's office.

The state has identified some schools with the status of Reward, Focus or Priority. A Reward school is one that is outperforming other schools in achievement, growth, or is performing better than other schools with a similar student population. A Focus school is one that has a large achievement gap in 30% of its student achievement scores. A Priority school is one whose achievement and growth is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. We are a Strict Discipline Academy (SDA) and our school has not been given any of these labels.

The BKBA – WCJDF is a SDA serving students ages 8 – 20 who have been assigned to our school by court order. The average length of stay is less than 30 calendar days. The key challenges we face are an enormous disparity in academic ability and performance, an extremely transient student population and the obligation to implement effective academic and behavioral plans of action to meet the needs of our students, given the unique circumstances. To address these key challenges, we continuously explore and monitor a wide range of educational and behavioral intervention methods, and respond and re-adjust appropriately and quickly.

State law requires that we also report additional information.

Student Assignment to School

BKBA is housed in the WCJDF, a secure placement serving cities and townships throughout Wayne County. BKBA has no control over students who are placed in the WCJDF. Students, ages 8 – 20, are admitted and released by order of the juvenile court system.

School Improvement Status

The staff at BKBA – WCJDF has created an improvement plan to increase academic and social development for all students in areas we believe will help them make a more successful transition back into their homes, schools and communities. Our goal has been and will continue to be ensuring our students leave us with a deeper understanding of who they are, **where they are and where they want to go**. In order to achieve this goal, our School Improvement Team members meet regularly, monitor continuously and make any adjustments needed to make sure our strategies and activities are benefitting the needs of our students and their families.

Specialized Schools

Blanche Kelso Bruce Academy does not have a specialized school at the Wayne County Juvenile Detention Facility site.

Core Curriculum

Our school's curriculum is aligned to the Michigan Core Curriculum. We are working toward realignment as the Common Core State Standards come into play. Any deviation from core curriculum standards is due to the extreme transient nature of our student population. To enhance our students' ability to meet academic demands and provide them with equitable opportunities to learn, we have integrated READ 180 and the Discovery Assessment process into our core programming.

Aggregate Student Achievement Results

Please go to the www.bkbacademy.org website to view this information.

Parent – Teacher Conference Attendance and Parent Involvement

Our parents have many opportunities to stay informed about student progress, educational programming and community resources through Parent-Teacher Conferences and Parent Meet and Greets. Our Parent Meet and Greet connects our families with valuable information and resources that exist in their own communities. Parents have the opportunity to meet community leaders and receive services from a wide variety of community agencies. We generally have a 50% participation rate at our parent activities.

Postsecondary Enrollment

The Blanche Kelso Bruce Academy – Wayne County Juvenile Detention Facility site does not participate in a dual enrollment program.

Blanche Kelso Bruce Academy, working in partnership with the Wayne County Juvenile Detention Facility is committed to providing high quality educational programming and transformative learning experiences in an environment that is safe, structured and conducive to academic, social and personal growth. In addition to core curricular subjects, our students receive daily instruction in art and physical education, adaptive individualized reading, writing and vocabulary instruction using the READ 180 intervention program, life and transitioning planning as an extension of our Discovery Assessment process and counseling department and many opportunities to connect with community leaders and professionals through our Speakers Bureau program. Our teachers are trained in various methods for managing youth in confinement as well as various instructional methods to help them implement teaching and learning techniques that ensure student engagement and achievement.

Sincerely,

Nadolyn Y. Hoskins, Site Leader