

BLANCHE KELSO BRUCE ACADEMY

“A SMART SCHOOL WHERE LEARNING RULES!”

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Central Office

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BKB High School

5555 Conner
Detroit, MI 48213

Wayne County Juvenile Detention

1326 St Antoine St
Detroit, MI 48226

Bowman House

17200 Rowe Street
Detroit, MI 48205

DePaul Center

609 E Grand Blvd
Detroit, MI 48207

BKB Middle School

2750 Selden
Detroit, MI 48208

April 20, 2016

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2014-15 educational progress for the Blanche Kelso Bruce Academy Conner Site. 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 Mr. Matthew Evans, Site Leader for the Blanche Kelso Bruce Academy Conner Site, for assistance.

The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site bkbacademy.org, or you may review a copy in the main office at your child's school, 5555 Conner, Detroit, MI 48213.

The Blanche Kelso Bruce Academy Conner Site is a strict-discipline academy providing educational services to youth outside the educational mainstream in grades 9 – 12. Most youth outside the educational mainstream are not youth with academic challenges/failure caused by behavior problems, but rather students with behavior problems caused by failure in school – behavior escalated by non-responsive but yet mandatory education. Consequently, Blanche Kelso Bruce Academy takes an even more central role in the needed intervention in their lives because it is not just a matter of a good education allowing opportunities, it is a matter of even brief experience with targeted, healing schooling that creates a cognitive and affective transformation in the individual which empowers them to manage themselves in the challenges they face.

Our challenges are due to the transient nature of our student population, which has led to serious gaps in skill and knowledge acquisition, decreased student motivation and engagement due to past failures in school, and a school structure that does not lend itself to optimal learning, growth, academic performance and student achievement.

We are committed to closing the achievement gap and accelerating student achievement. To that end we utilize a variety of research-based best practices to re-engage our students in the learning process, to provide personalize/individualized learning, and a curriculum that is aligned to the state and common core standards. Also, we provide out of the classroom learning experiences to deepen the students understanding, provide opportunities for applied learning, problem solving in a real work context, and higher order thinking skill application.

Assignment of Students:

The Blanche Kelso Bruce Academy is a strict-discipline academy. Students assigned to our school must meet one of the three following criteria:

- Assigned by an officer of the court.
- Placed on long-term suspension from his or her school district
- Expelled from his/her school district
- Referred via his/her Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

School Improvement:

Our School Improvement Plan drives 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.

BKB Academy Conner Site:

The Blanche Kelso Bruce Academy Conner site is designed to serve students' grades 9-12 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 Department of Education Common Core Standards. Blanche Kelso Bruce Academy Conner site is also a Big Picture Learning inspired site, a framework for learning that puts the students at the center of their own education, providing time and opportunities for them to develop their passions and engage in passion/interest driven learning activities, in addition to traditional learning. It provides for a purposeful, experiential based model for our entire student body that is immersed in real world experiences that are aligned to the State Common Core Standards.

Access to BKB Curriculum:

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 mevans@bkbacademy.org. The core curriculum is aligned with Michigan Department of Education Common Core State Standards.

Aggregate Student Achievement:

During the 2014-2015 school year, BKB High School tested 100% of eligible students with M-STEP, PSAT, SAT tests appropriate for their grade levels. For more information, please review the Blanche Kelso Bruce Academy High School Combined report located on our website: bkbacademy.org

Parent-Partner Teacher Conferences:

During the 2014 – 2015 school year, the percent of students represented by parents at parent teacher conferences was approximately twenty-five percent of the population.

Dual Enrollment, AP/IB Courses, College Credit Courses:

Blanche Kelso Bruce Academy Conner Site does not currently provide a dual enrollment program, AP/IB level courses, as our student population is highly transient. Therefore, the percentage and number of students participating is zero.

In closing, please be assured that the staff assigned to the Blanche Kelso Bruce Academy are making every effort to ensure that each of our students are provided quality educational programming 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!. Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to a very successful remainder of the school year.

Sincerely,

Matthew Evans

Mr. Matthew Evans, Site Leader
Blanche Kelso Bruce Academy High School (Conner Site)