

BLACK BRILLIANCE IS ALIVE AT THE WRDSB



WE ARE COMMITTED TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND EQUITY AT THE WATERLOO REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Black Brilliance is a strategy to support African, Caribbean and Black Identifying Students at the WRDSB. It was created in response to a deepened understanding of how anti-black racism is having a negative impact on the achievement and well-being of our students. This strategy seeks to identify, communicate, address and eliminate the discrimination, and marginalization that African, Caribbean and Black (ACB) students experience in WRDSB schools.

THE STRATEGY ADDRESSES ACB STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, INCREASING AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF ANTI-BLACK RACISM, INCREASING REPRESENTATION OF ACB EDUCATORS, INTEGRATION OF THE EXPERIENCES OF BLACK CANADIANS INTO CURRICULUM, ELIMINATING BARRIERS TO ACHIEVEMENT FOR ACB STUDENTS, AND ACCOUNTABILITY.

THIS IS A MULTI-YEAR STRATEGY WITH SHORT TERM AND LONG TERM GOALS. THE WRDSB HAS STARTED TO ENGAGE THE STRATEGY IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

ACB STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Digital Story Video

In 2018, focus groups with secondary students led to the creation of a digital story video that highlights the experiences of ACB identifying students and staff within our district. "Our Digital Story: A Voice for Students" is helping to increase the awareness and understanding of anti-Black racism in our schools with educators.



WATCH THE VIDEO
bit.ly/OurDigitalStory

Black Brilliance Conference

Since 2018, the WRDSB, in partnership and collaboration with the ACB community, has hosted an annual Black Brilliance Conference for secondary students. Students are heavily engaged in the planning of the conference, including determining workshop topics and the conference theme. Themes so far have been "Redefining the Colour of Success" and "Being Unapologetically Black".

Black Student Associations

Black Student Associations (BSAs) have started to form in several secondary schools. These are supportive networks that provide a platform for activism and for planning educational and learning activities during Black History Month and other times during the school year.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Black Brilliance Advisory Committee

The WRDSB has convened a Black Brilliance Advisory Committee consisting of ACB parents/guardians and community members to provide feedback and advise on the Black Brilliance Strategy

Black History Month Event

An annual Black History Month event is hosted by the WRDSB for the purpose of bringing the community and board system leaders together to engage in learning and build connections.



**YOU ARE A PART OF THIS STRATEGY!
FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED.
PLEASE CONTACT THE HUMAN RIGHTS
AND EQUITY ADVISOR AT
519-570-0003, EXT 4146.**