



WHO WE ARE

We are a coalition of current and previous students of Bloomington Public Schools looking for anti-racist change in our schools. We want dramatic, measurable, radical change in our schools. These demands include removing SROs, inclusive curriculum, culturally competent resources, and more.



B.A.R.C. STATEMENT ON JUNE 22ND SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

In the BPS School Board's meeting on June 22nd, the District has clearly shown what their priorities for their schools are. **The District would rather have extensive conversations about distance learning rather than care about their BIPOC students.** An hour of the meeting was dedicated to discussion on distance learning in the Study Session while only a mere 15 minutes was allocated to their planning of their Safe and Supportive Schools Plan. The Safe and Supportive Schools Plan is their 1 year long plan in the making that centers on creating a "climate of care" for their student's mental, physical, social and emotional health, "tailored instruction" including personalized learning opportunities, a tiered support system and responsiveness to the needs and interests of students, as well as "meaningful engagement" which includes recognizing the valuable assets each student brings and creating more connections within the community. In addition, they claim that "cultural proficiency" will be implemented in their policies and budget plans and supported district wide (SSS Report is linked at the bottom). **With such a vague plan many were expecting to hear exactly how the School Board plans to accomplish all these goals.** Instead, the 15 minutes were filled with empty phrases of making more plans and supporting all students with **no sense of urgency for how to support BIPOC students, especially black students at the peak of the BLM movement.** Furthermore, during the meeting a School Board member wanted to protect students from being called "racist" because it would be considered a "hurtful label" to any who were deemed racist. B.A.R.C. was very disappointed in the School Board's meeting and their lack of urgency for these plans that relate to our demands of removing SROs, investigating into student arrests at school, renaming JHS, inclusive and anti-racist curriculum, culturally competent resources for BIPOC students, establishment of BIPOC centered student groups, a pathway to teaching for BIPOC teachers and justice for Isak Aden. **We are determined to make these changes and won't stop until we are heard!**

WE DEMAND...

THE REMOVAL OF SROS FROM BPS SCHOOLS

It has been proven time and time again that SROs are ineffective. Let's spend our money on our students.

INVESTIGATION OF STUDENT ARRESTS

BPS needs to understand the reason for these arrests to better understand and respond to the needs of students.

THAT JHS IS RENAMED

Names have power.

INCLUSIVE AND ANTI-RACIST CURRICULUM

Our students need a non-Eurocentric education, which includes learning about the work of radical BIPOC authors.

CULTURALLY COMPETENT RESOURCES FOR BIPOC STUDENTS INCLUDING:

college advisors, counselors, trauma-informed mental health professionals, and more.

ESTABLISHMENT OF BIPOC CENTERED STUDENT GROUPS

BIPOC students need a place to share their experiences.

A PATHWAY TO TEACHING FOR BIPOC TEACHERS IN BPS

BIPOC student teachers that can/should become actual teachers in BPS schools.

JUSTICE FOR ISAK ADEN

Take a stand against police brutality in our DWB community. Demand his case is reopened.

Bloomington Anti-Racist Coalition

THIS ISN'T UNIQUE TO BPS.

Nationally,

Black students are 3x more likely to be arrested than their white peers. And Black girls are 1.5x more likely to be arrested than white boys. (PBS)

In 2019, 84% of high schools reported having an officer in their building at least once a week (NCES).

The criminalization of Black students is empowered and enabled by having officers in our schools.

We must be the change.

The Hennepin County Board has recently declared racism as a public health crisis. How are BPS preparing students to face this crisis? The short answer is they're not. Our students need an inclusive and anti-racist curriculum which prepares them to tackle racism in ALL of its facets. By not preparing our students we are complicit in these racist systems

BIPOC students at BPS need and deserve the opportunity to connect with students they racially and ethnically identify with. By creating these affinity spaces the schools would be intentionally creating space for BIPOC students to process, discuss, and build community collectively!

YOU MAY BE ASKING

why?

Isak Aden lost his life in July of 2019 when he was killed by Bloomington and Eagan police. In the year since his death, none of these cops faced repercussions. The school board continues to have Bloomington police in our schools after Isak's murder. How are Black students supposed to feel safe and supported by the same dept that lets these killers work in our city?

YOU MAY BE ASKING

why?

SARC DEMANDS
inclusive and anti-racist curriculum.

Names have power. Let's not continue the violent and racist legacy that Jefferson had in this country. Our schools need to be intentional in those who they choose to celebrate and honor.

YOU MAY BE ASKING

why?

OUR SUGGESTION

Create a pathway to teaching for BIPOC teachers, this can look like:

- working with BIPOC student teachers while they are gathering student teacher hours
- create a pathway for these BIPOC student teachers to become hired teachers at BPS schools

for more information on an anti-racist education...

RETHINKINGSCHOOLS.ORG
DIVERSEBOOKS.ORG
TOLERANCE.ORG/TOPICS/RACE-ETHNICITY

ANTIRACISTSOCIALSTUDIES

WHY ARE ALL THE BLACK KIDS SITTING TOGETHER IN THE CAFETERIA BY: BEVERLY DANIEL TATUM

OUR SUGGESTIONS

Wahpekute High School

to honor the indigenous land that we occupy

Fredrick Douglas High School

to memorialize an influential abolitionist and author

Dred Scott High School

to honor the legacy of Dred Scott's fight for freedom

Michael J Davis High School

the first Black federal judge in Minnesota who has remained committed to the advancement of civil rights