Broadening Our Understanding of Brown v. Board of Education
Preservation Leadership Forum
WEBINAR
TOGETHER WE ARE FORUM

Leslie Canaan
Senior Field Officer
National Trust for Historic Preservation
Broadening Our Understanding of Brown V. Board of Education
Virtual Launch of the Brown V. Board of Education Treasure
Agenda for Brown V. Board of Education Webinar

• Introduction
• Site Presentations
• Q&A with Sites
• Legislation
• Advocacy
• Q&A for Legislation and Advocacy
• Final Thoughts
Preservation Leadership Forum
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Barbara Champagne
Superintendent
Clarendon School District
Summerton SC
Dr. Joseph Jones, Superintendent, New Castle County (DE) Vo-Tech School District
Howard High School
1927 Building
Wilmington, DE
Howard’s Significance in Our Nation’s Civil Rights History

Howard High School: Founded in 1867 by the Association for the Moral Improvement and Education of Colored People and named for Civil War General Oliver Otis Howard, the original school was located at 12th and Orange Streets. Pierre S. DuPont was the major benefactor for the new building, opened in 1928 on this site. With the annexation of the adjoining Howard Career Center in 1975, Howard’s role as the major educational institution for Blacks expanded to include students from the total Delaware community.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.: Civil Rights Activist, Nobel Peace Prize Winner, and Recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom addressed an audience of 15,000 in this Auditorium—September 12, 1960.

Howard High School: Has been designated a National Historic Landmark. This site possesses national significance in commemorating the history of the United States of America. Howard is associated with the landmark decision that struck down the “separate but equal” doctrine governing policy on race. It stands as a symbol of the long conflict that led to desegregation for schools, 2005.

National Park Service
United States Department of the Interior
Howard has been a continuous public school since 1867.
Delaware’s Civil Rights Pioneers – Howard students who integrated Claymont High School in 1952. Also, Louise Belton, whose name was on the case (Belton v. Gehart) and who testified in court but then chose not to attend Claymont and remained enrolled at Howard High School. These students and their families were truly civil rights pioneers.
Howard TODAY!

Welcome To The Historic
Howard High School of Technology
LEARN, EARN, & GET AHEAD
Allison C. David
Chief Executive Officer
Claymont Community Center
The Claymont, Delaware Story

• Claymont High School is truly an example of the community working together

• Local school board approached African American parents about integration

• The parents bravely decided to move forward
The Claymont, Delaware Story

• 1951 – Louis Redding filed a law suit on behalf of 8 African American students seeking admission to Claymont Public School

• April 1952 – Delaware Supreme Court upheld a ruling by Delaware Chancellor Collins Seitz declaring separate schools were not equal and should be integrated

• September 1952 – Claymont Board of Education admitted African American students
  – Because the State Board of Education did not give written permission, Claymont was told to send the children home
  – Claymont defied that order
  – Integration, while not perfect, was peaceful
The Claymont, Delaware Story

Claymont Community Center

- Enhance the community by addressing the human needs of wellness, belongingness & esteem
- Provide educational, recreational and social support to people of all ages
David Wilk
Board Chair, Professor
Temple Fox School of Business
Hockessin Colored School #107
Friends of Hockessin Colored School 107, Inc.

Our Team

Friends of Hockessin Colored School 107 is a 509(a)(2) Public Charity under (IRC) Section 501(c)(3). Key Committee and Board Members include:

- Dr. Tony Allen – President, Delaware State University
- The Honorable C.J. Seitz – Chief Justice, Delaware Supreme Court
- Dick Christopher – CEO (Ret.), Patterson Schwartz
- David J. Wilk – Board Chair, Professor, Temple Fox School of Business
- William Allen MBA – ALW Sourcing, CEO/President
- Drewry Fennell – Chief Communications & Experience Officer, Christiana Care
- Cynthia Primo and Joshua Martin, AAEF, Potter Anderson
- Fred Sears – CEO (Ret.), Delaware Community Foundation, President (Ret.), Commerce Bank
- Sherese Brewer-Wilding-Carr - CEO and Founder, QSB Solutions

Our Mission

In partnership with New Castle County, reintroduce HCS #107 as a "place of social impact, diversity and educational innovation" rooted in its history in ending school desegregation (Bulah v. Gebhart)

- Programming Focus - "Center for Diversity, Inclusion, and Social Equity"
- Programming Partners – Temple University, Johns Hopkins University, DSCC, Delaware State University, Red Clay School District, State of Delaware
The Past - History of HCS #107

"Until we are all free, we are none of us free" - Emma Lazarus

Brown vs. Board legal team

Delaware cases were folded into Brown vs. the Kansas Board of Education

This 1954 photo shows lawyers for the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund Inc. Pictured (from left to right) are Louis L. Redding, Robert L. Carter, Oliver W. Hill, Thurgood Marshall and Spottswood W. Robinson III. (AP photo/Courtesy of the NAACP)

Mr. Redding’s fight for the rights of African Americans in the First State is a tribute to his commitment to change the lives and opportunities of those who had for so long been treated

(Shirley Barbara) Bulah v. Gebhart

(Ethel Louise) Belton v. Gebhart

Howard High School alumnus
Former HCS #107 Students (L to R)

- Leroy Peterson
- James (Sonny) Knott
- Charlotte (Knott)
- Robert Berry
- Blanche Tucker
- With New Castle County Executive

Matt Meyer
The Future of HCS #107

Historic Hockessin Colored School to become center for diversity and inclusion under new agreement

By SOPHIA SCHMIDT • AUG 10, 2020

Friends of Hockessin Colored School will handle renovations and programming. The group, along with the Trust for Public Lands, plans to raise over a million dollars for the school’s operating and capital budgets.

They hope to refine the programming plan through public engagement.

Temple University professor David Wilk heads the board of Friends of Hockessin Colored School. He says the plan is to turn the old school into a diversity training center focused on inclusion and equity.

"How do we make this place into a center of human capital optimization and community rebuilding—teaching communities how to create inclusive economic development and the ability to recognize everyone’s contribution and value," said Wilk.

Blanche Tucker is a former student at the school. She says she would like to see it provide resources for seniors and children.

"I would like to see it restored," she said. "I would like to see our grandchildren and great-grandchildren learn to appreciate this building, because they only know it as it is now. And it was a beautiful place. We had a playground. We had a little baseball.
With So Much Gratitude to…

- National Trust for Historic Preservation
- U.S. Representative Jim Clyburn
- Senator Chris Coons
- Senator Tom Carper
- U.S. Representative Lisa Blunt Rochester
- Chief Justice C.J. Seitz – State of Delaware
- Dr. Tony Allen, President – DSU
- New Castle County Executive Matt Meyer
Cameron Patterson
Executive Director
Robert Russa Moton Museum
Farmville Virginia
THE MOTON SCHOOL STORY
CHILDREN OF COURAGE
Robert Russa Moton High School

A Student Call to Action
The Courts Speak

*Davis v. County School Board of Prince Edward County, Virginia*
Prince Edward County Says No

Public Schools Closed from 1959-1964

The only places on earth known not to provide free public education are Communist China, North Vietnam, Sarawak, Singapore, British Honduras—and Prince Edward County, Virginia.

Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy
Preserving Prince Edward’s Story

The Robert Russa Moton Museum – A National Historic Landmark

In 2001, the Robert Russa Moton Museum opened in the National Historic Landmark Robert Russa Moton High School in Farmville, the county seat of Prince Edward County, Virginia. The museum is committed to the preservation and positive interpretation of the history of civil rights in education, specifically as it relates to Prince Edward County and the role its citizens played in America’s struggle to move from a segregated to an integrated society.
Sousa Middle School, District of Columbia
QUESTION AND ANSWER

Use the chat box on the bottom right to ask questions of the speakers.
Pam Bowman
Director of Public Lands Policy
National Trust for Historic Preservation
Sharing the History of *Brown v. Board of Education*

- The National Park Service manages over 400 sites that include historic buildings and cultural assets
- The NPS Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site: Topeka, Kansas

- New federal legislation provides an opportunity for the public to learn about the stories of all four court cases and those communities
- The Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site Expansion Act:
  - Expands the Topeka, KS site to include sites in South Carolina
  - Establishes affiliated areas in Virginia, Delaware, and Washington D.C. communities
What are National Park Service (NPS) Affiliated Areas?

• Approximately 15 types of NPS designations

• Currently 25 NPS Affiliated Areas

• Advantages to this designation:
  – Retaining private ownership
  – Management plans and cooperative agreements allow for flexibility
  – Does not increase NPS deferred maintenance backlog
  – Availability of technical and financial assistance, as well as federal appropriations
Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site Expansion Act


- S. 4622: Introduced in the Senate by Senator Coons (D-DE)

- 100% participation by House and Senate offices representing site locations

- The path forward…
Kendra Parzen
Field Officer
National Trust for Historic Preservation
Call to Action

• Visit savingplaces.org/brown-v-boe to ask your elected officials to support the Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site Expansion Act.

• Email brownvboe@savingplaces.org if your national, DC, VA, DE, SC, or KS organization would like to join our sign-on letter to Congress.

• Follow the National Trust’s website and social media for future opportunities to learn and get involved.
QUESTION AND ANSWER

Use the chat box on the bottom right to ask questions of the speakers.
Keep Talking

• **Forum Connect** is Forum’s online community
• FREE and open to everyone

Forum.SavingPlaces.org/Forum-Connect
Keep Learning

• PastForward 2020 Online
• October 27-30, 2020
• Savingplaces.org/conference
• Early bird registration ends October 7!
Thank you!

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forum.savingplaces.org

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forum.savingplaces.org/forum-webinar

Contact Us:
forumonline@savingplaces.org