

Recognition Ceremonies at VBHS

1.36 Create procedures to ensure an equitable representation of African American learners in recognition ceremonies (e.g. including AP, IB and Industry Certification students).

Narrative

On April 22nd, 2020, Administrators and the Guidance Director from VBHS met with District Administrators to discuss the master schedule. There was a consensus that increasing the recognition of minority students begins with increasing access to advanced academic programs. Data will continue to be reviewed, and parameters will be established for ensuring equitable access to Advanced Placement, Dual Enrollment, and CTE classes. Data will be collected from course grades, previous FSA testing, and guidelines from the College Board. District personnel have also agreed to explore providing the PSAT 8/9 to all 9th grade students to identify minority students that could excel in these classes. The AP coordinator at VBHS will also assist in data collection and examination.

Data

- The school's John B. Witt Award winner from 2019-20 is an African American
- Another VBHS African American student was also recommended to Congressman Bill Posey and will be receiving the Congressional Medal of Merit in May.
- Finally, 1/3rd of the schools Schraubstader Scholarship Award winners were also African American.
- Multiple African American students from VBHS received scholarship money and were honored at this year's Virtual Scholarship Night Ceremony. ¹

Action Plan

¹ See VBHS Administration for specific recipients. Names have been withheld from this document for the sake of confidentiality.

Moving forward, the school will concentrate on increasing access to Advanced Placement, Dual Enrollment, and Career and Technical programs for African American students. Doing so will create an opportunity for the school to increase recognition for African American students at academic ceremonies. Once the 2019-2020 school year has concluded, the school will identify baseline data, so that progress can be monitored and defined for the 2020-2021 school year.