

MINGO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the members of the NAACP of the city of Williamson and the surrounding communities of Mingo County, WV, have set aside a time to proclaim and to reflect upon our heritage, that has helped to make America the culturally rich and prosperous nation that she is;

WHEREAS, We, the **Williamson Branch of the NAACP and Youth Council**, in compliance with the national observance of **February 2025 as BLACK HISTORY MONTH**;

WHEREAS, The 2025 Black History Month Theme (99th) released by the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) is dedicated to 'African Americans and Labor', highlighting and celebrating the potent impact of work; focusing on the various and profound ways that work and working of all kinds – free and unfree, skilled, and unskilled, vocational and voluntary – intersect with the collective experiences of Black people;

WHEREAS, Indeed, work, at the very center of much of Black history and culture, be it the traditional agricultural labor of enslaved Africans that fed Low Country colonies, debates among Black educators on the importance of vocational training, self-help strategies and entrepreneurship in Black communities, or organized labor's role in fighting both economic and social injustice, Black people's work as been transformational throughout the U.S., Africa, and the Diaspora.

WHEREAS, The theme, "African Americans and Labor," intends to encourage broad reflections on intersections between Black people's work and their workplaces in all their iterations and key moments, themes, and events in Black history and culture across time and space and throughout the U.S., Africa, and the Diaspora; and like religion, social justice movements, and education, studying African Americans' labor and labor struggles are important organizing foci for new interpretations and reinterpretations of the Black past, present, and future, with such new considerations and reconsiderations being even more significant as the historical forces of racial oppression gather new and renewed strength in the 21st century;

WHEREAS, We pay tribute to West Virginia, **Dr. Carter G Woodson**, the **Father of Black History** (1926) and founder of the ASALH (1915) for beginning the tradition of disseminating information about Black life, history and culture, globally, more than a century ago, we are committed to continue to tell the stories;

WHEREAS, We pay tribute and honor to the valiant men and women of African descent who joined in the quest for freedom and equality for humanity;

WHEREAS, We are committed to continue the pursuit of "a more equitable society."

WHEREAS, The Mingo County School District and the Mingo County Board of Education wholly support the NAACP and our African American Community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ALL of us become involved, serve as catalysts for positive change, and do all that we can to learn about **Black History, America's history**, and foster an environment "where Black life, all life, can be sustained, fortified and respected."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that February 2025 will be known as

Black History Month

in Mingo County Schools;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we acknowledge the grace, faithfulness and Sovereign power of the Almighty God, as He moves through history, directing us into new realms of service and the destiny of **ALL MANKIND**. May God Bless America!

Signatures dated this 28th day of January, 2025.


Mr. Tom Slone, President


Mr. David Jewell, Vice President


Mr. Braydan Goff, Member


Dr. Johnny Branch, Superintendent


Mr. John W. Preece, Member


Mrs. Deanna Wellman, Member