# JOY@SCHOOL

IMAGINE MID-ATLANTIC REGION

FEBRUARY 2023 NEWSLETTER |
VOLUME I | ISSUE II

# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

IMAGINE SCHOOLS

# TABLE OF CONTENTS


**Executive Vice Prez's** Message 01

**Valentine's Day:** Shared Value Activity 02

**Team & Family Pictures** 03

**Black History Month** Staff Spotlight 04

**Our Culture:** B.H.M Facts 05

**Upcoming** Events 06

# WELCOME MESSAGE

Team & Family,

It's a great day at Imagine. This is one of my most favorite times of the year. Black History Month has always been extremely important to me as it gives me an isolated time to reflect daily on all of the advancement that we've made, the strides of advancement that we are making, and all of the great things that we will do in the future. Collectively, let's take this opportunity to build **LEGACY**. It is imperative that we provide **JUSTICE** to each of our scholars to ensure that they are given many opportunities to become even greater. We must leave a long-lasting rich impact on each of our scholars as we inspire them to become leaders. In order to do this, we must consistently provide opportunities for each scholar to grow by using their unique gifts and talents daily to effectively acquire & own their knowledge (**FUN.**) We must continue to stand on the shoulders of all the giants that worked relentlessly to grant us the opportunities that we have today while locking arms with the trailblazers that are working tirelessly today to ensure that we continue moving forward in VICTORY (**INTEGRITY!**)

Let's embrace this journey together while celebrating the small victories along the way. I'm so thankful that I have the opportunity to do IMAGINE LIFE with you! I respect each of you highly and appreciate all that you do for our children.

We are Imagine!

## Shawn Toler

Executive Vice President
Imagine Schools Mid-Atlantic Region

# SHARED VALUES

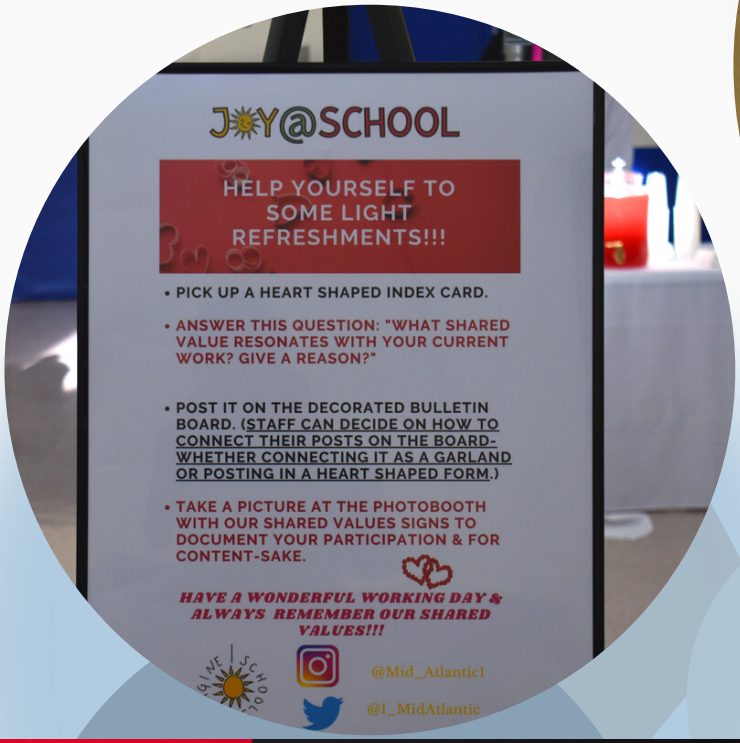
## FEBRUARY (VALENTINE'S) ACTIVITY

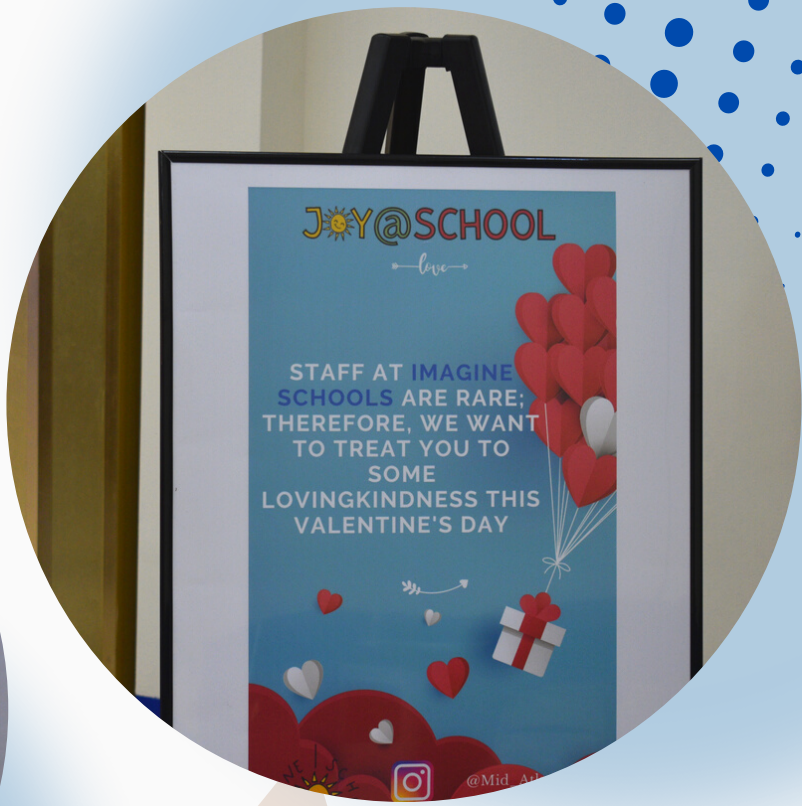
The Mid-Atlantic Region celebrated the hard work of our team and family by providing an opportunity to celebrate and engage with our Shared Values.

Staff shared their knowledge of the shared values: What shared value resonated with their current work & why? A photo-booth was set up for staff to take pictures after or prior to the exercise, with signatories of our shared values as props.

It was an amazing time sharing love, respect, and honor to team & family members for Valentine's Day by way of this exercise. Thank you all very much for your participation & from the region, we hope each staff had a moment to feel appreciated, loved, and celebrated.

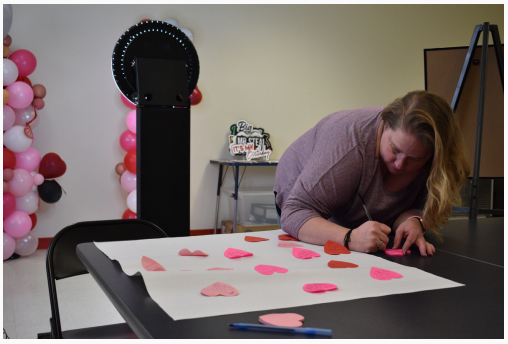
#SuccessfulTeamBuilding #SharedValuesTask #ValsDayReflection!!!!!



# PICTURES

# MORE PICTURES



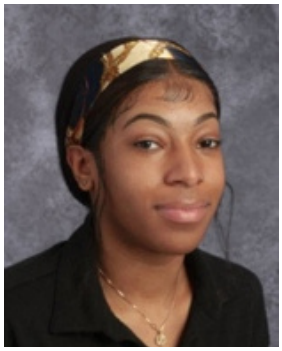
# MEANING OF B.H.M

## STAFF SPOTLIGHT

To me, Black History Month is a CELEBRATION. Celebrating our history and the potential of our future. Black history is a time to remember that slavery wasn't our ONLY history and "Slave" isn't our identity.__Ms. Ashley Watkins (Imagine Morningside)

I would say Black History Month to me embodies knowing your past and future. "If you don't know your past, you won't have a future."__Mr. Darius Pugh (Imagine Lincoln)

To me, Black History Month is a time for us to celebrate and recognize the greatness in the black community. It is a time to spread knowledge about what it means to be black, and to share our experiences with others. __Mr. Charles Thomas (Imagine Leeland)



Black History Month is a month to highlight and celebrate the achievements of African-Americans. A time for us to shed light on what we have accomplished and their significance.__Ms. Destiny Brown (Imagine Andrews)

# OUR CULTURE

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH THEMES CHANGES YEARLY

Every year, ASALH (Founders of B.H.M) selects an overarching theme for Black History Month. The very first Black History Month theme was Civilization: A World Achievement. The 2023 Black History Month theme is Black Resistance.

Black Resistance shines a light on historic and modern oppressions against African Americans. Advocating for equity has long been a form of resistance. Resisting acts of discrimination, injustices, and racism plays a critical role in African Americans' well-being.

## CIVIL RIGHTS LEADERS POPULARIZED BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Many civil rights leaders contributed to Black history and the celebration of Black History Month. Black activists like Rosa Parks, W.E.B. Du Bois, Malcolm X, John Lewis, Barbara Jordan, Marcus Garvey, and Martin Luther King Jr. brought national attention to Black struggles.

Freedom Schools, established during the Civil Rights Movement, highlighted Black history — working to eliminate oppression and uplift Black excellence. Like Black History Month, the schools honored and celebrated Black leaders. With the help of prominent civil rights activists, Black History Month celebrations grew in popularity.

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH HONORS PROMINENT BLACK AMERICANS

Black History Month honors some of the most famous Black Americans. Many celebrations feature prominent African Americans like Harriet Tubman, Maya Angelou, and George Washington Carver.

Black History Month is also a time to recognize Black Americans who contributed to impactful growth and change in the U.S. Black History Month celebrates the accomplishments of people like Onesimus — an enslaved African who brought vaccinations to America — and Hiram Rhodes Revels, the first African American elected to the U.S. Senate.

https://www.bestcolleges.com/blog/black-history-month-facts/

# UPCOMING **EVENTS**

Shared Values are at the heart of who we want to be. Three particular values guide our work as an organization: **Justice | Integrity | Fun**

- Teacher of the Year Selection Process- February | March
- Imagine Schools Night: Focus (MCAP)- March
- Shared Values Pop-Up Shop- March
- MCAP Shared Values Pep Rally- April
- MCAP Testing- April

Imagine Mid-Atlantic Region

@Mid_Atlantic1

@I_MidAtlantic