## **JULY NEWSLETTER**



## BLACK EDUCATOR INSTITUTE 202

## **July Events**

July 4<sup>th</sup> - Independence Day

July 12<sup>th</sup> - Black Educator Focus Group









## 2025 Black Educator Focus Group

If you or someone you know is interested in signing up for a focus group about Black Educators, please complete the following survey. To understand how Black educators experience, influence, and navigate curriculum development and student relationships, especially in terms of cultural responsiveness, autonomy, and connection with students—particularly Black learners. Following the completion of this form, an in-person will be hosted at our ACE Office.

- Focus group will about 1.5 hours
- feature Black educators, both male and female
- In-depth discussions about Curriculum Design/Instruction and Student Relationships/Engagement

https://acefocusgroup2025.eventbrite.com

# ACE Upcoming Events:

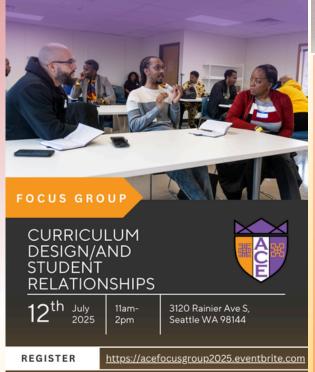
August 23<sup>rd</sup> - **ACE Academy VIBE Bingo** 

### @aceacademywa

## JULY IS Restoration and Relaxation

#### Dear Educators and Advocates,

As we enter July, a month of reflection, joy, and restoration, we honor the legacy of resilience and brilliance that Black educators bring to our communities. Whether you're soaking in rest, preparing for the next school year, or pouring into professional growth, this summer is for you. Thank you for the impact you make every day.



## **Summer Recharge Resources**

- Podcast: <u>Teaching While Black</u> A space for Black educators to reflect on the profession.
- Book Recommendation: "We Want to Do More Than Survive" by Bettina Love

   A call to action for abolitionist teaching.
- Grant Opportunity: NEA Foundation Learning & Leadership Grants [Apply by July 15]



## 2025 Black Educator Focus Group

#### **Key Objectives**

- Identify how curriculum reflects (or fails to reflect) Black students' lived experiences.
- Explore the degree of autonomy Black educators have in adapting curriculum.
- Examine the strategies educators use to build authentic relationships with students.
- Highlight the impact of educator identity on student engagement and belonging.
- Surface barriers and opportunities related to culturally responsive teaching and advocacy.

#### **Discussion Focus Areas**

Curriculum Design & Instruction

- Representation of Black culture, history, and voices in required materials
- Flexibility to tailor instruction to student needs
- Challenges in implementing culturally relevant pedagogy
- Resources and supports needed to design liberatory learning experiences
- Student Relationships & Engagement
- Approaches to building trust and rapport, especially with Black students
- Social-emotional needs of students and how educators meet them
- Impact of Black educator presence on student self-esteem and performance
- Institutional support (or lack thereof) for meaningful student connection

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