



BEING A CITIZEN

Timeline to the George Washington Carver Regional High School
and U. S. Supreme Court School Desegregation Cases and Decisions

DATE	DESCRIPTION
1857	<i>Dred Scott v. Sanford</i> , U. S. Supreme Court ruled that blacks could not be citizens
1896	<i>Plessy v. Ferguson</i> U. S. Supreme Court case established the "separate but equal" doctrine that became the constitutional basis for segregation
1902	New Virginia constitution. Article IX: Education and Public Instruction, <i>Section 140</i> stated, " White and colored children shall not be taught in the same schools. "
1930s	Virginia's NAACP lawyers won court cases for equal pay for black and white teachers
1939 - 1945	World War II
1944 - 1945	Studied Virginia's education system to improve it for post-war opportunities; published results. One of those results was to offer regional high schools for sparsely populated areas
1946, January	Representatives of five local counties addressed the State Board of Education in support of one regional high school for all minority children in the five counties of Greene, Madison, Orange, Rappahannock, and Culpeper. Parents in Greene eventually chose to work with Albemarle County.
1947, September	Construction began in Culpeper on regional high school for minority children
1948, October 1	George Washington Carver Regional High School opened with more than 450 students, grades 8 through 11
1948 - 1952	Five court cases regarding discrimination in public schools were put together into one class action lawsuit, <i>Oliver L. Brown et al v. the Board of Education of Topeka (KS) et al.</i> , February 28, 1951. Arguments to the U. S. Supreme Court were scheduled for December 9, 1952
1954, May 17	U. S. Supreme Court overturned <i>Plessy v. Ferguson</i> , and declared racial segregation in public schools violated the Equal Protection clause of the 14th Amendment to the U. S. Constitution

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DATE	DESCRIPTION
1954-1956	State and federal Virginia politicians designed and implemented a "Massive Resistance" policy against integrating public schools
1955, May 31	U. S. Supreme Court rules to desegregate with "all deliberate speed"
1956, March 12	Congressmen from southern states wrote and published a manifesto to rebuke the <i>Brown v. Board of Education</i> decision
1957, September 9	President Dwight Eisenhower signed Civil Rights Act of 1957 which established the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights and the U. S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Commission
1957, January through 1960	Virginia's Massive Resistance policies failed as a result of U. S. District Court rulings and the Civil Rights Acts of 1957 and 1960
1964, July 2	President Lyndon Johnson signed Civil Rights Act which prohibited discrimination in public places, provided for the integration of schools and other public facilities, and made employment discrimination illegal
1965 – 1967	School desegregation accelerated in our four-county region. In 1967, regional schools were fully integrated – with the exception of Carver
1968, May 27	In the <i>Green v. County School Board of New Kent County, Virginia</i> , the U. S. Supreme Court ordered states to dismantle segregated school systems "root and branch." They provided guidance for doing so by ordering school districts to focus on five areas: Facilities * Extracurricular Activities * Staff * Transportation * Faculty
1968, June 7	Final graduation of the George Washington Carver Regional High School

The exhibit, **Being A Citizen**, is the property of the Carver 4-County Museum.

Full exhibit on view at the Carver 4-County Museum, 9432 James Madison Hwy, #102, Rapidan, VA

Traveling exhibit available

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