

STATE OF DELAWARE

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

**PROCLAMATION
IN OBSERVANCE OF
BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION DAY**

Whereas, attorney Louis L. Redding filed suit against the State Board of Education in 1951 on behalf of Mrs. Sarah Bulah of Hockessin, Delaware, after she unsuccessfully attempted to convince local officials to provide adequate transportation services for her daughter, Sarah; and

Whereas, the case, formally known as *Bulah v. Gebhart*, was combined with a similar suit, *Belton v. Gebhart*, that had been filed on behalf of 8 students in Claymont who were denied from attending Claymont High School; and

Whereas, on April 1st, 1952, Delaware Court of Chancery Chancellor Collins J. Seitz issued the decision that the disparity between the white and African American schools was in violation of the U.S. Constitution; and

Whereas, this ruling was the first instance in which a lower court ruled in favor of the plaintiff, and was the first substantial legal victory for those opposed to segregation in Delaware and in the United States; and

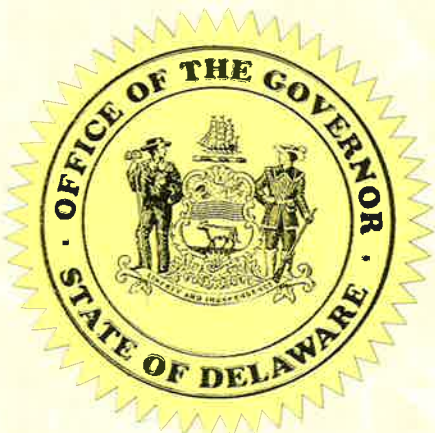
Whereas, *Bulah v. Gebhart* and *Belton v. Gebhart* were later appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court and were combined with 4 other cases into *Brown v. Board of Education*; and

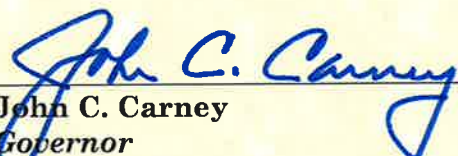
Whereas, the United States Supreme Court issued its historic decision in *Brown v. Board of Education* on May 17th, 1954, declaring segregation of public schools to be unlawful.

*Now, Therefore, We, John Carney, Governor,
and Bethany Hall-Long, Lieutenant Governor,
do hereby declare May 17th, 2021, as*

BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION DAY

in the State of Delaware, and urge all Delawareans to recognize this historic and momentous occasion in which our Great State played a significant role.




John C. Carney
Governor


Bethany A. Hall-Long
Lieutenant Governor

17-3729
Number