



- EST. FEBRUARY 2018 -

A COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

# IMPACT REPORT

**STAR (Scholars on Target to Achieve Results)** is a culturally-responsive academic engagement initiative that works to build equitable education opportunities for Black Scholars in the Fox Cities.



**9 STAR STAFF**  
**4 MIDDLE SCHOOLS**  
**3 HIGH SCHOOLS**  
**IN APPLETON**

# 703

**SCHOLARS  
SERVED TO DATE**

## 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

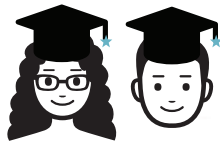


# 347

SCHOLARS

# 26

SENIORS



# 96%

GRADUATED

**"STAR is a safe place ... with people who genuinely care about you and people who always go out of their way to help you better yourself, not only in school, but out of school as well."**

*Paris*

2022 STAR Graduate

For Paris, STAR has been a breath of fresh air. This recent Appleton East graduate shares that STAR "helps you feel like you belong in a place where you've been uncomfortable and the minority for your whole life."

Through STAR, Paris received the support that she needed to use her voice, gain confidence, succeed in her schoolwork, make plans for her future, and build valuable connections to caring adults and her peers.

Paris dreams of starting her own business and hopes to be there for young people in the same way STAR has been there for her.

**"STAR has pushed me to achieve my goals ... and with that I was able to overcome challenges, complete my work, and graduate early."**

*Amanda*

2022 STAR Graduate

Amanda has spent the last four years benefitting from the guidance, security, and comfort that STAR has provided her.

"STAR has been a place and community to feel as though you belong and are welcomed, a safe place to show your true self and creativity."

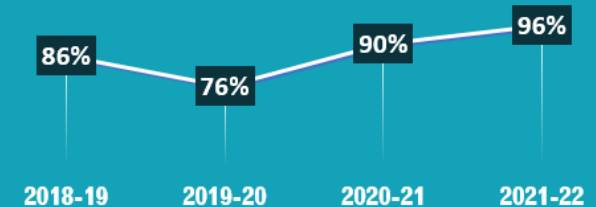
This Appleton West graduate seeks to inspire others on her path to success.

## 2020-21 AASD Graduation Rates

**STAR Scholars = 90%**  
 White Students = 88%  
 Black Students = 64%

**STAR is helping to close this educational attainment disparity.**

## STAR GRADUATION RATES



# 96%

of Scholars believe STAR staff took them seriously and treated them fairly.

# 93%

of Scholars believe working with STAR challenged them to work harder and/or do better.

# 95%

of Scholars believe that STAR staff believe in them and their ability to succeed.

## Program Highlights

- The STAR team received the Martin Luther King Jr., Educator Award for its work to educate students in the spirit of Dr. King.
- The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Fox Valley's Youth of the Year honor was awarded to Appleton North STAR Scholar, Bradon Wiggins.
- STAR was one of only 100 causes throughout the country that was voted to receive a \$25,000 State Farm Neighborhood Assist® grant.
- The STAR team expanded from seven to nine full-time positions within the Appleton Area School District to provide a greater level of support to STAR Scholars.

## School Partner Insights

"(STAR) holds students accountable while helping build capacity for teachers. I feel comfortable going to them with questions that I have about how to be better a teacher and I never feel judged. They are such a valuable asset to this school."

-AASD Educator

**67%** agree STAR has been a strong partner in helping to meet the needs of Black students at their school.

"To see the students have a space where they can authentically be their self has been so great to see. The STAR staff...go above and beyond to support their student's successes, identities, and well-being."

-AASD Educator

## Teams Supporting Scholars



Jessica, Tanner, and Courtney  
STAR Coordinators

Kaleidoscope Academy, Wilson,  
James Madison, and Einstein  
Middle Schools



Sherman and Enya  
STAR Asst. Director & STAR Advisor  
Appleton West High School



Deanté and Dennetra  
STAR Advisor & STAR Asst. Director  
Appleton North High School

Irines and Bri'aun  
STAR Asst. Director & STAR Advisor  
Appleton East High School



## Caregiver Insights

**77%** feel a sense of hope for their STAR Scholar's future.

**What did you like most about working with STAR this school year?**

"I personally as a parent cannot thank you enough for seeing my child, I mean really seeing her. Not seeing her as a black student or a minority, but seeing her as a student, as a human being, and as an equal. That alone is PRICELESS!"

-STAR Scholar Caregiver

"My child's sense of belonging, and peer accountability. My child is developing/discovering who they are. It's good to have peers with similar experiences helping them navigate this process in a positive manner."

-STAR Scholar Caregiver



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**  
OF THE FOX VALLEY

**OUR PURPOSE:** To make the Fox Valley a great place for ALL kids to grow and thrive.