

APRIL 7, 1831

http://www.vcdh.virginia.edu/cslk/danville/media/pdfs/brief_history.pdf

In an effort to keep slaves from reading and sharing antislavery tracts, for fear of slave insurrections, Virginia legislators passed an act on April 7, 1831, declaring “all meetings of free negroes or mulattoes at any school-house or other place for teaching them reading or writing, either in the day or at night, under whatever pretext” unlawful. If a white person took pay for the education of African Americans, he or she was fined fifty dollars and imprisoned for a number of days (excerpt taken from *A Brief History of the Education of African American in Danville, Virginia: From Dan’s Hill to Langston High School*, by Lawrence M. Clark, ED.D)