

Written Notice of Motion (Trustees Dawson and King, on behalf of Student Trustees Musa, Osaro and Student Trustee Shafqat)

From: Denise Joseph-Dowers, Senior Manager, Governance and Board Services

In accordance with Board Bylaws 5.15.45, the following motion is submitted as notice at this time and for consideration at the next regular meeting of the Program and School Services Committee

5.15.45 Motions must first be introduced as a Notice of Motion to provide advance notification of a matter, ...

5.15.51 A Notice of Motion submitted to a Committee, will be considered at a subsequent Committee meeting.

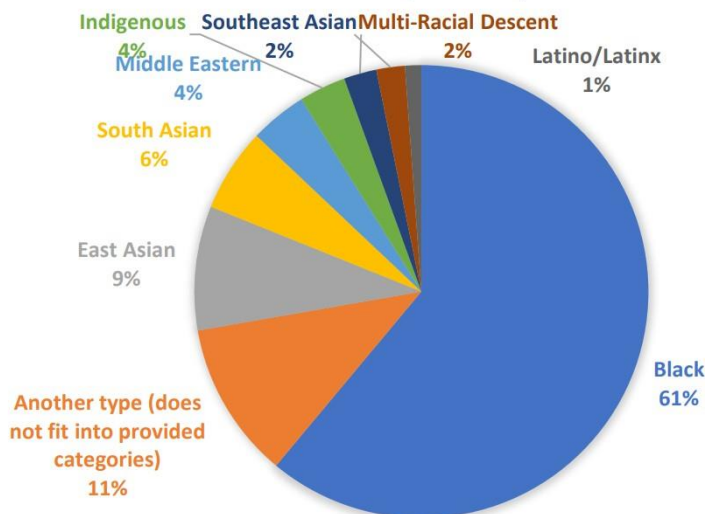
Incorporating *Deconstructing Anti-Black Racism*, a Grade 12U Interdisciplinary Course in the TDSB, as Provincially Accredited Coursework

Whereas, racism in all forms threaten the common good, and as the largest public education system in the country, the Toronto District School Board has the responsibility to educate against hate; and

Whereas, the 2020/21 TDSB Human Rights Office (HRO) Annual Report notes that reported racism, bias, and hate incidents (RBH) have surged/tripled over past three years, with an overwhelming majority of 61 percent of race-related incidents continuing to involve anti-Black racism and hate; and

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Portals/0/aboutus/HumanRights/2020->

Figure 5: RBH Race Related Incidents by Identity



[2021%20HRO%20Report%20April%204%202022%20\(%20FINAL\)%20ACCESSIBLE.pdf](#)

Whereas, in accordance with the TDSB Multi-Year Strategic Plan, providing mandatory training for principals/ vice-principals in anti-oppression and anti-Black racism connected to school improvement, and building capacity among groups of educators who possess the facilitation skills and understanding to effectively co-lead learning in human rights, equity and anti-oppression is ongoing; and

Whereas, the TDSB Multi -Year Strategic Plan acknowledges that "in order to meet the different interests and learning styles of our students, the TDSB must keep updating course offerings and delivery methods and ... The Board will conduct a review of existing programming offering in secondary schools and scan for gaps based on feedback obtained through student surveys, and explore the expansion of new delivery models..."; and

Whereas, the TDSB approved mandatory Indigenous Education in Grade 11 in February 2023; an exemplar in the Board's commitment to a culturally relevant and responsive, multicentric approach to education; and

Whereas, In 2017, Ontario's Anti-Racism Directorate (ARD) launched the Anti-Black Racism Strategy, noting that Anti-Black racism has a long/ troubling history in Canada, that many Black people continue to experience systemic racism and hate on a regular basis, and that the province required a vision to eliminate disparaging outcomes for Black Ontarians in the child welfare, education and justice sectors by 2024 to align with the close of the United Nations International Decade for People of African Descent; and

Whereas, Objective 5 of Ontario's Anti-Black Racism Strategy acknowledges that Anti-Black racism affects us all, and that public education will help create a society where Ontarians are aware of, and are better prepared to identify and challenge anti-Black racism; and

Whereas the province's Anti-Racism Directorate (ARD) provided \$200,000 to the Toronto District School Board to address the historical and persistent inequities in the outcomes and experiences of Black students, leading to the creation of the Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement; and

Whereas, the IDC4U/Deconstructing Anti-Black Racism course was created in collaboration with, and is currently housed by, the Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement; and

Whereas, the IDC4U/Deconstructing Anti-Black Racism course uses existing overall and specific objectives from course curriculums already approved by the Ministry of Education; and

Whereas, the IDC4U/Deconstructing Anti-Black Racism course is already part of the TDSB's Anti-Hate Anti Racism Strategy, tasked with ensuring coursework to help affirm students intersecting identities, and better understand racism, hate, intolerance and oppression, is present in every secondary school in the system, by Sept 2023; and

Whereas, in June 2020, the board passed a motion to appeal to the province for the Genocide: Historical and Contemporary Implications (CHG381), Grade 11, Locally Developed Course to become an accredited course in the Ontario curriculum, and was successful; and

Whereas, the Genocide: Historical and Contemporary Implications (CHG381), Grade 11, Locally Developed Course, previously passed through this same process, moving to become an accredited as part of the Ontario Curriculum, with the support of this board; and

Whereas, the DABR course's current designation as an Interdisciplinary course creates multiple institutional and systemic barriers, which actively prevent many students from taking this course and engaging in this critical, multicentric learning opportunity; and

Whereas, the matter was discussed at the Black Student Achievement Community Advisory Committee (BSACAC) on April 3, 2023; and

Whereas, BSACAC fully endorses the recommendation presented herein;

Therefore, be it resolved:

- (a) That the Chair write to the Minister of Education recommending that the course, 'Deconstructing Anti-Black Racism' (DABR), IDC4U1, a 12U, locally developed, interdisciplinary course, care-taken by the Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement, be accredited as part of the Ontario Curriculum offerings, as a University pathway course with its own dedicated course code;
- (b) That within the letter at Part (a), the TDSB Board of Trustees recommend that the Minister of Education convene a working group of experts, whose work and experience with Black student excellence and achievement will ensure the spirit of the 'Deconstructing anti-Black Racism' course retains in-tact as it moves from being a locally developed interdisciplinary course, to a provincial accredited course.