

TDSB BLACK STUDENT SUMMER LEADERSHIP PROGRAM 2020

The TDSB Black Student Summer Leadership Program, led by Graduation Coaches for Black Students, is a 7-week research initiative that engages 31 Black students from 7 TDSB Secondary Schools¹. In collaboration with the Jean Augustine Chair in Education, Community and Diaspora in the Faculty of Education at York University, this program has 4 key principles: citizenship, agency, activism and mentorship. At the heart of the TDSB Black Student Summer Leadership Program is the goal of training students through a Youth Participatory Action Research (YPAR) framework to develop their competencies as leaders in community-based research projects and agents of social change.

Through this youth-centered research model, student voice is amplified and honoured in conversations about schooling experiences and community development. Furthermore, as students engage in this summer leadership program, they gain the skills necessary to understand and confront issues of anti-Black racism and social justice within the education system.

Principles of the TDSB Black Student Summer Leadership Program



In the upcoming school year, students will leverage YPAR to conduct systemic research and design resources that influence school-based policies and embed recommendations to support transformative change.

¹The 7 TDSB secondary schools are: Albert Campbell Collegiate Institute, A.Y. Jackson Secondary School, Central Technical School, Forest Hill Collegiate Institute, Kipling Collegiate Institute, Thistletown Collegiate Institute and Westview Secondary School