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C20-166

--In School Committee--
06/16/2021

Ordered:

That the following be referred to the Superintendent:

Whereas, People of Color face greater discrimination, structural discipline, lack of social support both in schools and in society at large; and

Whereas, children, adolescents, and adults in the Black community face higher rates of social and structural violence and racial discrimination, and

Whereas, centering the experiences of scholars and staff of color is a core value of the Cambridge Public Schools; and

Whereas, scholars and staff's mental well-being is a fundamental concern of the School Committee as the nation grapples with issues of structural racism in public institutions due to the unjust killing of George Floyd; therefore be it

Resolved, that the School Committee affirms its immediate support to promote the needs and safety of all staff and scholars who identify as black by reviewing the Non-Discrimination and Non-Tolerance of Hate Crimes policy or other policies that disproportionately impact scholars and staff of color to ensure they are current, relevant, and up to date; and be it further (referred to Governance Sub-Committee)

Resolved, that the School Committee, encourage the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to enhance programming to provide schools with the guidance needed to provide anti-racist curriculum and professional development for all staff to build understanding and awareness of the history and the challenges of minority communities, and of structural racism in the United States; and be it further (Referred to Curriculum and Achievement Sub-Committee)

Resolved, that the Cambridge Public Schools commit to holding our district accountable to policies that protect the rights of black staff and scholars within our district.

A true copy:


Dosha E. Beard

Executive Secretary to the School Committee

c:
Member Wilson
Vice Chair Bowman

Motion # 20-143