

ADVOCACY FRAMEWORK: KNOW YOUR RIGHTS!

Recognizing the persistent crisis of anti-Black racism within the education system, various Black-led organizations, including Parents of Black Children, are actively involved in advocating for systemic changes. The Student and Family Advocacy Community of Practice, comprising 17 organizations, aims to provide support and advocate for Black families navigating educational systems. Everyone has the right to advocacy.



ADVOCACY PILLARS:

Urgency:

Treating every issue as emergent, acknowledging racial harm as a form of violence, and prioritizing swift resolutions.

Consent:

Ensuring families agree to support by completing consent forms to authorize advocacy on their behalf and provide wrap-around support.

Transparency:

Email notifications to all relevant stakeholders, including school boards, administrators, and superintendents, to maintain open communication and updates about ongoing situations.

WHAT DOES ACCOUNTABILITY LOOK LIKE?

Report:

Reporting instances of discrimination/racism as professional misconduct to relevant bodies, including the Ontario College of Teachers.

Remove:

Take decisive action by removing administrators, educators, or students involved in egregious acts of racism, rather than relocating them.

Resolve:

Seeking student-centred solutions to address issues promptly, avoiding gaslighting, roadblocks, or undermining parents.

Rebuild:

Critically examining processes and policies that contribute to systemic harm, implementing plans to dismantle and reconstruct them for lasting change.

Sources

<https://parentsofblackchildren.org/advocacy/>