

## MTA Board of Directors' Meeting

### ITEM OF NEW BUSINESS

Check One:            ☒ Action or Policy Item            ☐ Informational Item

**MOVED**

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Continue the working group of members formed as per last year's NBI, which is being called the Taskforce on Race.

The Taskforce will undertake the following efforts over the next year:

1. continue to post educational materials for members to use (website and MTA Today);
2. develop workshops on racism for locals that wish to engage their members, students, communities and/or administrations in addressing racism;
3. develop and disseminate model contract language that locals could use to address the impacts of racism in their school systems;
4. develop workshops to help members take steps to challenge racism in our workplaces and schools through grievances and other tools.
5. Task Force on Race will provide a report at the 2017 January Board meeting.

The MTA commits to provide active support and protection for school personnel who raise issues of racism in their classrooms or with their workplaces at any level of public education.

**RATIONALE**

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As a result of the 2015 NBI, the Taskforce on Race was created and started meeting in the fall of 2015. Through discussion at our meetings, we explored the ways that racism plays out in our schools and school systems, and how it affects our students and us. These discussions have helped to expand our collective understanding of the impacts of racism on students and education workers, as well as the complexities involved in recognizing and addressing those impacts.

Members of the Taskforce are willing to continue the work of identifying resources to help members and locals address racism, and have identified additional ways to engage with members through educational opportunities already in place, such as the EMAC Conference, the New Teachers conference, the Summer Conference, and other trainings provided by the MTA around collective bargaining and organizing.

**COST ESTIMATE**

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None

**SUBMITTED BY**

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Merrie Najimy, 15D, Concord Teachers Assn  
Sue Doherty, 36C, Brockton Education Assn