



Preliminary Research Plan

New Trier Coalition for Diversity, July 2020

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Introduction

The purpose of this document is to delineate the preliminary research plan for NTCD. The goals of NTCD's research division is to

- (1) Deliver regular quantitative and qualitative measurements of New Trier High School's (NTHS) performance with regard to handling racial issues,
- (2) Offer insight into the efficacy of the racial issue initiatives set forth and executed by NTCD and other organizations, so that NTCD can make continuous evidence-based improvements to its initiatives.

To achieve this goal, our research initiative will be based around two parallel projects:

- **Survey:** We will create and distribute a survey to members of the New Trier community to assess their perception of racial issues and how they are handled by NTHS.
- **Synthesis Research:** We will analyze the data collected by other surveys, such as the *Illinois Youth Survey*, and other external sources of data to supplement the results from our own survey.

In early May, our research will culminate in the “Annual Research Report, 2020-21,” where we will publish in detail our research methods, our data, and our analysis.

Survey

We plan to distribute the survey twice during the school year, once in the 1st and once in the 4th quarter. Here is the draft of our survey as of July 15th, 2020:

NT Community Racial Issues Survey

Rev. July 2020

Thank you for taking the time to fill out our survey. All questions below are optional!

I. Previous Surveys

1. Have you completed the survey published by the “NT Antiracism Board” earlier this year?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
2. If so, please write either your name below or the identification code you received after completing the aforementioned survey.

3. Did anyone refer you to take this survey? If so, what is the identification code they gave you?

II. Demographics

1. Which of the following best describes you?
 - a. Current NTHS student
 - b. NTHS alum
 - c. NTHS teacher
 - d. NTHS administration staff
 - e. Other NTHS staff
 - f. Other: _____
2. How old are you? _____
3. What grade are you in? _____
4. What is your gender?
 - a. Male
 - b. Female
 - c. Other: _____
5. Are you LGBTQ+?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Prefer not to say
6. What is your race?
 - a. White
 - b. African-American
 - c. Other Black
 - d. Latino/Latina
 - e. Asian-American (East)
 - f. Asian-American (South)
 - g. Middle Eastern
 - h. Other Asian
 - i. Native American/American Indian

- j. Multi-racial
- k. Other: _____
- 7. How many parents/guardians do you live with? _____
- 8. Are you eligible for New Trier's free lunch program?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

III. Sentiment on NTHS

1. What forms of racism have you seen over the last year (Select all that apply)?
 - a. Microaggressions
 - b. Social rejection (on grounds of race)
 - c. Sexual rejection (on grounds of race)
 - d. Contempt expressed for other cultures or races
 - e. Xenophobia
 - f. Internalized racism
 - g. Institutional racism
 - h. Physical violence (on grounds of race)
 - i. Verbal abuse (on grounds of race)
 - j. Use of racial slurs
 - k. Other: _____
2. Over the last year, how often did you witness racism at NTHS?
 - a. Never
 - b. Daily
 - c. 1-2 times a week
 - d. 3-4 times a week
 - e. 1-2 times a month
 - f. 1-2 times a year
 - g. 3-6 times a year
3. Over the last year, where have you experienced racism (Select all that apply)?
 - a. Advisory
 - b. Classroom
 - c. Lunchtime/Free period
 - d. Online (social media)
 - e. During extracurriculars
 - f. During athletic events
 - g. Counseling services
 - h. Administrative offices
 - i. Other: _____
4. Over the last year, who have you seen do racist things/be racist (Select all that apply)?
 - a. Myself
 - b. My friends
 - c. Other students
 - d. Teachers
 - e. NTHS Admin staff
 - f. Other NTHS staff
 - g. Other: _____
5. What race has the racism been directed towards?
 - a. White
 - b. Black/African-American
 - c. Latino/Latina
 - d. Asian-American
 - e. Middle Eastern
 - f. Native American/American Indian
 - g. Multi-racial
 - h. Other: _____

6. What percent of **students** would you say have purposefully or inadvertently done racist things or have been racist within the last year?
 - a. <10%
 - b. 10-25%
 - c. 25-50%
 - d. 50-75%
 - e. 75-90%
 - f. >90%
7. What percent of **teachers** would you say have purposefully or inadvertently done racist things or have been racist within the last year?
 - a. <10%
 - b. 10-25%
 - c. 25-50%
 - d. 50-75%
 - e. 75-90%
 - f. >90%
8. What percent of **NT administrative staff** would you say have purposefully or inadvertently done racist things or have been racist within the last year?
 - a. <10%
 - b. 10-25%
 - c. 25-50%
 - d. 50-75%
 - e. 75-90%
 - f. >90%
9. What percent of **other NT staff** would you say have purposefully or inadvertently done racist things or have been racist within the last year?
 - a. <10%
 - b. 10-25%
 - c. 25-50%
 - d. 50-75%
 - e. 75-90%
 - f. >90%

V. Confidence in NTHS

1. How confident are you in the NTHS administration and staff to solve racial issues at New Trier?
 - a. Very doubtful
 - b. Somewhat doubtful
 - c. Somewhat confident
 - d. Very confident
2. How well has the NTHS administration and staff dealt with racial issues over the last year?
 - a. Very poorly
 - b. Somewhat poorly
 - c. Somewhat well
 - d. Very well
3. If left alone, how well do you think the NTHS administration and staff will deal with racial issues in the future?
 - a. Very poorly
 - b. Somewhat poorly
 - c. Somewhat well
 - d. Very well
4. What do you think were the best efforts by NTHS administration and/or staff to address racial issues at New Trier over the last year?

5. Would you be in favor of an outside organization regularly evaluating NTHS on addressing racial issues?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

VI. Other Sentiments

1. What is your opinion on the protests that followed the George Floyd shooting?
 - a. Highly positive
 - b. Positive
 - c. Neutral
 - d. Negative
 - e. Highly negative
2. Were the protests that occurred violent or nonviolent?
 - a. Violent
 - b. Mostly violent
 - c. Mostly nonviolent
 - d. Nonviolent
3. If there was violence, who was it perpetrated by?
 - a. Protestors
 - b. Non-protestor civilians
 - c. Police
 - d. Other: _____
4. Is it okay to protest violently?
 - a. Yes
 - b. Sometimes
 - c. No
5. What is your opinion on the Black Lives Matter movement?
 - a. Highly positive
 - b. Positive
 - c. Neutral
 - d. Negative
 - e. Highly negative
 - f. I don't know what that is
6. What is your opinion on the All Lives Matter movement?
 - a. Highly positive
 - b. Positive
 - c. Neutral
 - d. Negative
 - e. Highly negative
 - f. I don't know what that is
7. What is your opinion on the Blue Lives Matter movement?
 - a. Highly positive
 - b. Positive
 - c. Neutral
 - d. Negative
 - e. Highly negative
 - f. I don't know what that is
8. What is your perception of the police?
 - a. Highly positive
 - b. Positive
 - c. Neutral
 - d. Negative
 - e. Highly negative
9. Does racism exist in America?
 - a. Yes, and it is pervasive
 - b. Yes, it exists to a moderate extent
 - c. Yes, but not to a significant extent
 - d. No
10. Does institutional racism exist in America?
 - a. Yes, and it is pervasive
 - b. Yes, it exists to a moderate extent

- c. Yes, but not to a significant extent
- d. No
- e. I don't know what that is

11. For each race below, judge from 0 (nonexistent) and 5 (pervasive) the racism the race faces.

- a. White _____
- b. Black/African-American _____
- c. Latino/Latina _____
- d. Asian-American _____
- e. Middle Eastern _____
- f. Native American/American Indian _____
- g. Multi-racial _____

12. Do you feel optimistic about race relations in America?

- a. Highly optimistic
- b. Somewhat optimistic
- c. Neutral
- d. Somewhat pessimistic
- e. Highly pessimistic

VII. Interpretations

1. Does "white privilege" exist?
 - a. No
 - b. Yes, but its impact is often exaggerated
 - c. Yes, and its impact is often perceived accurately
 - d. Yes, and its impact is often underestimated
 - e. I don't know what that is
2. What does "white privilege" mean?
 _____ (or I don't know)
3. Which of the following would you prefer to be: Race-aware or race-blind?
 - a. Race-aware
 - b. Race-blind
4. What is cultural appropriation?
 _____ (or I don't know)
5. Is cultural appropriation a big problem?
 - a. Yes
 - b. Somewhat
 - c. No
6. Is it ever okay to say a racial slur?
 - a. Always
 - b. Often
 - c. Sometimes
 - d. Rarely
 - e. Never
7. What is the "Myth of the Model Minority"?
 _____ (or I don't know)

VIII. Miscellaneous

1. If you would like to allow us to contact you, please write your email below.

2. How appropriate was the length of this survey?
 - a. Could have been longer
 - b. Just right
 - c. Too long
3. Is there anything you would like to add to the survey?

4. How long did this survey take you?

The second survey, distributed during the 4th quarter, will also contain an extra section designed to assess the impact and perception, whether positive or negative, of NTCD's curriculum proposal.

Synthesis Research

We will perform synthesis research all throughout the school year, drawing data especially from the Illinois Youth Survey to draw conclusions about school performance, participation, and enjoyment across the races at New Trier.

Timeline

7/15	Publish first version of NTCD curriculum initiative and research plan.
7/16	Assess the level of cooperation for the research plan with the NTHS admin.
7/23	Deadline for finalizing research plan
7/24	Arrange for a meeting with the administration for final approval of rollout.
Sept	Send out first quarter survey to NTHS community
Sept-April	Do synthesis research internally
April	Send out fourth quarter survey to NTHS community
May	Write and publish "Annual Research Report, 2020-21"

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Contact research@ntdiversity.com to offer feedback or suggestions.