



National Black Justice Coalition

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Board of Trustees and/or David Coleman
College Board National Office
250 Vesey Street
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United States
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Message to College Board Leadership: Stand Up to DeSantis or Step Down

To Whom it May Concern,

The undersigned 30 civil and human rights, educational equity, and gender equality organizations write to express our demand that David Coleman, the President of the College Board, resigns.

The public rollout of the College Board's long-awaited Advanced Placement Black Studies Course has been a public relations and brand disaster for your institution causing pain, division, and turmoil for the community it sought to celebrate. Several lies and a belated campaign to tell the truth from your President, David Coleman, regarding the pilot and revision process of the curriculum played a role in the growing mistrust the public, students, and educators have for your institution and the content of the class.

Recent news [reports](#) reveal that the College Board coordinated and met with Florida officials multiple times before the release of its revisions to the AP African American Studies course while obfuscating this fact in recent public interviews. The meetings with Florida officials were about removing the depth, breadth, and recency of Black history in its study of Black life - including the removal of Black feminist and queer life and history, the movements for reparations and Black lives, and more. After the Florida Department of Education released documentation of letters and meetings, the College Board deleted that press release and admitted that "certain terms and concepts were removed because they were politicized in several states." The College Board maintains that the AP African American Studies curriculum does not violate Florida law - which it doesn't. There was never a legal requirement for the College Board to change the curriculum.

New leadership is required if the College Board lacks the courage and character to advocate for students and academic freedom; and against the DeSantis regime's book banning, censorship, and surveillance agenda. Without the courageous leadership needed for this moment in history, the College Board will continue to be a pawn in the political games of governors and other elected officials advancing a white nationalist, anti-democratic agenda.

The undersigned believe that the decision to make learning about fundamental parts of Black studies optional due to partisan political pressure is a tremendous error on the part of the College Board and warrants the immediate removal or resignation of David Coleman, the President of your institution.

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Human Rights Campaign

Equality Florida

PFLAG National

Antioch College

GLMA: Health Professionals Advancing LGBTQ+ Equality

Florida Rising

EducateUS: SIECUS In Action

Antioch College

MWRD LLC

Equal Ground Education Fund

National LGBT Cancer Network

COLAGE

GLSEN

National Center for Transgender Equality

Yolanda Sealey-Ruiz, Teachers College, Columbia University

Institute Of The Black World 21st Century

Equality Federation

SRWaite Consulting, Inc.

University of Denver

Equality Ohio

National Charter Collaborative

OutFront Minnesota

SIECUS: Sex Ed for Social Change

America & Moore, LLC

UltraViolet

SWIFT - Indivisible

LULAC

Diversity Talks

Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund

Family Equality

Tennessee Educators of Color Alliance