

# Ethnic Studies Update

Davis Joint Unified School District



Board of Education  
October 15, 2020



- DJUSD Task Force Review
- 2020 Developments
- State & Legislative Updates
- Plan & Process Ahead



# Ethnic Studies Task Force

**Driving Question:** *How can Ethnic Studies best meet the needs of our students?*

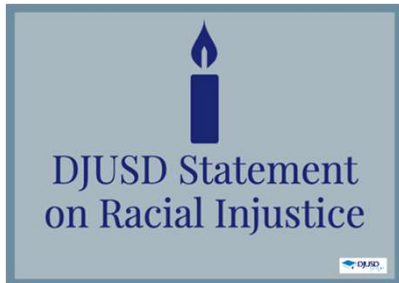
1. What challenges can Ethnic Studies solve? How do those challenges exist in Davis?
2. What does research say about the impact of Ethnic Studies?
3. What can we learn from case studies of Ethnic Studies implementation in other school districts?



February 19, 2020



## Local and National Social Justice Movement



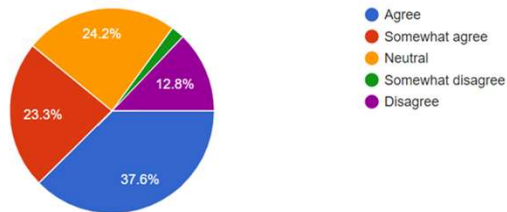
## Distance Learning



## DJUSD Summer/Fall Developments

- Culturally Responsive Teaching (CRT) professional development
- CRT Book Club
- Equity & Access Modules
- National Equity Project
- Native American Student Support Program (Title VI)

I am interested in professional learning for Culturally Responsive Teaching practices.  
335 responses



## Seal of Civic Engagement





“

Kids react when the curriculum isn't speaking to their experiences or to the things that really matter to them.

Christine Sleeter, Professor Emerita at California State University

## Dr. Sleeter Speaking Event

### 1. What challenges can Ethnic Studies solve?

- Disengagement and lower achievement of many students of color
- Lack of racial awareness for all students, particularly white students

### 2. What does research say about the impact of Ethnic Studies?

- Positive academic and personal impact
- Positive impact on racial attitudes of diverse student populations

### 3. What can we learn from case studies of Ethnic Studies implementation in other school districts?

- Teacher professional development (self, content, pedagogy)
- Include marginalized voices in the community
- Start small and take time to build capacity
- Track data over time

## DJUSD Student Perspectives

- Discrimination, prejudice, and racism exist in our schools
- Students have experienced harm as a result of their identity
- Many students do not see themselves and their cultures in the curriculum
- Students are eager to participate and lead
- Students expect us to listen and act





# Ethnic Studies in California

SUPPORT AB 2016  
Sign the Petition



**AB 2016**



**AB 2772**



**AB 331**



**Ethnic Studies  
Model  
Curriculum**



## Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum

**Public  
review of  
Draft 1  
Curriculum**

**AB114  
extends  
deadline to  
March 31,  
2021**

**CDE  
conducts  
information  
gathering**

**Public  
review and  
revisions  
of Draft 2  
Curriculum**

**Deadline  
for SBE  
action**

**August  
2019**

**October  
2019**

**October  
2019 - July  
2020**

**Fall 2020**

**March 31,  
2021**



# AB 331

**Bill  
authored  
by Jose  
Medina for  
class of  
2025**

**AB331  
extended  
for model  
curriculum  
revisions**

**Amendments,  
including class  
of 2030**

**Governor  
vetoes  
AB331**

**January  
2019**



**August  
2019**



**August  
2020**



**September  
2020**



## Ethnic Studies in DJUSD

1970s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Native American &amp; Chicano History, Black Studies, Ethnic Studies</li> </ul>
1980s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Competition for College-going courses ended Ethnic Studies programs</li> <li>• Murder of Thong Hy Nguyen</li> </ul>
1990s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Embracing Diversity curriculum resource guide</li> <li>• English 10 multiculturalism overhaul</li> <li>• Humanities course (interdisciplinary multiculturalism focus)</li> </ul>
2000s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate Office</li> <li>• Race &amp; Social Justice course</li> <li>• Unconscious Bias trainings</li> </ul>
2010s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• History/Social Studies Framework</li> <li>• Equity Trainings (Arizona Equity Alliance, National Equity Project)</li> <li>• Title VI - Native American Education</li> </ul>
2020 & Beyond	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pilot, Program Recommendation, Implementation</li> </ul>

## Theory of Action

- **Student-centered & Teacher-guided**
- Research-based
- Build understanding & awareness
- Innovation & collaboration
- Start small, reflect, & scale



## Plan and Timeline

- Dr. Christine Sleeter (Fall, 2020)
- Ethnic Studies Staff Orientation (October, 2020)
- Ethnic Studies Student Orientation (October, 2020)
- Ethnic Studies Task Force (Fall & Spring, 2020-21)
- Scholar Webinars & Professional Learning (2020-21)
- Lesson, Activity, Unit Pilots (Fall & Spring, 2020-21)
- Reflection & Synthesis (Spring, 2021)
- Formal Recommendation (Fall, 2021)
- Program Planning (Fall & Spring, 2021-22)
- Program Implementation (Fall, 2022)

