

**From:** Pia Gentapanan

**Sent:** Saturday, March 14, 2020 10:25 AM

**To:** Superintendent

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Ethnic Studies Curriculum: My High School Project!

Dear Superintendent Tony Thurmond,

My name is Pia Gentapanan and I am a senior at Environmental Charter High School, located in Lawndale. I am currently working on a senior research project. At the start of my academic school year, I wrote an extensive research essay on the harm of the Model Minority Myth in communities of color. The next part of my project is to pinpoint a potential solution that could mitigate my chosen social injustice, and I chose to focus on enforcing the Ethnic Studies Curriculum AB 331.

I am reaching out to you because I would like your support in the implementation of ethnic studies classes in high schools not just in the Los Angeles area, but throughout California. I believe the implementation of this course will educate students at a young age about cultural respect and inclusivity of ethnic backgrounds beyond only European. From learning about an array of ethnicities, my hope is that the perpetuation of stereotypes, like the Model Minority Myth, can be prevented or mitigated with the integration of ethnic studies. Attached to this email is a petition signed by teachers and students who support this course.

Exploring topics like these will help develop a new generation of people where they are more respectful and aware of their social interactions within our environment. That will help bring more people who are understanding of the world into the political circle. I ask for your support in areas that I, as a student, cannot reach, like the Board of Education. I also offer my help and support in any area of interest necessary to help further the enforcement of the AB 331. I understand that you must be busy, but I would appreciate it if you could provide a response and/or support in any way possible. Thank you for your time!

Best,  
Pia Gentapanan

Ethnic Studies AB 331

Name	Signature	Date
Vivian Aragon	<i>V. Aragon</i>	1/5/20
Nancy Escareno	<i>N.E.</i>	1/5/20
Alondra Villagrana	<i>A.V.</i>	1/5/20
Vincent Mirón	<i>V.M.</i>	1/7/20
Lenny DeLaTorre	<i>Lenny DeLaTorre</i>	1/7/20
Leon Villegas	<i>Leon Villegas</i>	1/13/20
Robert Gonzalez	<i>Robert Gonzalez</i>	1/13/20
Oscar Ortiz	<i>Oscar Ortiz</i>	1/13/20
Juliana Somayoo	<i>Juliana Somayoo</i>	1/13/20
Phillip Le	<i>Phillip Le</i>	1/13/20
Kimberly Nguyen	<i>Kimberly Nguyen</i>	1/13/20
Sophia Guerrero	<i>Sophia Guerrero</i>	1/13/20
Gabriel Loyola	<i>Gabriel Loyola</i>	1/15/20
Jesse Sanchez	<i>Jesse Sanchez</i>	1/15/20
David Becerra	<i>David Becerra</i>	1/15/20
Jennifer Agustin	<i>Jennifer Agustin</i>	1/15/20
Diego Barlas	<i>Diego Barlas</i>	1/15/20
Sylvia Hanna	<i>Sylvia Hanna</i>	1/15/20
Name	Signature	Date

Emily Torres	<i>Emily Torres</i>	1/17/20
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