

From: John or Barbara Erickson

Sent: Saturday, July 18, 2020 10:25 AM

To: Ethnic Studies

Cc: Superintendent; [email redacted]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Include Arab American Studies in CA Ethnic Studies Curriculum

I urge you all to include Arab American studies as part of Asian American studies. With the current rise of white nationalism, Islamophobia and xenophobia, it very important to teach students about diversity, tolerance and about the experience of Americans from West Asia. This must include Palestine history and the Palestinian struggle for human rights. Palestinian existence is not antisemitic. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights should be taught. Students needs to know why it is universal and how to apply it to all people without exception. Please listen to Arab American scholars and Ethnic Studies practitioners and collaborate with them as you revise school curricula.

John Erickson