

From: Karen Platt

Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 3:09 PM

To: Ethnic Studies

Cc: Superintendent; [email redacted]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] include Arab-Am studies in CA ethnic studies curriculum

I write to you as a retired middle school teacher and a Jew to strongly encourage you to include Arab-American studies as part of the state ethnic studies curriculum.

From my personal experience teaching many ESL students, I know how important it is for their self-esteem to see themselves as part of the curriculum and, from my personal experience as a Jew, I recognize how much all of us need to learn about each other so that we are knowledgeable and empathetic, which will help us all live together in respect and peace.

Post 9/11 and given the horrific policies of the Trump administration, it is of the utmost importance that Arab-Americans, including Palestinians and Asians, be supported and included.

I hope you will support and encourage human rights for all by including Arab-American studies within the California ESMC.

Sincerely,

Karen Platt, Albany CA