

From: Kim McCarthy
Sent: Friday, July 3, 2020 12:20 PM
To: Ethnic Studies
Cc: Superintendent; [email redacted]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] ESMC and Arab American Studies

To whom it may concern:

I am writing this email to strongly condemn any effort to remove Arab American studies from the Asian American section of the California Ethnic Studies curriculum. California's students deserve to better understand the history and culture of Arab Americans, especially during a time where Islamophobia is still widely present in our society and ignorance around Arab Americans abounds. Countering media stereotypes and providing a curriculum that reflects the history and current reality of Arab American students should be part of any California Ethnic Studies curriculum.

As a secondary school teacher for the past 25 years, and having traveled widely in the Middle East, I believe it would be an egregious omission to delete curricular matter in response to pressure from nationalist or Zionist interests.

Thank you.

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Kim McCarthy
San Jose High School Social Science Teacher
Parent of Middle School student