

From: Edward W Jesman

Sent: Thursday, October 1, 2020 1:17 AM

To: Caria Tomczykowska

Cc: Gordon Black; Ethnic Studies; Pacnorthcal Prokopczuk

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Comment on draft, Model Curriculum for Ethnic Studies

Hi Gordon,

The letter looks fine. Please sign my name under the letter. The only change: PAC of So. Cal. is not a division of PAC. We are an independent entity incorporated in California. May I also sign as President of Polish American Strategic Initiative, Inc.?

Thanks,

Edward W. Jesman, President of Polish American Congress of Southern California, Inc.
and President of Polish American Strategic Initiative, Inc.

On Sep 30, 2020, at 8:58 PM, Caria Tomczykowska wrote:

Looks great!

Caria Tomczykowska

The Compleat Planner

On Wed, Sep 30, 2020, 20:09 Gordon Black wrote:

To:

Instructional Quality Commission

California department of Education

Curriculum Frameworks and Instructional Resources Division

From:

Gordon Black, Office for Ethnic Relations

Polish American Congress, Northern California Division

Cc:

Dr. Andrzej Prokopczuk, President, Polish American Congress, Northern California

Mr. Edward Jesman, President, Polish American Congress, Southern California

Subject:

Review comments for second draft of Model Curriculum for Ethnic Studies

The Office for Ethnic Relations in the Polish American Congress, Northern California Division, in communication with PAC Southern California Division, submitted the following comment for the first draft of the California Model Curriculum for Ethnic Studies:

Bill AB-2016, Pupil Instruction in Ethnic Studies, recognizes that there are 93 languages including English spoken throughout the state, and so, while identifying a core group for particular support, the Model Curriculum should respect the presence and identities of all the ethnicities.

We are pleased with advances in the second draft, and look forward to further refinements arising from the second review.

Because of emphasis by *The New York Times* regarding the first landing of African slaves in America, as published in its *1619 Project*, we anticipate attention to the first documented labor strike in the New World, at Jamestown, in that same year of 1619. The strike was conducted by Polish craftsmen, who won the right to vote in the the English colony.

We might consider intersections of that early protest with the 1968 strike at San Francisco State College, calling for inclusion and dignity, impelling development of Ethnic Studies and its emerging Model Curriculum.

We offer a thought, motivated by the classroom projects in Appendix C of the proposed Model Curriculum, particularly the *Gallery Walk* lesson. Here is an image, a painting by Artur Szyk, from the Polish Pavilion of the 1939 World's Fair in New York, representing the Jamestown Polish activists.

Might California children, of all our various ethnicities, ask what is being told in this image, and what connections they might find with their own stories, and with the hopeful goals of Ethnic Studies?