From: Sharon Minsuk

Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 11:51 PM

To: Ethnic Studies

Cc: Superintendent; [email redacted]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public comment on CA Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum

I support keeping the ESMC intact; specifically, continuing to include Arab American studies.

Arab Americans are Americans just like every other American. Not only is this curriculum good for Arab Americans, it is very important for other Americans to learn about it as well. In this age of rising Islamophobia, xenophobia, and general racism against "brown" people, Arab Americans are particularly at risk.

I am Jewish, and I even have Arab Americans within my own family - related by blood! Failure to support Arab Americans is a failure to support *my* family.

I am Jewish, and I also support Palestinian rights, a 2-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and a condemnation of the Israeli occupation, West Bank settlements, annexation plans, and persecution of Palestinians. This also needs to be included in the curriculum. It is not antisemitic to defend human rights.

Sincerely, Dr. Sharon Minsuk Belmont, CA