

From: Tara Shahandeh
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 12:43 PM
To: Ethnic Studies
Cc: [emails redacted]; Superintendent
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Save Middle Eastern Studies

Hello, my name is Tara and I am a student supporting the ESMC, including Arab American Studies.

As a Middle Eastern woman, I know the impact of having our history erased from curriculum, devastating not only for us, but others who lose an incredible learning opportunity. West Asian American experiences are crucial in overcoming racism, xenophobia, and Islamophobia which are so rampant today. This also includes extensive information and education on Palestine. It is therefore crucial that any change implemented to Arab American and Middle Eastern studies be done in collaboration with the communities and students impacted.

Thank you.