

Santa Rosa City Schools

Ethnic Studies Update

April 24, 2019

The Why

“As students of color proceed through the school system, research finds that the overwhelming dominance of Euro-American perspectives leads many students to disengage from academic learning. Ethnic Studies curricula exist in part because students of color have demanded an education that is relevant, meaningful, and affirming of their identities.”

Christine Sleeter,
Cal State University,
Monterey Bay,
Ethnic Studies



Timeline

SRCS Equity Initiative work begins with MOT and Unconscious Bias PD.

SRCS and Community Members Discuss Ethnic Studies

SRCS Ethnic Studies Exploration Committee convenes

SRCS 650 staff and community have attended MOT; 450 have participated in Unconscious Bias PD.

SRCS Ethnic Studies committee continues.

SRCS Equity Curriculum Team begins collaboration with CCD.

SRCS Ethnic Studies Committee presents to the SRCS Board of Education

SRCS Ethnic Studies Community Forums convene

Ethnic Studies Mini-Institute

2015

2017

2019

2014

2016

2018

**LCAP is implemented
El Rancho USD first CA school district to require Ethnic Studies**

CA legislature introduces an Ethnic Studies bill AB 2016

CA legislature amends AB 2016 with AB 2772 which would mandate Ethnic Studies become a grad requirement

Ethnic Studies bill AB 2772 is vetoed by Governor Brown

CDE Model Curriculum Committee Convenes in Sacramento

Activities 2018-19

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| November 18, 2018 | SRCS Board Report |
| March 14, 2019 | Engaging our Adults: Ethnic Studies Forum |
| March 26, 2019 | Engaging our Youth: Ethnic Studies Forum |
| April 17, 2019 | Engaging our Community: Ethnic Studies Forum |
| May 1, 2019 | Culturally Responsive Education/Ethnic Studies Mini
Institute - Christine Sleeter, PhD and Dr. Curtis Acosta, PhD |

Key Points from Adults:

- Strong interest in Ethnic Studies and Culturally Responsive, Sustaining and Humanizing Education (CRSH)
- For many, an Ethnic Studies class is not enough
- For others, the interest is in a district-wide integration of CRSH
- Questions:
 - What would Ethnic Studies look like in our district?
 - What would teacher training, placement in the schedule, a graduation requirement look like?
 - What are other districts doing?

Key Points from Students

- Strong interest in education that is relevant to their lives
- Students do not feel their perspective matters
- Students want to be heard and they want to be engaged in school
- Students want culturally responsive teaching and learning integrated into their schools and to have a stand alone Ethnic Studies classes

Next Step Activities 2019-20

- August Dr. Acosta addresses teachers at 2019 Welcome Back event
- September First CRSH Professional Development days
- October Follow up meeting for CRSH attendees
- January Second CRSH Professional Development days
- February Follow up meeting for CRSH attendees
- April Showcase of CRSH attendees' projects

Next Steps for Implementation

- Continue CRSH Professional Development
- Create Ethnic Studies CCD units in partnership with current CCD K-12 model
- Develop Board Policy for Ethnic Studies and Culturally Responsive Education
- Pilot Ethnic Studies in SY 2021-22

Comments or Questions

Thank You