

**RESOLUTION
SUPPORT OF ETHNIC STUDIES**

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESOLUTION No. 2245-1**

WHEREAS, California has one of the largest and most diverse student populations in the nation, where 71% of the student population represents its ethnic diversity and speak more than 90 languages; and

WHEREAS, Santa Clara County has a rich and diverse cultural history and houses one of the most diverse metropolitan areas in the country; and

WHEREAS, Ethnic Studies courses provide a means to deepen our students sense of our shared history, the significant contributions of historically underserved races, and that helps our students understand and appreciate the rich histories and cultural contributions of various communities to this history that challenges racial oppression; and

WHEREAS, Ethnic Studies and Ethnic Studies Programs allow for marginalized voices to reclaim their histories, challenge dominate narratives, and allow students to see themselves in the curriculum thereby contributing to closing achievement and opportunity gaps and increasing graduation rates and college-going rates; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE supports learning aligned with ethnic studies and civic engagement through initiatives such as The Power of Democracy. Ethnic Studies and civic engagement share the same purposes of developing students' critical world view and understanding of their place in the world. Students learn how to use their knowledge of academics and systems to take informed action in order to improve their communities on a local and global scale; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE supports the development of students' critical world view in order take informed action through teacher training and curriculum development around action civics projects. These projects are integrated throughout the content standards and aligned with the key shifts in California's recently revised History-Social Science Framework; and

WHEREAS, the SCCOE fosters a community of civically engaged students and educators through the Civic Engagement Expo, where authentic youth voice is at the center while honoring educators who are innovating around civic education and engagement including through development of civics in action projects of Ethnic Studies; and

WHEREAS, SCCOE acknowledges the importance of social justice and racial equity within the community and in every student's education; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clara County Office of Education is committed to providing excellent educational opportunities to all of our students, without regard to race, gender, ethnicity, national origin, income, sexual orientation, or disability, and is guided by the core values of equity, inclusiveness, and universally high expectations; and

WHEREAS, Santa Clara County Office of Education recognizes the value of culturally relevant training and professional learning focused on Ethnic Studies and relevant pedagogy for teachers, administrators, teachers, and staff; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Clara County Board of Education and County Superintendent are joined in their support for Ethnic Studies curricula throughout the State of California.

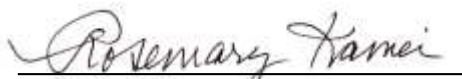
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Santa Clara County Board of Education at a meeting held on June 19, 2019, by the following vote:

AYES: President Kamei, Vice President Song, trustees Di Salvo, King, Mah, Ortiz, and Rossi

NOES: none

ABSTAIN: none

ABSENT: none



Rosemary Kamei, President
Santa Clara County Board of Education



Dr. Mary Ann Dewan
County Superintendent of Schools