

**Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District
Board of Education Meeting
UPDATE TO THE AGENDA**

March 23, 2017

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- D.02 Reporting Out of Board Subcommittee on American Cultural and Ethnic Studies
UPDATE: Language in third bullet point (page 2 of this update)

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INFORMATION ITEMS

TO: BOARD OF EDUCATION
FROM: BEN DRATI / TERRY DELORIA / ELLEN EDEBURN
RE: ETHNIC STUDIES SUB-COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

DISCUSSION
03/23/17
UPDATE

DISCUSSION ITEM NO. D.02

This discussion item will allow the Board of Education to become apprised of the board's sub-committee's recommendations regarding ethnic studies.

COMMENTS: The Board of Education Ethnic Studies Sub-committee is comprised of site administration, teachers, Ed Services, the Superintendent and Board Vice President Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein, Board Trustee Oscar de la Torre, and Board Trustee Ralph Mechur.

The Sub-Committee recognizes the need to address the inequities reflected in the Excellence through Equity report by Dr. Pedro Noguera. As stated in the History-Social Sciences Framework, research suggests that "some groups of students experience a low level of safety and acceptance in schools for reasons including cultural, ethnic, and linguistic background; disability; sexual orientation; socio-economic; and other factors (SBE 2016)." Furthermore, we know that our students come from diverse cultural, linguistic, ethnic, and religious backgrounds, have different experiences, and live in different familial and socioeconomic circumstances.

As a result, the Board of Education Sub-Committee is recommending that:

- throughout the District, Freshman Seminar classes have a meaningful and substantial common learning experience which includes a focus on American Cultural and Ethnic Studies.
- Social Justice standards will be woven through all PreK-12 curriculum.
- the District will develop options for establishing an American Cultural and Ethnic Studies Graduation Requirement by 20XX.
- the District initiate, create and revise UC A-G course-electives that will align with the District defined Social Justice standards.



SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Ethnic Studies Sub-Committee *Recommendations*

March 23, 2017

Sub Committee Update



The following recommendations are brought to the full board by sub committee board members:

- Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein, Board Vice President
- Oscar de la Torre, Trustee
- Ralph Mechur, Trustee

Recommendations

The Board of Education Subcommittee recommends that:

- throughout the District, Freshman Seminar classes have a meaningful and substantial common learning experience which includes a focus on American Cultural and Ethnic Studies.
- Social Justice standards will be woven through all PreK-12 curriculum.
- the District will develop options for establishing an American Cultural and Ethnic Studies Graduation Requirement by 20XX.
- the District initiate, create and revise UC A-G course-electives that will align with the District defined Social Justice standards.