From: Susan Stieg
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2021 10:03 AM
To: Public Comments; Susan Stieg
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Disgrace

Yesterday's board meeting was a disgrace to our school district. I am sorry to say, the board's organizational skills are horrendous. IF I didn't know better MS. president, you just like to hear herself talk. We are not stupid like you think. Put a white board outside to update the list of who is speaking next and add directions in the lobby about your 3 minutes and the Green light, yellow light at 30 seconds.
The board of trustees (lower case on purpose) is an embarrassment to the public. It is disheartening to have Mr. Church speak in the public forum format to try and resolve an internal conflict that no one wants to talk about. You talk about respect.... please, go look up the definition.
After waiting 6 hours to speak, I DID leave. What I wanted to say was said by everyone before me.... which is a repeat of previous meetings. It is obvious you are not listening anyway.
Your ploy of rescheduling the Benchmark curriculum did work so far..... having the state pass AB261.... now you are able to say the state is mandating it. I am still praying our Governor has a brain and will not sign this bill.
I will repeat what I wrote to the Governor. Russia's prophecy is coming true with the current administration (all around-school, City, State, Nation) WE (Russia) do not have to declare war on the United States, They will destroy themselves from within. Keep up the .... work and we will be the laughing stock of the world, if we aren't already.
We are commanded to pray for the lost, love the person and hate the sin..... I am trying real hard to do that. But it is hard to pray for anyone that wants to corrupt our innocent children.

God Bless,
Susan Stieg

From: Morabito, Joe
Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2021 2:56 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Washoe Schools Racist Social Justice Curriculum

As a former, Junior, Senior and Adult School History and Government teacher, I have begun my initial review of the district's Social Justice Curriculum based on the website links provided me with more to come on June 1 when I come to the district office. It is very clear that in looking at the K – 12 methodologies, it is intentionally designed to view everything through the lens of race, oppression and Socialist Marxist ideology. **Without a doubt, Critical Race Theory and the 1619 Project form the foundation of this curriculum, so the district should stop saying this is not the case.** Those of us protesting against this Curriculum are not stupid. This curriculum is both covert and overt, even subliminal, in its intention to demonize White Men in particular; but all Whites, Western Civilization, our country by implication and Capitalism. It is very strategically designed in it sequence to indoctrinate children in K – 12 to believe these things**. I must say, those who designed this sequential curriculum as ideological propaganda were very smart in their intentions. It is right out of the Saul Alinsky book, Rules for Radicals.**

If the district moves forward with this racist Social Justice Curriculum, I know it will result in direct intense challenges to teachers and administrators at both the district and school site level. And, when they start shaming White Children for their privilege, class action lawsuits are inevitable. **It is true that the children of rich people like the Obama's are privileged; but again, it has nothing to do with color.** The children of rich people do have advantages. But given the fact that 50% of Americans of all colors do not have $1,000 to cover an emergency and there are more Whites than Blacks in real numbers on Welfare and Food stamps, the assertion of White Privilege as a generality and stereo type is absurd. **And, any honest historian can refute many of the assertions made by Critical Race Theory and the 1619 project as nothing more than radical, racist, socialist, Marxist revisionist Fake History.**

So, be advised, if Board members and woke Administrators and Teachers install this racist curriculum in Washoe, you are buying years of legal expenses and divisiveness in our community. This battle will just continue and intensify. So, think before you create this nightmare. Again, please focus on improving reading and math scores, since academic performance in many district schools is dismal. It would also be nice if teachers were teaching the Great, Good, Bad and Ugly about American history based on the facts and the truth not some new version of our history that is full of lies and distortions. Thank God, our Founding Fathers created the greatest nation in the history of the world. Even the ones that

owned slaves put the mechanisms in place in our Constitution to eventually address this evil.

Joseph Morabito SCRP
President/CEO
Paragon Global Resources, Inc.

This email and any files and other information transmitted with it are considered private, may be confidential and proprietary information, and are solely for the use of the intended recipient. If you are not the intended recipient, you may not disclose, distribute, copy, print or otherwise use the information in this transmission. Please destroy it immediately and notify the sender by telephone or email.

From: Morabito, Joe
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2021 11:29 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Washoe District Teacher Gage Rule

While I would hope the Washoe Teacher Union is representing teacher's interests related to freedom of speech issues that will be impacted by the District's Gage Rule under consideration, since teacher unions support Cancel Culture, I seriously doubt it. So, under the Gage Rule as I understand it, teachers are free to advance the interests of BLM and Antifa, both terrorist groups that have rioted, looted, burned down cities including government buildings, destroyed businesses etc along with all the other left wing Social Justice positions; teachers would not be permitted to say things that are not Politically Correct according to the District. So, nothing can be said that is Pro-Life, Pro-Second Amendment, Pro-Energy Independence, Pro-America First, Pro-Law Enforcement, Pro-Secure Borders etc. etc. The list goes on and on.

The minute you fire a teacher for not being Woke, and or for some other charges to camouflage what you are really doing, no doubt you will have an employment practice lawsuit. My concern other than First Amendment Rights is as a taxpayer. I don't want to pay for these inevitable lawsuits. You already had to pay off various Superintendents when they were fired. In business, we strive to practice lawsuit mitigation. We are very careful about our actions to avoid lawsuits. I really think the Board is doing things that will cause lawsuits. Think before you act. As Forest Gump used to say, "Stupid is as Stupid Does". I love that movie. JM

Joseph Morabito SCRP
President/CEO
Paragon Global Resources, Inc.

This email and any files and other information transmitted with it are considered private, may be confidential and proprietary information, and are solely for the use of the intended recipient. If you are not the intended recipient, you may not disclose, distribute, copy, print or otherwise use the information in this transmission. Please destroy it immediately and notify the sender by telephone or email.

From: Betty Hendon
Sent: Friday, May 28, 2021 3:56 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Benchmark Social Justice Curriculum

We do not agree with the Benchmark social justice curriculum purposed to be used to teach our children in this county. This is the wrong curriculum for promoting anti-racism as it is clearly racist against against whites and males and police. After reviewing it looks to align with critical race theory and is inappropriate teaching for children of any age.
Please vote no
Betty J Hendon
Sent from my iPhone

From: Elspeth Senz
Sent: Tuesday, June 1, 2021 12:35 PM
To: Public Comments; Church, Jeffrey; Caudill, Andrew B; Minetto, Ellen; Thigpen, Kurt L; Taylor, Angela; Calvert, Jacqueline M; Nicolet, Diane M
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In support of changes to the elementary ELA curriculum

Hello, my name is Elspeth Senz and my family is new in the district as we have just moved here with the Army (my husband is active duty). My oldest daughter will be in 1st grade this year at Nancy Gomes Elementary and we are very excited. She attended pre school and kindergarten on Fort Carson in Colorado the past two years and loved it as the district as a whole worked very hard to put students first and educate the community on ways to improve student and family lives. It is very important to me to participate in this when given the opportunity.

I have looked over the information on the additions to the ELA Curriculum and I think they are great. The questions support children to be curious and active participants in their education as well as in their community and nation. There is nothing to be afraid of by encouraging children to think how they themselves would handle situations that adults are currently dealing with, as they will one day be those adults and they will need the practice. The questions do not determine what the kids will think, only give the students the opportunity to think.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my views and concerns with you.

Elspeth Senz

Nancy Gomes Elementary-
Mother of a 1st grade student

From: Doni
Sent: Wednesday, June 2, 2021 1:24 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Political Aggressive Agenda

Please do not use our tax payer dollars to push your political aggressive agenda on our children and grandchildren! We are on to you and this has been going on long enough!

Doni Webber

From: Zane Taylor
Sent: Thursday, June 3, 2021 9:04 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item 5.07 on June 8th, 2021

Dear Trustees of Washoe County School District,

It's come to my attention that at the upcoming general meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 8th, 2021, anti-racist curriculum for Kindergarten through Fifth grade is up for possible action under agenda item **5.07.** To be frank, I am in support of the proposed curriculum and ask that you consider a **vote to approve the anti-racist curriculum**.

The very first lesson we all learn in our education is about rules and equal application to all people, from the proposed curriculum, nothing changes. Having a solid civic education and an understanding of how rules of our society impact people differently is crucial to ensuring that people know the severe consequences that their own classmates face from the **laws and true history of our country**. Students are bound to realize this at some point in their educational career but instilling this knowledge at a young age helps create awareness around the adverse effects of racism, which is very prominent and affects students in our classrooms every single day. As so many have said **"if one group of students is old enough to face racism, another group is old enough to learn about it.**" Many of the events of hate in our country are directed by those who have sat right where students sit, in the classroom, but deprived of the early exposure to the impact of their actions.

Please, **vote to approve the proposed anti-racist curriculum.** The students are telling you that it is a necessity along with something they want. This curriculum will impact them directly, so please, **listen to those most affected by your decisions** and those who wish they could've received the same, anti-racist education**.**

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Zane Taylor

From: Judy Covert
Sent: Thursday, June 3, 2021 2:53 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] June 8 board meeting

I will not be able to attend because of surgery on June 7. I do not agree with any attempt to implement CRT or anything to do with the 1619 project.

This is nothing more than historical Marxist theory that is trying to destroy our country from within. Our children deserve a better education than this and the lack of leadership to make the correct decisions for the benefit of all taxpayers snd their children and grandchildren who pay your salaries is abhorrent.

A no vote is your only choice

Thank you
Judith Covert
Reno NV taxpayer

From: Krista Wahnefried
Sent: Thursday, June 3, 2021 8:13 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In favor of K-5 ELA Supplemental Curriculum

Dear Trustees of Washoe County School District,
I understand that the Board of Trustees meeting on June 8, 2021 will include discussion and possible action regard the supplemental curriculum for Kindergarten through Fifth grade students under agenda item 5.07. As a local resident, I am strongly in support of the proposed curriculum and urge your vote to approve the curriculum.

It is not discriminatory for students to learn critical thinking skills and ask important questions. Why is so much of what's taught only show one kind of person? How is that supposed to make everyone else feel? Representation is important. Learning more from people from other cultures and backgrounds, with a variety of identities, beliefs, and practices does not discriminate against anyone else. No one loses power by hearing about experiences from different people. We are stronger together.

It is important for all students to receive a solid civic education and an understanding of how rules of our society impacts people differently. Instilling the new curriculum to share this knowledge at a young age helps create awareness around the adverse effects of racism, which is very prominent and affects students in our classrooms every single day. As so many have said "if one group of students is old enough to face racism, another group is old enough to learn about it." Many of the events of hate in our country are directed by those who have sat right where students sit, in the classroom, but deprived of the early exposure to the impact of their actions.
Please, vote to approve the proposed anti-racist curriculum. The students are telling you that it is a necessity, along with something that they want. This curriculum will impact them directly, so please, listen to those most affected by your decisions and those who wish they could've received the same, anti-racist education.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Krista Wahnefried
Reno, Nevada

From: Bryan Robbins
Sent: Thursday, June 3, 2021 8:56 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Anti-Racist Curriculum

Dear Trustees of Washoe County School District,
It's come to my attention that at the upcoming general meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 8th, 2021, anti-racist curriculum for Kindergarten through Fifth grade is up for possible action under agenda item **5.07.** To be frank, I am in support of the proposed curriculum and ask that you consider a **vote to approve the anti-racist curriculum**.
The very first lesson we all learn in our education is about rules and equal application to all people, from the proposed curriculum, nothing changes. Having a solid civic education and an understanding of how rules of our society impact people differently is crucial to ensuring that people know the severe consequences that their own classmates face from the **laws and true history of our country**. Students are bound to realize this at some point in their educational career but instilling this knowledge at a young age helps create awareness around the adverse effects of racism, which is very prominent and affects students in our classrooms every single day. As so many have said **"if one group of students is old enough to face racism, another group is old enough to learn about it.**" Many of the events of hate in our country are directed by those who have sat right where students sit, in the classroom, but deprived of the early exposure to the impact of their actions. Please, **vote to approve the proposed anti-racist curriculum.** The students are telling you that it is a necessity along with something they want. This curriculum will impact them directly, so please, **listen to those most affected by your decisions** and those who wish they could've received the same, anti-racist education**.**
Thank you for your time and consideration,
Bryan Robbins
Robert McQueen High School Class of 2019

From: Rory Dowd
Sent: Thursday, June 3, 2021 11:23 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social Justice Cirriculum

Good evening,

I wanted to write to you today to let you know of my support forWCSD teaching social justice, critical race theory,LGBTQIA+ issues, comprehensive sex ed in the SHARE program. To my knowledge, there will be additions to the K-5 curriculum and I think that is great.

I am a father of a freshman in HS at Wooster, as well as a toddler and another on the way. I wholly support the above mentioned initiatives in Washoe Schools and understand that it is critical for the young people in the area to understand these issues, especially social justice and Critical Race Theory given the historical background and systemic racism that persists in the area.

Thank you for your time
-Rory

--
Rory Dowd

Worst Little Podcast
Producer and Host

From: Morabito, Joe
Sent: Friday, June 4, 2021 7:36 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Racist Social Justice Curriculum & The Superintendent

My understanding is that rather that vote on the K – 5 Racist Social Justice Curriculum on June 8, that the Board has decided to give the Superintendent the discretion to implement it herself as occurred in grades 6 – 12. That puts her in the hotseat. If she moves forward, she will have to be FIRED. We need to push back what is already happening in 6 – 12 because they are teaching revisionist Fake History. There are grounds for her termination anyway given the district's very poor academic results. Adding this racist curriculum design will do nothing to improve reading and math scores. JM

Joseph Morabito SCRP
President/CEO
Paragon Global Resources, Inc.

This email and any files and other information transmitted with it are considered private, may be confidential and proprietary information, and are solely for the use of the intended recipient. If you are not the intended recipient, you may not disclose, distribute, copy, print or otherwise use the information in this transmission. Please destroy it immediately and notify the sender by telephone or email.

From: Marika Moore
Sent: Friday, June 4, 2021 10:27 AM
To: Washoe311; BoardMembers; Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Reminder: Mask regulations lifted! 😊

Good Friday morning to you all:

Friendly reminder that Governor Sisolak along with the Washoe County Commissioners and other leaders in our County have officially lifted the mask requirement as of June 1st with the follow inclusions:

https://covid19washoe.com/2021/06/01/covid-19-weekday-updates-come-to-a-close-residents-urged-to-follow-covid-19-dashboard/

I hope that you respect and maintain the same standards at the WCSD meeting on Tuesday and elsewhere. Masks should never have been required in the first place but this is a positive step towards good prevailing over evil.

God bless you!

Have a great weekend!

Sincerely,

Marika Moore

--
Marika Moore
Owner, Moore Than Locks

Your local locksmith and more

From: Olivia Ngo
Sent: Friday, June 4, 2021 12:53 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment for Trustees Mtg. 6/8/2021

Dear Trustees of Washoe County School District,

It's come to my attention that at the upcoming general meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 8th, 2021, anti-racist curriculum for Kindergarten through Fifth grade is up for possible action under agenda item **5.07.** To be frank, I am in support of the proposed curriculum and ask that you consider a **vote to approve the anti-racist curriculum**.

The very first lesson we all learn in our education is about rules and equal application to all people, from the proposed curriculum, nothing changes. Having a solid civic education and an understanding of how rules of our society impact people differently is crucial to ensuring that people know the severe consequences that their own classmates face from the **laws and true history of our country**. Students are bound to realize this at some point in their educational career but instilling this knowledge at a young age helps create awareness around the adverse effects of racism, which is very prominent and affects students in our classrooms every single day. As so many have said **"if one group of students is old enough to face racism, another group is old enough to learn about it.**" Many of the events of hate in our country are directed by those who have sat right where students sit, in the classroom, but deprived of the early exposure to the impact of their actions. This curriculum will not be anti-white, but rather a way for students of all ethnicities to empathize with diverse perspectives and better serve their peers with fairness in the future.

Please, **vote to approve the proposed anti-racist curriculum.** The students are telling you that it is a necessity along with something they want. This curriculum will impact them directly, so please, **listen to those most affected by your decisions** and those who wish they could've received the same, anti-racist education**.**

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Olivia Ngo
University of Nevada-Reno, Class of 2024
B.A | Musical Theater
Gender Pronouns: she/her/hers
PDT/PST (Pacific Daylight/Pacific Standard Time)

From: Cindy Sassenrath
Sent: Friday, June 4, 2021 1:07 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CRT & Share

It is my understanding that these controversial topics will be embedded into language arts and parents will not be informed or be able to opt out. Is that correct?

I don't see how shaming someone for being white isn't racist? I don't want to shame anyone based on their skin color. Have we forgotten the great ideals of Martin Luther King Jr. - judge people on their character, not their skin color.

I also think that human sexuality should be discussed at home. Leave the parenting to the parents. Please teach our kids to read, write, and do math.

You have already started a class system in Reno because anyone with money sends them to private schools. You may lose more students by parents deciding to homeschool or form pods.

Sincerely,

Cindy Sassenrath

From: Akash Bhatia
Sent: Friday, June 4, 2021 3:18 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL]

Dear Trustees of Washoe County School District,

It's come to my attention that at the upcoming general meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 8th, 2021, anti-racist curriculum for Kindergarten through Fifth grade is up for possible action under agenda item **5.07.** To be frank, I am in support of the proposed curriculum and ask that you consider a **vote to approve the anti-racist curriculum**.

The very first lesson we all learn in our education is about rules and equal application to all people, from the proposed curriculum, nothing changes. Having a solid civic education and an understanding of how rules of our society impact people differently is crucial to ensuring that people know the severe consequences that their own classmates face from the **laws and true history of our country**. Students are bound to realize this at some point in their educational career but instilling this knowledge at a young age helps create awareness around the adverse effects of racism, which is very prominent and affects students in our classrooms every single day. As so many have said **"if one group of students is old enough to face racism, another group is old enough to learn about it.**" Many of the events of hate in our country are directed by those who have sat right where students sit, in the classroom, but deprived of the early exposure to the impact of their actions.

Please, **vote to approve the proposed anti-racist curriculum.** The students are telling you that it is a necessity along with something they want. This curriculum will impact them directly, so please, **listen to those most affected by your decisions** and those who wish they could've received the same, anti-racist education**.**
Thank you for your time and consideration,
Akash Bhatia

From: Alexa Wong
Sent: Friday, June 4, 2021 6:15 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Anti-racist curriculum

Dear Trustees of Washoe County School District,

It's come to my attention that at the upcoming general meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 8th, 2021, anti-racist curriculum for Kindergarten through Fifth grade is up for possible action under agenda item **5.07.** To be frank, I am in support of the proposed curriculum and ask that you consider a **vote to approve the anti-racist curriculum**.

The very first lesson we all learn in our education is about rules and equal application to all people, from the proposed curriculum, nothing changes. Having a solid civic education and an understanding of how rules of our society impact people differently is crucial to ensuring that people know the severe consequences that their own classmates face from the **laws and true history of our country**. Students are bound to realize this at some point in their educational career but instilling this knowledge at a young age helps create awareness around the adverse effects of racism, which is very prominent and affects students in our classrooms every single day. As so many have said **"if one group of students is old enough to face racism, another group is old enough to learn about it.**" Many of the events of hate in our country are directed by those who have sat right where students sit, in the classroom, but deprived of the early exposure to the impact of their actions.

Please, **vote to approve the proposed anti-racist curriculum.** The students are telling you that it is a necessity along with something they want. This curriculum will impact them directly, so please, **listen to those most affected by your decisions** and those who wish they could've received the same, anti-racist education**.** Thank you for your time and consideration,

Alexa Wong
She/Her

From: Greta de Jong
Sent: Friday, June 4, 2021 7:12 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social Justice Resources

Dear WCSD Board of Trustees

I am writing to support adoption of the Social Justice Resources offered by Benchmark Advance as part of the WCSD curriculum. I teach African American history at UNR and my students are often shocked and dismayed by how little they learned about racism in school, especially the various forms of discrimination that persisted after the end of slavery in the 1860s and after the passage of civil rights legislation in the 1960s. Healing the nation's racial divisions requires engaging with this history honestly and thoughtfully, not sweeping it under the rug and preventing students from learning about it.

For more than a century, opponents of racial justice efforts in the United States have branded them as "Marxist" and "communist," and they are doing the same thing today. The several public comments made along these lines echo the same rhetoric that segregationists used in the 1950s to discredit the civil rights movement. But African Americans who were denied equal access to jobs, housing, education, and protection of the law did not need to read Marx or join the Communist Party to know they were being treated unfairly. They just needed to look around them at the obvious injustices that existed in the Jim Crow era, just as Americans today can see clearly that the United States still has not lived up to its promise of ensuring equality and justice for all.

Mid-century segregationists succeeded in rolling back many of the gains made during the civil rights era, which is a key reason why racial disparities have lasted into the present. Don't let their modern-day counterparts do the same today.

Sincerely

Greta de Jong

From: Erik Schumick
Sent: Saturday, June 5, 2021 7:32 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Critical Race Theory is Racist

From: Erik Schumick
Sent: Friday June 5, 2021
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] critical race theory IS RACIST

The current trend of denouncing your country, your history, and, if you're white, yourself is racist, divisive, and abhorrent. Do NOT force the false narratives of "anti-racism," Critical Race Theory, or the 1619 Project onto young, malleable, minds. That would be child abuse! Beyond that, teaching this Marxist twaddle to our youth is seditious.

Let's concentrate on the basics— science, math, English, reading, true history, etc. Leave the failed Marxist ideologies where they belong, in the trash.

Sincerely,
Erik Schumick

From: Vic A
Sent: Saturday, June 5, 2021 1:54 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public comment against the Benchmark Social Justice Curriculum

Hello,

As a new resident from California I was shocked to see that the Washoe County School District has an entire department for "Equity and Diversity". The concept of equity ultimately goes against the basic melting-pot idea of our nation and instead, separates citizens out by skin color.

Not long ago I was a Progressive in California, very involved in politics on a statewide level. That is, until I was called a 'white supremacist' within my own community, not for any action I had taken or statement I'd made, but literally only because of my skin color. When I confronted the person who said it, they refused to respond. The accusations are about thought crimes, where my unconscious thoughts, that others have decided I must have because of my skin color, are now to somehow define me.

And soon after that, the Progressive community I was a part of, began to divide over the focus on black trans women, which then pulled the rug out from under the longtime feminists I knew, who had worked for decades to get equal treatment on simple issues like gender stacking. Then entire agendas were hijacked away from environmental and peace issues to gender arguments, how phobic or sexist people were if they didn't prioritize trans members over everyone else.

Despite being a Progressive for over 30 years, I walked away.

A focus on skin color is frankly revolting to those of us who have worked for social justice our entire lives, but happen to be white. Or women who have worked for feminist values for decades, but suddenly are nothing compared to a black trans person.

I will never tolerate being defined by my skin color, and now that I see the Washoe County School District is promoting these ideas, I will start my work here, as a new Nevada resident, to help longtime residents who are openly enraged, speaking out on social media about Critical Race Theory, calling attention to it, and I will begin working toward a non-racist society as a basic melting pot, where race does not define us.

And no, the nation was not started in 1619.

Sincerely,
Victoria Ashley

From: Susan Merritt
Sent: Saturday, June 5, 2021 5:08 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Curriculum

I am Dr. Susan Merritt, a retired teacher living in Sparks. I object to any implementation of Critical-Race-Theory-based content standards, curriculum, or curricular materials in the schools of Washoe County School District.

First, CRT is a divisive lens through which race becomes the predominant motive of all actions and relationships.

- With CRT training, absolute truth is discarded so that subjects like math and science become a matter of feelings instead of fact.
- With CRT training, the character of each person is predetermined by immutable characteristics such as race to fall into only one of two categories: oppressor or victim. There is no other human category recognized in CRT. Culture is defined by groups exercising power over each other.
- With CRT training, America must be dismantled because it is perceived to be systemically racist by its founding based on Capitalism.

Second, school is an important part of the transmission of culture from one generation to the next. Instead of infecting young minds with the hostility and ethnic stereotypes inherent in CRT, the curriculum for our schools needs to emphasize personal responsibility, motivation toward self-sufficiency, and a shared sense of national identity through the basic subjects of Reading, Writing, Math, History, Science, and the Arts. The key preconditions for advancement in any endeavor are family, education, and work. Our children need to learn, in an environment free of partisan ideologies, to become productive adults and future leaders of our country.

Finally, when followed to its logical conclusion, CRT is destructive and rejects the fundamental ideas on which our Constitutional Republic is based. It violates the foundational principles of this country which are: intrinsic equality of all humans, equal protection under the law, liberty, self-reliance, and hard work. It is important that History be taught impartially, with differing views considered in a balanced, non-politicized curriculum, explaining how government works at different levels and how a citizen can legally affect the workings of government.

Thank you for considering this information in your deliberations about this unacceptable curricular change.

Susan Merritt, PhD

Author of:
The Culture of Hope Founded on Faith
The Gift of Seeing Angels and Demons: A Handbook for Discerners of Spirits
Reformation Trilogy

From: Chu-Lan
Sent: Sunday, June 6, 2021 7:12 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment for Agenda Item 5.07

Dear Trustees of Washoe County School District,

It's come to my attention that at the upcoming general meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 8th, 2021, anti-racist curriculum for Kindergarten through Fifth grade is up for possible action under agenda item **5.07.** To be frank, I am in support of the proposed curriculum and ask that you consider a **vote to approve the anti-racist curriculum**.

The very first lesson we all learn in our education is about rules and equal application to all people, from the proposed curriculum, nothing changes. Having a solid civic education and an understanding of how rules of our society impact people differently is crucial to ensuring that people know the severe consequences that their own classmates face from the **laws and true history of our country**. Students are bound to realize this at some point in their educational career but instilling this knowledge at a young age helps create awareness around the adverse effects of racism, which is very prominent and affects students in our classrooms every single day. As so many have said **"if one group of students is old enough to face racism, another group is old enough to learn about it.**" Many of the events of hate in our country are directed by those who have sat right where students sit, in the classroom, but deprived of the early exposure to the impact of their actions.

Please, **vote to approve the proposed anti-racist curriculum.** The students are telling you that it is a necessity along with something they want. This curriculum will impact them directly, so please, **listen to those most affected by your decisions** and those who wish they could've received the same, anti-racist education**.**
Thank you for your time and consideration,
Chu-Lan McKinlay
Washoe County High School Student

From: joan Rivet
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 7:24 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CRT

I want to object to CRT being taught in our Washoe county Schools.
It is the responsibility of parents and family to teach our children this not the Government.

Joan Rivet

Reno, NV 89509

Sent from my iPhone

From: Lauren Harvey
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 9:00 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment for Social Justice Curriculum 6/8 Meeting

Hello,

My name is Lauren Harvey and I am a current undergraduate student at the University of Nevada, Reno, a first-generation college student, and a Washoe County School District alumnus. I am writing in regard to the vote on the social justice curriculum at the June 8th, 2021 meeting. As a previous WCSD student and current substitute teacher for the district, I have seen first hand the ways that our district excels at serving students and the ways it can improve. Implementing a social justice oriented curriculum is not only favorable for *all* students in the district, but it is essential if we hope to serve our students and their futures in meaningful ways. This is not a vote on whether to privilege certain students' histories over others (although that has been the case for decades), this is a vote on whether to encourage **human-centered learning** into the education system.

As previous students you've all heard the old adage "We'll never need to use this in real life" when referencing geometric proofs, the parts of a cell, or even academic essays. This is not the case here. Building a social justice curriculum would allow k-12 students to become educated on our nation's diverse histories, learn to be better peers, and build community. I know this because I have seen it happen in my college courses. As a working class, white, cisgender, heterosexual women who will be the first in my family to earn a college degree, I would have benefitted greatly from learning about how I am both privileged and marginalized in and out of school settings. **I am asking that you vote YES on a k-12 curriculum that implements a social justice lens**. I am asking that you do better for our future students in ways that the school district failed my peers and I. Thank you for your consideration.

Best,

Lauren Harvey
University of Nevada, Reno
College of Liberal Arts Class of 2022
McNair Scholar
Pronouns: ella, she, her, hers

From: Jennifer Bocchi
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 10:18 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Critical Race Theory

I am really disappointed that our schools want to implement and teach our kids the Critical Race Theory. This is complete racism in itself and I am appalled by it. Kids should learn about race through their own life experiences with other kids and adults whatever color or race they are, not something to be taught by schools and have other's opinions pushed on them. I do not want my tax dollars going to this program as it could strongly influence my kids in how they feel about themselves, others, as well as their country.
Thank you,
Jennifer Bocchi

From: Amy Cavanaugh
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 11:10 AM
To: Public Comments; BoardMembers
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support of agenda item 5.07, the "ELA K-5 Supplemental Curriculum"

I am writing to express my enthusiasm for the ELA K-5 Supplemental Curriculum being considered as agenda item 5.07 at the June 7th meeting of the WCSD Board of Trustees.

This curriculum is a necessary *first step* in helping our children develop the critical thinking skills and empathy that they will need to be responsible citizens of this world. There is nothing in this curriculum that is radical or unreasonable in any way. I have two children in WCSD, one entering 4th grade and one entering 1st grade. I want this curriculum for my children. My children are white, and while it might occasionally make them uncomfortable to confront the *fact* that all people in this country are not treated equally or fairly, they are capable of sitting with that discomfort in order to learn and grow. Learning and growth are not comfortable, easy feats. They are sometimes difficult to accomplish. We can do hard things, but only if we try.

I know the trustees are enduring a great deal of hateful, angry, and dishonest rhetoric from those who oppose this curriculum. I hope the Board will have the strength of character to vote for kindness, compassion, and empathy instead of hate, fear, and lies. Please vote to support the ELA K-5 Supplemental Curriculum.

Regards,
Amy Cavanaugh

From: Sandra Luebke
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 11:34 AM
To: Public Comments; BoardMembers
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Critical Race Theory

Good afternoon
Please teach our kids math, language, arts, science, love and compassion but do not teach hate and resentment. I am Hispanic and my husband is white, do not teach my daughter her father is a racist and her mother a victim, because we are not.
As I fully realize now, the most important election in this country is the school's Board of directors of our community. Next elections I will do everything in my power to educate and join forces with the all members of the community (white and Hispanic) to elect board members who care about education and not indoctrination.
Thanks, Sandra

From: Tanja Hayes
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 11:52 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In SUPPORT of 5.07, the ELA K-5 Supplemental Curriculum

Dear Trustees:

I'm writing in SUPPORT of the 6/8/21 agenda item 5.07; the "ELA K-5 Supplemental Curriculum."

This proposed curriculum is inclusive, educational, and much needed in our area. It accurately encourages discussions on race, privilege, and critical thinking. And not a moment too soon!

As a mom of three students in the District, as a professor at TMCC, and as a person who cares about our community, I fully support this supplemental curriculum and I urge you to look past a few loudmouthed people (many of whom don't even have students in our schools!) who are afraid of progress. Do the right thing and please just PASS the ELA K-5 Supplemental Curriculum today.

Thank you for supporting our students and our community!

Sincerely,
Tanja Hayes

From:
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 12:55 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social Justice Curriculum

Here is my public comment regarding the Social Justice Curriculum:

I do not support the Benchmark Social Justice Curriculum and have several questions about the process. What are the results of the public survey taken regarding the curriculum? Please make the results public. Why is a Task Force needed when it should be public input from the community that decides the curriculum? Why are you not providing a location that accommodates public input, rather than a small venue that discourages participation? Lastly, what right do you have to mandate masks when the CDC, the State and the County no longer require them?

As I stated, I strongly oppose this divisive curriculum.

Sincerely,

Margaret E. Spatz

From: Corina Weidinger
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 1:09 PM
To: Public Comments; BoardMembers
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In support of agenda item 5.07, the "ELA K-5 Supplemental Curriculum".

Hello,

I am writing in support of agenda item 5.07, the "ELA K-5 Supplemental Curriculum". I respectfully encourage you to support inclusive justice-focused education that is essential to a better, happier, more equitable Nevada in step with the world.

Thank you for your consideration.

--
Corina Weidinger

From: Marika Moore
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 1:24 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public comment WCSD- To be considered for 6/10/21 WCSD school board meeting

Good afternoon to all of you,

Once again, thank you for all of your hard work and service to our community.

Once again, I am sending in public comment. I have also had a chance to speak before the board as well. My time is extremely limited as well as probably everyone else's in the community. Therefore, I do have to say that this format is not working at all. I feel that we either write to you or talk at you as you sit behind your platforms and make rules according to your own interests. We need an actual discussion. We need responses from you as we talk/debate with you about these in live, accessible formats. I have asked to meet with you and I know many others have an I know that you're busy and do not have the time. So perhaps we can come up with an interactive panel?

I know for a fact that many of you have not even read the new curriculum that you are enforcing. So are you strictly enforcing it because you're being paid to do so? Whoever is paying you needs to revisit these issues.

I have read the proposed social benchmark curriculum and I object. Many many others have read it and disapprove it too. I have heard that you're planning on voting against it and creating a task force to implement it in a sneaky manner. I hope that you include some of us who oppose it because we have ethics and integrity. Include me. Include anyone who actually has a conscious and proper education.

The curriculum obviously needs to be updated. But your new social benchmark curriculum does not help social justice. It divides and diminishes people and the foundation of liberty and equality and justice that make America great when not tarnished by evil, vindictive motives.

And what about the new additions and edited SHARE program? Why don't you publicize it? I asked you for a copy and I still have not received it. Whether or not we, as parents choose to opt in or not our children will be influenced by your changes because of their peers. Ignorant and/or naïve parents do not know what you were doing. Publicize it.

Now, I've seen some of you immediately leaving the WCSD board meetings and running to your social media platforms in line to the public. You have called me and/or others who attended the meeting "racist, homophobic, and small scary threatening factions", among other things. Lies. And some of us have snapshots of your social media posts. Anyone who knows me is fully aware that I am more than full of love for every single human life. Maybe not respect though. I'm sure many of you cannot say the same for yourself. I do not respect whoever said such things mentioned above and believe that they should be immediately discredited.

And you need to read through a curriculum before you promote it to be indoctrinated into our children! And if you read through and approve of this curriculum that has been proposed you should not be allowed around children. It is dangerous.

If you consider a threat to be informing you that we will be pulling our children from your schools, voting against you (possibly running for office against you) and joining every class action lawsuit against any evil imposition on our children then that is delusional. I might do all of the above.

I kick myself for having voted for a couple of those mentioned above in political offices. I was fooled. But the truth is out and I hope others people are properly educated as well.

My final requests are that the social benchmark curriculum be ousted along with a critical race theory and whatever new edits you did to the SHARE program until they are documented and presented to the public, debated, edited and approved by majority of the public. Remember, we pay you. I know you know that you work for us and I don't know how to get you to listen to our petitions. In addition, you need to completely remove the mask requirement for everyone. It is already been removed by the Governor who you have hid behind and the County. As has been proved many times by actual scientists, masks never should have been forced in the first place. I'm sorry some of the public was fooled. But if they read many many scientific pieces that have already been posted they can be freed from the unhealthy mindset of wearing masks. And finally, I know that has been consideration of forced vaccines. I hope you drop that too before other class action lawsuits have to move forward.

Thank you for your time and consideration. God bless you all!

Sincerely,

Marika Moore

--
Marika Moore
Owner, Moore Than Locks

Your local locksmith and more

From: Nicole Shimabuku
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 2:58 PM
To: Public Comments; BoardMembers
Subject: [EXTERNAL] ELA K-5 Supplemental Curriculum

Dear Board of Trustees,

I submit this public comment in support of agenda item 5.07, the "ELA K-5 Supplemental Curriculum". It is important that our schools have an inclusive, equitable, justice-focused education.

Thank you,
Nicole Shimabuku

Sent from my iPhone

From: Graeme Reid
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 3:05 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] WCSD's Proposed Racist Curriculum for Elementary Schools

I strenuously oppose the proposed amended elementary school curriculum.

WCSD attempts to dress-up the proposed curriculum as a feel-good way to address racism in society, but it fails in many ways:

- WCSD's claim that the amended curriculum is not Critical Race Theory is false. It is Critical Race Theory and Critical Race Theory is, at best, a disputed political ideology which should not be taught as fact to anyone, never mind children as young as five.

- Presuming people are racists because they have "white" skin is racism. How does it sound if we substitute white with black? Blackness, Black Privilege, Black Supremacy, etc. It sounds racist - because that is what it is!

- Forcing children as young as five feel guilty for past events (slavery, etc.) in which they were not involved and over which they had no control is evil.

- Where is the evidence that racism is such a pervasive problem that the curriculum for elementary school-age children needs to be changed? There isn't any. Indeed, the US is one of, if not the, most diverse places on earth and racism is less relevant than it ever has been in history.

- How is it that WCSD is ready to go with a new curriculum and new textbooks already? Because you all did a lot of preparation in that regard? No, you didn't do any. It's because the publisher already prepared their textbooks for sale in California.

- While political affiliation for a school board trustee (and superintendent) should be irrelevant, you have shown your partisan colors. You are mostly all registered democrats and Critical Race Theory is the current darling of the Democratic Party - hence your efforts to ram it through, with no consideration for the negative consequences (such as reinvigorating racism in America).

- Where are the years of research, the periods of consultation, and everything else that needs to be done in a highly bureaucratic environment before anything changes? There hasn't been any. And if you did any you would only find proof that you are wrong.

- What has WCSD been doing since its inception if it has not been teaching children to think critically and to understand racism is bad?

There is no need to incorporate Critical Race Theory into our schools. Do not vote to approve the amended elementary school curriculum.

Graeme Reid

From: kimberly carden
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 3:41 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series - I support

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials.

Kimberly Carden
Sparks NV

From: Gina Martini-Gonzalez
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 3:55 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public comment

To whom it may concern,

"I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials.

Gina Martini Gonzalez

From: Hannah Kenyon
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 4:00 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social Justice Supplemental Curriculum

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials.

Sincerely,

Hannah Kenyon

From: Emily Bacheller
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 4:00 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support SJSC - Benchmark K-5 Series

Hello,

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials.

Thank you,
Emily

To: Washoe County School District Board of Trustees

Concerning: Conservative Protests Against Social Justice Standards and Curriculum and Instruction.

I am writing to respond to the recent activism of a group of individuals, apparently led by Attorney Joey Gilbert, who have been attending recent school board meetings and handing out fliers at school sites to protest the "social justice standards being put in place by the Washoe County School District. As a highly trained and experienced social studies teacher in the District, I find their argument not only dishonest, but ignorant, and insulting.

The argument about how US History content is taught in our public schools is not new. For decades different groups have been trying to control public school boards and textbook committees to push a version of national identity that reflects their values. Most recently, some conservatives have pushed for a version of US History that promotes "American Exceptionalism," and ignores the realities of our nation's political, social, and economic institutions in denying equality. This group claims that teaching the hard history of the United States not only promotes division but leads to "white students" feeling guilty about the nation's complicated history.

The entire point that these armchair historians are missing is that history is an argument! History teachers are trained to teach students how to understand our past by analyzing primary and secondary sources and evaluating multiple perspectives. In that way, students will develop their own claims, use the evidence that they choose, and provide their own reasoning about a historical event or important historical figure. I have been teaching US History and US Government and Politics in the WCSD for twenty years. I have a master's degree in teaching US History. I am a National Board-Certified Teacher. I teach my students how to analyze historical documents and artifacts, how to verify information by examining multiple perspectives, and how to make a logical fact-based argument pertaining to a historical event. The historical content is important, but the skills that involve being able to analyze information and make a claim and a counter claim is even more crucial to understanding US History. I believe this group needs to attend some educational remediation on thinking critically and understanding multiple perspectives, in order to base their arguments in evidence and to fortify their reasoning. The irony, nay hypocrisy here, is that while this group complains about teachers and school districts teaching a history that is more inclusive, they themselves are practicing a form of censorship that leads to greater division. If a black and brown student can experience racism, then a white student can learn about it! I'll leave you with the prophetic words of the German Poet Heinrich Hein; "where they burn books, they will ultimately burn people also."

Farrell Vaughn

From:
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 4:11 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SJSC K-5 Instruction

Good afternoon,

I am writing in full support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. I read through this curriculum and see no issue with this instruction being taught in our community. The falsehoods around what this curriculum actually contains is frankly staggering.

Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials. It is deeply important in raising caring, functional, open-minded, participatory Nevada citizens.

Thank you,
Virginia Clark
WCSD Parent

From: Mary Kristina DePue
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 4:21 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SJSC K-5 series support

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials.

Sincerely,
Kristina DePue

Get Outlook for iOS

From: JC Franzen
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 4:27 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 6/8 Board Meeting Support for SJSC K-5 Series

Good afternoon -

I'm writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series curriculum. This curriculum is essential to our children's ability to develop critical thinking skills necessary to view and evaluate the world around them.

There are several facebook groups dedicated to opposition of this curriculum. Many of these groups are spreading false information about the proposed curriculum and are encouraging conservative members of the community to reach out to the trustees in opposition, regardless if these members have children in WCSD, live in Washoe County, or even live in Nevada. A number of people in these groups have openly bragged about living in Carson, Dayton, Minden, and Elko. Even more profess to be homeschoolers who would never consider sending their children to WCSD. They're also encouraging members to create multiple email addresses and aliases to submit multiple public comments and send opposition feedback to trustees using these aliases.

I'm the parent of three current WCSD students, including two in elementary school, and two graduates of WCSD.

I find it seriously concerning that we're allowing people outside of WCSD to potentially influence policy.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Jaunice Franzen

From: Elaine Wiseman
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 4:33 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SJSC Curriculum

I am writing **in support** of Agenda Item 5.07, SJSC Benchmark K-5 curriculum. I believe that the curriculum surrounding Social Justice is a valuable and crucial addition to the current curriculum.

Our children deserve better. They deserve to be well informed, thoughtful children who, over time, will begin to look at current and historical events, including their own actions, through the lens of social justice. They will more easily be able to spot discrimination and inequality. Who doesn't want that for our children?

Any opposition to this curriculum is purely RACIST.

Elaine Wiseman

From: Jade
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 4:42 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In support of a progressive curriculum

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials.
Thank you
T. Jade Soto-King
(she/her pronouns)

From: spectralviolet
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 4:48 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for SJSC benchmark k-5

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided by materials.

Thank you,

Sarah Elliott, Ph.D.

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy Note9, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

From: Darci Fletcher
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 4:49 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] K-5 ELA benchmark

As a grandmother to an incoming 1st grader, I want her to be learning the basics that a school should be teaching. Do not start putting things into their heads that may be filled with bias and misinformation. Teachers have enough on their plate with reading,spelling,math,science etc within needing to be bogged down with highly controversial and slanted views on “social injustice”. It’s Critical Race Theory which is highly objectionable. Stick to what kids need to learn at this age.
A very concerned citizen and grandmother Darci Fletcher Washoe Valley

From: James Schmidt
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 4:57 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for SJSC K-5

I am writing in support of SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. History should be based on facts not feelings, the opposition to this is based on lies and white washing. To learn history and not repeat it we must be teaching the facts.

Please support this valuable instruction and ignore the racist fascism from Nevada Family Alliance and Jeff Church.

James Schmidt.

From: Michael Grulli
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 4:57 PM
To: Public Comments
Cc: Church, Jeffrey; Minetto, Ellen; Caudill, Andrew B; Thigpen, Kurt L; Taylor, Angela; Calvert, Jacqueline M; Nicolet, Diane M; McNeill, Kristen
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Racist Social Justice Curriculum & The Superintendent

As military veteran of 30 years and former teacher, I am extremely disappointed in the lack of critical thinking on the part of the Washoe County Board of Trustee's and our Superintendent's mis-guided arrogance in representing the education of America's most treasured asset, our children.

I urge you to reject the Critical Race Theory and the1619 curriculum because it is not in the best interests of our children. This is something that should be left to the parents so that teachers can teach. CRT is a divisive discourse that pits people of color against white people. During my 30 years of active duty, color never mattered, only performance and pride in being an American.

Presently, Nevada is 50th in education excellence. Our children cannot read, write, or comprehend the basics of mathematics at their respective grade levels. Rather than accepting responsibility yourselves or holding our Superintendent and schoolteachers responsible, you are choosing to redirect and teach our children critical race theory (CRT) so that they will become victims and blame their ineptness on the color of their skin or the color of my skin because of my white privilege.

Critical Race Theory:
* Believes racism is present in every aspect of life, every relationship, and every interaction and therefore has its advocates look for it everywhere.
* Relies upon "interest convergence" (white people only give black people opportunities and freedoms when it is also in their own interests) and therefore doesn't trust any attempt to make racism better.
* Is against free societies and wants to dismantle them and replace them with something its advocate's control.
* Only treats race issues as "socially constructed groups," so there are no individuals in Critical Race theory.
* Believes science, reason, and evidence are a "white" way of knowing and that storytelling and lived experience are a "black" alternative, which hurts everyone, especially black people.
* Rejects all potential alternatives, like colorblindness, as forms of racism, making itself the only allowable game in town (which is totalitarian).
* Acts like anyone who disagrees with it must do so for racist and white supremacist reasons, even if those people are black (which is totalitarian).
* Cannot be satisfied, so it becomes a kind of activist black hole that threatens to destroy everything it is introduced into.

When followed to its logical conclusion, CRT is destructive and rejects the fundamental ideas upon which our constitutional republic is based. i.e., "All Men and Women are created equal".

The 1619 Project curriculum is actually worse than the dishonest and deceptive material on which it is based. A mature adult reader of the 1619 Project may be equipped to apply critical reasoning to its claims—particularly Hannah-Jones' claim that the purpose of the American Revolution was to perpetuate slavery. We cannot reasonably expect middle school and high school students, to whom we ought to be teaching critical reasoning skills, to bring the same kind of skepticism to their reading of works we assign them. The 1619 Project curriculum goes out of its way to avoid a critical reading of Hannah-Jones central claims. It expects student to accept her conclusions about the nature of American history and culture without critical inquiry and asks them to regard the world around them from Hannah-Jones' perspective, rather than treat Hannah-Jones as one of many interpreters, much less recognize her as a journalist with no credentials or standing as an historian.

The premise of the 1619 curriculum is that Nikole Hannah-Jones has discovered a fundamental truth about American history that has eluded the historical profession: that the central, defining feature of American history and culture is racism. The exercises that make up this curriculum are all based on this premise.

I respectfully request that the Washoe County Superintendent and Board of Trustees completely reject CRT and 1619 curricula. If the Superintendent and the Board of Trustees moves forward without majority support from parents and taxpayers, we, the people, will use every legal means available to remove them.

We must continue to reward all our students, regardless of color, based on their academic performance.

God Bless America,

Michael Grulli
Captain, USN (Retired)

From: Laynette Evans
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 4:58 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain.

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials.

Sincerely,
Laynette Evans

From: Stanley Jolliffe
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 5:06 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Curriculum

We do not agree with Critical Race Theory and LGBTQ activism for our young children. They get enough of that on social media platforms.

We want our children to learn reading, writing and arithmetic!

We want our children to respect our Flag, learn the Pledge of Allegiance, respect our Constitution and to love our country!

They do not need a guilt trip regarding climate change, race shaming or gender change propaganda.

A person in charge of Nevada's educational system should be ashamed we are at the bottom in the nation.

Stan and Anna Jolliffe

Concerned Citizens

From: Scot Krause
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 5:09 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] public comment on 5.07

Dear WCSD Board of Trustees,

I am writing to reiterate my support for the supplementary ELA curriculum. Having responded to the survey and written a public comment on May 11, I will keep it shorter this time. There is a distinct need for our students to engage with the ideas presented in these lessons. Students are not expected to feel guilt or responsibility for injustices, past or present, throughout the lessons. Instead, students will be encouraged to consider how privilege or assumptions can cloud our understanding of a topic. Students will get opportunities to reflect on their own understanding of the world, which is what such a curriculum should do. Furthermore, any classroom activities that involve some combination of reading, writing, speaking, and listening are helping students improve the literacy elements of the “Three R’s” that I keep reading certain community members want to bring back(not that they ever went away).

Students need an age-appropriate curriculum that encourages them to think critically about the world, as well as their and other peoples’ experiences. The sooner we can concretely relate our academic topics to our students’ lived experiences, the sooner our students will become empowered by learning. Our students deserve to learn about the complicated world in all of its intricacies. Students need to think carefully about our institutions and be inspired by the people who have questioned the status quo. These lessons do just that.

Thanks,
Scot Krause-WCSD teacher

From: Amy Levy
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 5:34 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series.

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials. We need our students to be educated regarding social justice issues to be informed citizens in the future.
Amy Levy

Reno, NV 89501

From: Jane Grossman
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 5:36 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Strongly in support of of K-5 ELA Supplemental Social Justice - Anti Racist Curriculum - June 8, 2021 Meeting

Dear Washoe County Trustees,

My school system failed me and I want to ensure that we don't fail future generations.

I was taught lies - I was taught that America is the Land of the Free and that EVERYONE can advance if they just work hard enough. Sadly this is not true for People of Color.

I'm 60 and I just learned about the Tulsa Massacre last year. How can that be?? We were taught only very little about slavery or how this country was able to become so wealthy over hundreds of years of using enslaved people labor. I was taught nothing about red-lining and systemic racism. Until recently, I didn't fully grasp the day-to-day challenges that my sisters and brothers of color face - challenges that I simply don't have to deal with because of my white skin.

We did not get a real accounting of how many Native Americans were massacred to make way for white settlers. We never learned about Native American children being snatched from their families and sent to Christian schools to try to "civilize them."

We didn't learn about mob violence against our Asian neighbors and that there were laws on the books discriminating against Asians keeping them out of the US through the Chinese Exclusion Act. The act was put into place in 1882 and wasn't repealed until 1943.

We didn't learn that a ship of Jewish Refugees was refused landing in 1939. 937 Jewish Passengers were not allowed to disembark in Florida in 1939, they were fleeing persecution in Nazi Germany. US immigration, and immigration authorities in Canada and Cuba refused their entry. These Jewish refuges were sent back to Europe and nearly a third of them were murdered.

Until recently, we had a Muslim Ban in place. This ban divided families. This ban discriminated against people solely based on their national origin or religion.

We've locked kids in cages and separated Latino children from their parents.

There are some great things about the US and there are many things that have been done in the name of our country that are shameful and need to be reckoned with.

When we don't teach a true accounting of facts, we will sow doubt and division.

I strongly believe that we can't move forward without an honest accounting of our past. We can be better together and live up to the ideals of our founding fathers and mothers, but only if we account for the real histories of all peoples who make up the U N I T E D States of America.

Thank you,

Jane Grossman

From: Debra Rowland
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 5:37 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] June 8th Meeting

Focus on educating the students and promoting the need to support music,sports and arts as add ons. Not Social justice issues!

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

From: Judy Moss
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 5:52 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item 5.07

Dear Washoe County Trustees,

I am writing to share my concerns about the Social Justice Resources offered by Benchmark Advance as part of the WCSD curriculum.

My church does an outreach to high school students. We have a wide variety of students visit our community room to eat lunch, talk, laugh, play board games and ping pong. These students are a rainbow of color and backgrounds, yet they are friends, sharing and enjoying each other's company. If the kindergarteners of today are taught this curriculum, in 10 years the scene in our community room will be one of tension, bullying, intimidation, and total segregation by the color of skin.

This curriculum is not anti-racist, it is absolutely racist. What is more racist than judging someone by the color of their skin? It encourages the students to hate each other and to hate our country.

It is important for our children to be taught critical thinking, civics and history, the good and the bad. This Social Justice Resources offered by Benchmark Advance does none of that. It teaches instead to view through the lens of race, ignoring individuals and individual responsibility.

I would also like to point out that the district received 1,436 responses to your online survey. 83.7% oppose and 16.3% support. According to statistical calculations, to achieve a 95% confidence level in the results with an error of margin 5%, for a total population of 100,00, 383 responses are necessary. The district received nearly 4 times that. Contrary to the implication in slide 6 (Attachment A, ELA presentation), the responses make it clear that the majority of parents, tax payers and concerned citizens oppose this curriculum.

If Benchmark's intent is to ensure that all students feel represented and have opportunities to consider different perspectives, perhaps they should rewrite the curriculum so that is not based on the lens of skin color.

Please vote against including the Social Justice Resources as part of the Washoe County curriculum.

Sincerely,

Judith Moss

Grandmother of Washoe County student, taxpayer, voter

From: James Ceragioli
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 5:56 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] K-5 Social Justice Curriculum

I am writing to express my extreme frustration with Joey Gilbert's blatantly self serving attempt to shape the WCSD curriculum away from historical reality and towards the age old "white washing" of what our children learn. He and his "Nevada Family Alliance" represent a small minority of individuals who are afraid of progress and they have found a willing ally in board member Jeff Church. They are pandering to the irrational fears of ill-informed individuals.

It is truly sad that the board would even consider ending this valuable piece of education for our children. My daughter just finished 5th grade and my son is in high school, so they won't be impacted by this potential loss, but others will. In addition, this group needs to be stopped before they impact other areas of WCSD curriculum.

Thank you for your time.
James Ceragioli

Sent from my iPhone

From: Jessica Kleinedler
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 5:57 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SJSC

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials.

Jesse Kleinedler

From: Scott Emond
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 6:03 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SJSC

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials.

Scott Emond
WCSD Parent

From: Melissa Greenfield
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 6:07 PM
To: Public Comments; BoardMembers
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Supporting agenda item 5.07

Dear Board Members,
I am in full support of Agenda item 5.07, the ELA K-5 Supplemental Curriculum.
I am a Washoe County resident, I have lived here my whole life and attended Washoe County schools. I am also currently an educator in our district. I have seen how social justice curriculum would be incredibly important. Throughout my experiences in this district I have heard un-constructive talks about social justice issues. When these conversations are not guided it leads to further division and issues among our community.
I have seen the questions and they are well written and something that would benefit our entire community.
I urge you to listen to Teachers, parents and washoe county residents. It is concerning that people who don't have any connection to our school district are trying to make decisions. Please listen to the voices of the people who are directly involved with our schools during this pivotal moment in history.

Thank you

From: Susan Thompson
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 6:12 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I support the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series

Dear WCSD Board,

I am writing in strong support of the SJSC Benchmark K-5 Series. As a parent of a transgender child just finishing their freshman year of high school, we are painfully aware of the challenges our child will face as he grows into an adult and goes out into the world - in just a few short years. The curriculum you have proposed would provide students with an ability to learn about others who may be different from themselves and allow students to develop different perspectives, empathy, and a better understanding about the people who may not look like them.

In May of last year, the Pew Research Center published their findings from a study which looked at multiple generations of people in the US, focusing on what sets Gen Z apart. What Pew found gives me hope for our future. The children of this generation are more ethnically diverse, see family and societal change as a good thing, are more comfortable using gender neutral pronouns, and understand the threat the changing climate poses to them and our planet.
https://www.pewresearch.org/social-trends/2020/05/14/on-the-cusp-of-adulthood-and-facing-an-uncertain-future-what-we-know-about-gen-z-so-far-2/

The SJSC curriculum proposed would give our kids the tools they will need to be successful in this ever-changing society that values the differences among us and sees them as strengths. I strongly support this curriculum and approach to teaching and learning.

Kind Regards,

Susan Thompson

From: candice schubert
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 6:13 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social Justice Curriculum in Our Schools

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 Series.

Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials.

Thank you.

Candice Schubert
Sparks, NV

From: Isabel Peralta
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 6:15 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item 5.07

Dear Trustees of Washoe County School District,

It's come to my attention that at the upcoming general meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 8th, 2021, anti-racist curriculum for Kindergarten through Fifth grade is up for possible action under agenda item **5.07.** To be frank, I am in support of the proposed curriculum and ask that you consider a **vote to approve the anti-racist curriculum**.

The very first lesson we all learn in our education is about rules and equal application to all people, from the proposed curriculum, nothing changes. Having a solid civic education and an understanding of how rules of our society impact people differently is crucial to ensuring that people know the severe consequences that their own classmates face from the **laws and true history of our country**. Students are bound to realize this at some point in their educational career but instilling this knowledge at a young age helps create awareness around the adverse effects of racism, which is very prominent and affects students in our classrooms every single day. As so many have said **"if one group of students is old enough to face racism, another group is old enough to learn about it.**" Many of the events of hate in our country are directed by those who have sat right where students sit, in the classroom, but deprived of the early exposure to the impact of their actions.

Please, **vote to approve the proposed anti-racist curriculum.** The students are telling you that it is a necessity along with something they want. This curriculum will impact them directly, so please, **listen to those most affected by your decisions** and those who wish they could've received the same, anti-racist education**.**

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Isabel

From: Diamond Allotey
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 6:21 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Antiracist Curriculum

Dear Trustees of Washoe County School District,

It's come to my attention that at the upcoming general meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 8th, 2021, anti-racist curriculum for Kindergarten through Fifth grade is up for possible action under agenda item **5.07.** To be frank, I am in support of the proposed curriculum and ask that you consider a **vote to approve the anti-racist curriculum**.

The very first lesson we all learn in our education is about rules and equal application to all people, from the proposed curriculum, nothing changes. Having a solid civic education and an understanding of how rules of our society impact people differently is crucial to ensuring that people know the severe consequences that their own classmates face from the **laws and true history of our country**. Students are bound to realize this at some point in their educational career but instilling this knowledge at a young age helps create awareness around the adverse effects of racism, which is very prominent and affects students in our classrooms every single day. As so many have said **"if one group of students is old enough to face racism, another group is old enough to learn about it.**" Many of the events of hate in our country are directed by those who have sat right where students sit, in the classroom, but deprived of the early exposure to the impact of their actions.

Please, **vote to approve the proposed anti-racist curriculum.** The students are telling you that it is a necessity along with something they want. This curriculum will impact them directly, so please, **listen to those most affected by your decisions** and those who wish they could've received the same, anti-racist education**.**
Thank you for your time and consideration,
diamond allotey

Sent from my iPhone

From:
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 6:23 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I support SJSC K-5 series.

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials.
Thank you,
Davene Kaplan
Reno NV 89503
Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
Get Outlook for Android

From: Nico Alvarez
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 6:24 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Anti-Racist Act

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Dear Trustees of Washoe County School District,

It's come to my attention that at the upcoming general meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 8th, 2021, anti-racist curriculum for Kindergarten through Fifth grade is up for possible action under agenda item **5.07.** To be frank, I am in support of the proposed curriculum and ask that you consider a **vote to approve the anti-racist curriculum**.

The very first lesson we all learn in our education is about rules and equal application to all people, from the proposed curriculum, nothing changes. Having a solid civic education and an understanding of how rules of our society impact people differently is crucial to ensuring that people know the severe consequences that their own classmates face from the **laws and true history of our country**. Students are bound to realize this at some point in their educational career but instilling this knowledge at a young age helps create awareness around the adverse effects of racism, which is very prominent and affects students in our classrooms every single day. As so many have said **"if one group of students is old enough to face racism, another group is old enough to learn about it.**" Many of the events of hate in our country are directed by those who have sat right where students sit, in the classroom, but deprived of the early exposure to the impact of their actions.

Please, **vote to approve the proposed anti-racist curriculum.** The students are telling you that it is a necessity along with something they want. This curriculum will impact them directly, so please, **listen to those most affected by your decisions** and those who wish they could've received the same, anti-racist education**.** Thank you for your time and consideration,

Nico Alvarez

From: Tara Hartman
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 6:24 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item 5.07 on June 8th, 2021

Dear Trustees of Washoe County School District,

It's come to my attention that at the upcoming general meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 8th, 2021, anti-racist curriculum for Kindergarten through Fifth grade is up for possible action under agenda item **5.07.** To be frank, I am in support of the proposed curriculum and ask that you consider a **vote to approve the anti-racist curriculum**.

The very first lesson we all learn in our education is about rules and equal application to all people, from the proposed curriculum, nothing changes. Having a solid civic education and an understanding of how rules of our society impact people differently is crucial to ensuring that people know the severe consequences that their own classmates face from the **laws and true history of our country**. Students are bound to realize this at some point in their educational career but instilling this knowledge at a young age helps create awareness around the adverse effects of racism, which is very prominent and affects students in our classrooms every single day. As so many have said **"if one group of students is old enough to face racism, another group is old enough to learn about it.**" Many of the events of hate in our country are directed by those who have sat right where students sit, in the classroom, but deprived of the early exposure to the impact of their actions.

Please, **vote to approve the proposed anti-racist curriculum.** The students are telling you that it is a necessity along with something they want. This curriculum will impact them directly, so please, **listen to those most affected by your decisions** and those who wish they could've received the same, anti-racist education**.**

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Tara Hartman

From: Martha Vilelle
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 6:28 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social Justice Supplemental Curriculum

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials.

I am a retired educator from Missouri. I realize the importance of the Social Justice curriculum.

Martha Vilelle

Reno, NV 89523

--
Martha Vilelle

From: Ericha Lhuize
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 6:31 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL]

Dear Trustees of Washoe County School District,

It's come to my attention that at the upcoming general meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 8th, 2021, anti-racist curriculum for Kindergarten through Fifth grade is up for possible action under agenda item **5.07.** To be frank, I am in support of the proposed curriculum and ask that you consider a **vote to approve the anti-racist curriculum**.

The very first lesson we all learn in our education is about rules and equal application to all people, from the proposed curriculum, nothing changes. Having a solid civic education and an understanding of how rules of our society impact people differently is crucial to ensuring that people know the severe consequences that their own classmates face from the **laws and true history of our country**. Students are bound to realize this at some point in their educational career but instilling this knowledge at a young age helps create awareness around the adverse effects of racism, which is very prominent and affects students in our classrooms every single day. As so many have said **"if one group of students is old enough to face racism, another group is old enough to learn about it.**" Many of the events of hate in our country are directed by those who have sat right where students sit, in the classroom, but deprived of the early exposure to the impact of their actions.

Please, **vote to approve the proposed anti-racist curriculum.** The students are telling you that it is a necessity along with something they want. This curriculum will impact them directly, so please, **listen to those most affected by your decisions** and those who wish they could've received the same, anti-racist education**.** Thank you for your time and consideration,

Ericha Esguerra

From: Anthony S
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 6:32 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL]

Dear Trustees of Washoe County School District,

It's come to my attention that at the upcoming general meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 8th, 2021, anti-racist curriculum for Kindergarten through Fifth grade is up for possible action under agenda item **5.07.** To be frank, I am in support of the proposed curriculum and ask that you consider a **vote to approve the anti-racist curriculum**.

The very first lesson we all learn in our education is about rules and equal application to all people, from the proposed curriculum, nothing changes. Having a solid civic education and an understanding of how rules of our society impact people differently is crucial to ensuring that people know the severe consequences that their own classmates face from the **laws and true history of our country**. Students are bound to realize this at some point in their educational career but instilling this knowledge at a young age helps create awareness around the adverse effects of racism, which is very prominent and affects students in our classrooms every single day. As so many have said **"if one group of students is old enough to face racism, another group is old enough to learn about it.**" Many of the events of hate in our country are directed by those who have sat right where students sit, in the classroom, but deprived of the early exposure to the impact of their actions.

Please, **vote to approve the proposed anti-racist curriculum.** The students are telling you that it is a necessity along with something they want. This curriculum will impact them directly, so please, **listen to those most affected by your decisions** and those who wish they could've received the same, anti-racist education**.**
Thank you for your time and consideration,
Anthony Silva

From: Jeff Rinehart
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 6:52 PM
To: Public Comments; Nicolet, Diane M; Thigpen, Kurt L; Taylor, Angela; Calvert, Jacqueline M; Church, Jeffrey; Minetto, Ellen; Caudill, Andrew B
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In Support of Revisions to Policy 4500

To whom it may concern:
I stand in solidarity with Washoe County Students for Change in their support for the proposed revisions of Policy 4500. It is imperative to the safety and success of our community that teachers have the ability to support civil rights for all of their students. Teachers have a unique opportunity to impact their students' understanding of their world. The way teachers address issues like civil rights can impact student wellness and help to control bullying and harassment. It is a logical and important step to support teachers' ability to discuss civil rights as an apolitical action, especially because no party can claim civil rights as its own partisan issue. We implore you to support the revisions as a common-sense action today.

Sincerely,
Jeffrey Rinehart

Sent from my iPhone

From: Timothy Wiebe
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 6:55 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SJSC

I am writing in support of the SJSC (benchmark) K-5 series. I believe it is important to retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials.
Thank you for your consideration,
Tim Wiebe

Sent from my iPhone

From: Olga Mesina
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 6:57 PM
To: Public Comments
Cc: BoardMembers
Subject: [EXTERNAL] ELA K-5 Supplemental Curriculum

Hello
I am writing in to demonstrate my support of agenda item 5.07, the "ELA K-5 Supplemental Curriculum". This community has a vast variety of different cultures and socioeconomic statuses as such learning to understand each other needs to start early. It is disheartening to know people do not support an inclusive, equitable, justice-focused education.

These type of closed-mindedness is what leads to divisiveness and misinformation. With recent events in this country and those that continue to

Olga L. Mesina
Parent

From: Brendan Wiebe
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 7:08 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SJSC

Good evening,

I am writing in support of the SJSC (benchmark) K-5 series. I believe it is important to retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials.

Thank you for your consideration,
Brendan Wiebe

From:
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 7:10 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SJSC

PLEASE support SJSC.
Compassion should be encouraged and discussed. We need to promote acceptance of all PEOPLE.

Kathryn Pugh
Sparks, NV 89436

From: lydia schwab
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 7:15 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL]

Dear Trustees of Washoe County School District,

It's come to my attention that at the upcoming general meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 8th, 2021, anti-racist curriculum for Kindergarten through Fifth grade is up for possible action under agenda item **5.07.** To be frank, I am in support of the proposed curriculum and ask that you consider a **vote to approve the anti-racist curriculum**.

The very first lesson we all learn in our education is about rules and equal application to all people, from the proposed curriculum, nothing changes. Having a solid civic education and an understanding of how rules of our society impact people differently is crucial to ensuring that people know the severe consequences that their own classmates face from the **laws and true history of our country**. Students are bound to realize this at some point in their educational career but instilling this knowledge at a young age helps create awareness around the adverse effects of racism, which is very prominent and affects students in our classrooms every single day. As so many have said **"if one group of students is old enough to face racism, another group is old enough to learn about it.**" Many of the events of hate in our country are directed by those who have sat right where students sit, in the classroom, but deprived of the early exposure to the impact of their actions.

Please, **vote to approve the proposed anti-racist curriculum.** The students are telling you that it is a necessity along with something they want. This curriculum will impact them directly, so please, **listen to those most affected by your decisions** and those who wish they could've received the same, anti-racist education**.**

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Lydia Schwab

From: Maddie Hadwick
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 7:17 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Anti-Racism

Dear Trustees of Washoe County School District,

It's come to my attention that at the upcoming general meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 8th, 2021, anti-racist curriculum for Kindergarten through Fifth grade is up for possible action under agenda item **5.07.** To be frank, I am in support of the proposed curriculum and ask that you consider a **vote to approve the anti-racist curriculum**.

The very first lesson we all learn in our education is about rules and equal application to all people, from the proposed curriculum, nothing changes. Having a solid civic education and an understanding of how rules of our society impact people differently is crucial to ensuring that people know the severe consequences that their own classmates face from the **laws and true history of our country**. Students are bound to realize this at some point in their educational career but instilling this knowledge at a young age helps create awareness around the adverse effects of racism, which is very prominent and affects students in our classrooms every single day. As so many have said **"if one group of students is old enough to face racism, another group is old enough to learn about it.**" Many of the events of hate in our country are directed by those who have sat right where students sit, in the classroom, but deprived of the early exposure to the impact of their actions.

Please, **vote to approve the proposed anti-racist curriculum.** The students are telling you that it is a necessity along with something they want. This curriculum will impact them directly, so please, **listen to those most affected by your decisions** and those who wish they could've received the same, anti-racist education**.**

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Madelyn Hadwick

From: Hana Hackbusch
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 7:18 PM
To: Taylor, Angela; Caudill, Andrew B; Nicolet, Diane M; Minetto, Ellen; Calvert, Jacqueline M; Jeffery.Church@washoeschools.net; Thigpen, Kurt L; Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In support of revisions to policy 4500

To whom it may concern:
I stand in solidarity with Washoe County Students for Change in their support for the proposed revisions of Policy 4500. It is imperative to the safety and success of our community that teachers have the ability to support civil rights for all of their students. Teachers have a unique opportunity to impact their students' understanding of their world. The way teachers address issues like civil rights can impact student wellness and help to control bullying and harassment. It is a logical and important step to support teachers' ability to discuss civil rights as an apolitical action, especially because no party can claim civil rights as its own partisan issue. We implore you to support the revisions as a common-sense action today.

Sincerely,
Hana Hackbusch

Sent from my iPhone

From: Amaya Wilson
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 7:21 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Possible Anti-racist Curriculum Action

Dear Trustees of Washoe County School District,

It's come to my attention that at the upcoming general meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 8th, 2021, anti-racist curriculum for Kindergarten through Fifth grade is up for possible action under agenda item **5.07.** To be frank, I am in support of the proposed curriculum and ask that you consider a **vote to approve the anti-racist curriculum**.

The very first lesson we all learn in our education is about rules and equal application to all people, from the proposed curriculum, nothing changes. Having a solid civic education and an understanding of how rules of our society impact people differently is crucial to ensuring that people know the severe consequences that their own classmates face from the **laws and true history of our country**. Students are bound to realize this at some point in their educational career but instilling this knowledge at a young age helps create awareness around the adverse effects of racism, which is very prominent and affects students in our classrooms every single day. As so many have said **"if one group of students is old enough to face racism, another group is old enough to learn about it.**" Many of the events of hate in our country are directed by those who have sat right where students sit, in the classroom, but deprived of the early exposure to the impact of their actions.

Please, **vote to approve the proposed anti-racist curriculum.** The students are telling you that it is a necessity along with something they want. This curriculum will impact them directly, so please, **listen to those most affected by your decisions** and those who wish they could've received the same, anti-racist education**.**

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Amaya Wilson

From: Haley E
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 7:23 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Anti-racist curriculum

Dear Trustees of Washoe County School District,

It's come to my attention that at the upcoming general meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 8th, 2021, anti-racist curriculum for Kindergarten through Fifth grade is up for possible action under agenda item **5.07.** To be frank, I am in support of the proposed curriculum and ask that you consider a **vote to approve the anti-racist curriculum**.

The very first lesson we all learn in our education is about rules and equal application to all people, from the proposed curriculum, nothing changes. Having a solid civic education and an understanding of how rules of our society impact people differently is crucial to ensuring that people know the severe consequences that their own classmates face from the **laws and true history of our country**. Students are bound to realize this at some point in their educational career but instilling this knowledge at a young age helps create awareness around the adverse effects of racism, which is very prominent and affects students in our classrooms every single day. As so many have said **"if one group of students is old enough to face racism, another group is old enough to learn about it.**" Many of the events of hate in our country are directed by those who have sat right where students sit, in the classroom, but deprived of the early exposure to the impact of their actions.

Please, **vote to approve the proposed anti-racist curriculum.** The students are telling you that it is a necessity along with something they want. This curriculum will impact them directly, so please, **listen to those most affected by your decisions** and those who wish they could've received the same, anti-racist education**.**

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Haley Estipona

Batchelder, Jennifer

From: Brock Bowlen
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 7:08 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL]

Dear Trustees of Washoe County School District,

It's come to my attention that at the upcoming general meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 8th, 2021, anti-racist curriculum for Kindergarten through Fifth grade is up for possible action under agenda item **5.07.** To be frank, I am in support of the proposed curriculum and ask that you consider a **vote to approve the anti-racist curriculum**.

The very first lesson we all learn in our education is about rules and equal application to all people, from the proposed curriculum, nothing changes. Having a solid civic education and an understanding of how rules of our society impact people differently is crucial to ensuring that people know the severe consequences that their own classmates face from the **laws and true history of our country**. Students are bound to realize this at some point in their educational career but instilling this knowledge at a young age helps create awareness around the adverse effects of racism, which is very prominent and affects students in our classrooms every single day. As so many have said **"if one group of students is old enough to face racism, another group is old enough to learn about it.**" Many of the events of hate in our country are directed by those who have sat right where students sit, in the classroom, but deprived of the early exposure to the impact of their actions.

Please, **vote to approve the proposed anti-racist curriculum.** The students are telling you that it is a necessity along with something they want. This curriculum will impact them directly, so please, **listen to those most affected by your decisions** and those who wish they could've received the same, anti-racist education**.**
Thank you for your time and consideration,

Brock Bowlen

Sent from my iPhone

From: Anna Leff
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 7:31 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Approve the Anti-Racist Curriculum

Dear Trustees of Washoe County School District,

It's come to my attention that at the upcoming general meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 8th, 2021, anti-racist curriculum for Kindergarten through Fifth grade is up for possible action under agenda item **5.07.** To be frank, I am in support of the proposed curriculum and ask that you consider a **vote to approve the anti-racist curriculum**.

The very first lesson we all learn in our education is about rules and equal application to all people, from the proposed curriculum, nothing changes. Having a solid civic education and an understanding of how rules of our society impact people differently is crucial to ensuring that people know the severe consequences that their own classmates face from the **laws and true history of our country**. Students are bound to realize this at some point in their educational career but instilling this knowledge at a young age helps create awareness around the adverse effects of racism, which is very prominent and affects students in our classrooms every single day. As so many have said **"if one group of students is old enough to face racism, another group is old enough to learn about it.**" Many of the events of hate in our country are directed by those who have sat right where students sit, in the classroom, but deprived of the early exposure to the impact of their actions.

Please, **vote to approve the proposed anti-racist curriculum.** The students are telling you that it is a necessity along with something they want. This curriculum will impact them directly, so please, **listen to those most affected by your decisions** and those who wish they could've received the same, anti-racist education**.**

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Anna Leff

From: Aaron Dewar
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 7:32 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] ELA Curriculum

Dear Washoe County School,

I wholeheartedly support the proposed supplemental ELA curriculum. Thank you for you time and energy on this subject!

Aaron Dewar
Reno, NV 89523
Sent from my iPhone

From: Jenna Dewar
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 7:36 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for curriculum

Without hesitation, I support the proposed ELA curriculum. In creating a task force to review, please consider largely pulling from our students and those well-versed in developmentally appropriate and effective curriculum instruction. Many voices involved this conversation leading up to tomorrow's meeting are not local nor are they well versed in teaching strategy - they should not be continually allowed to drown out voices of those directly affected. Social justice focused conversation must continue and become a common framework for our district.

—Jenna Dewar

From: Dana Trimble
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 7:44 PM
To: Public Comments; BoardMembers
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 6/8/21 Public Comment in support of agenda item 5.07-"ELA K-5 Supplemental Curriculum"

Dear WCSD Board Members,

I am submitting my public comment **in support of Agenda Item 5.07 - ELA K-5 Supplement Curriculum**. I work as a Diversity Officer and while we like to think that our society is in support of a diverse and inclusive community, our past continues to haunt us. We must educate our youth and help them learn from our society's previous, and continued mistakes. In my role as Diversity Officer, we provide diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility training to all our employees. I have had individuals state that they do not think there are issues, however, these individuals have not been a victim of any kind of social injustice. I hear actual accounts of issues directly related to social justice, including racial injustice, income gaps, and gender and race inequalities. These are not events from 20 years ago, and these do not just happen somewhere in a bigger city - these are happening right now in Washoe County.

Our schools are supposed to educate our youth to make them more well-rounded, contributors to our society. The only explanation for opposing a social justice curriculum is fear. This same type of fear is what kept women and minorities from voting and caused redlining of housing districts. Educational material should not be adjusted because of fear or politics. <u>There is nothing that encourages privilege and creates a more divisive society than prohibiting teaching history that makes those that have benefited from privilege uncomfortable.</u> We need to have these uncomfortable conversations. Those without privilege have been uncomfortable for centuries, and the path to change is education. It is time to have these difficult conversations about our history, and help our youth understand how privilege affects opportunities. As a Diversity Officer, my hope is that in the future, we will not need social justice training for our adult employees, because they will have learned this as part of their school curriculum.

I am also very concerned about the survey results being used to make decisions on moving forward. I am a parent of a WCSD child and I was not aware of a survey on the social justice curriculum. I am **very concerned** about how this survey was distributed and how 1/3 of the 1436 respondents were not directly involved in the WCSD. I typically respond to WCSD surveys and would have absolutely responded in favor of this curriculum if I was aware of it.

I highly recommend you read the attached article on the "9 Biggest Social Justice issues in 2020". Social Justice issues are not just a thing of our past; it is something we must address in the present.
9 Biggest Social Justice Issues of 2020

9 Biggest Social Justice Issues of 2020

What are the social justice topics impacting social workers in 2020? Learn more from Yeshiva University.

Additionally, I'm also including an article from NEA on Why Social Justice in Schools Matters. This has direct examples of Social Justice problems our youth currently face:
Why Social Justice in School Matters | NEA

Why Social Justice in School Matters | NEA

Brenda Álvarez

Meet five educators who are determined to help young people realize their value and power.

I hope you will make the right decision and vote in favor of a comprehensive Social Justice curriculum.

Sincerely,

Dana Trimble

From: Jacquie Wiebe
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 7:48 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Retain SJ curriculum

I'm writing in support of retaining the SJSC Benchmark K-5 series.
Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials. Please don't let the mis- or dis-information from local hate groups change your position on this important topic. Many community members are being misled by your very own Trustee, as you know. Stay Strong, Board Members. Support social justice curriculum.
Sincerely,
Jacqueline Wiebe

From: Nathan Paulus
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 8:03 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In support of the SJSC

To whom it may concern,

Please consider this email my personal support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 Series.

These materials are a valuable step to teaching our youth emotional intelligence, lead to inclusivity, and hopefully encourage critical thinking. I view them as incredibly positive.

I am a resident of Reno, NV, and support this for Washoe Schools.

Thank you for your time.

Regards,

Nathan Paulus

From: Jafeth Sanchez
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 8:03 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In Support of WCSD Social Justice Curriculum

Dearest WCSD Board Members,

As a parent of a child in WCSD, I am writing in **support** of the proposed social justice curriculum. I am in **favor** of these curriculum opportunities to help students ask questions, research, and challenge biases in a targeted and age-appropriate way.

Kindly,

Jafeth E. Sanchez, Ph.D.

From:
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 8:04 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In support of SJSC

To whom it may concern,

Please consider this email my personal support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 Series.

These materials are a valuable step to teaching our youth emotional intelligence, lead to inclusivity, and hopefully encourage critical thinking. I view them as incredibly positive.

I am a resident of Reno, NV, and support this for Washoe Schools.

Thank you for your time.

Regards,

Vanessa Helfrick Paulus

From: Stacy Burton
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 8:09 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SJSC K-5

I write in strong support of the Social Justice Supplemental Curriculum (Benchmark) K-5 series. Neighbors whose family are using them attest to their educational quality and value. Please retain this valuable instruction.

Thank you—

Stacy Burton

Reno, NV 89509

From: Emely Bandolon
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 8:16 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Antiracist Curriculum

Dear Trustees of Washoe County School District,

It's come to my attention that at the upcoming general meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 8th, 2021, anti-racist curriculum for Kindergarten through Fifth grade is up for possible action under agenda item **5.07.** To be frank, I am in support of the proposed curriculum and ask that you consider a **vote to approve the anti-racist curriculum**.

The very first lesson we all learn in our education is about rules and equal application to all people, from the proposed curriculum, nothing changes. Having a solid civic education and an understanding of how rules of our society impact people differently is crucial to ensuring that people know the severe consequences that their own classmates face from the **laws and true history of our country**. Students are bound to realize this at some point in their educational career but instilling this knowledge at a young age helps create awareness around the adverse effects of racism, which is very prominent and affects students in our classrooms every single day. As so many have said **"if one group of students is old enough to face racism, another group is old enough to learn about it.**" Many of the events of hate in our country are directed by those who have sat right where students sit, in the classroom, but deprived of the early exposure to the impact of their actions.

Please, **vote to approve the proposed anti-racist curriculum.** The students are telling you that it is a necessity along with something they want. This curriculum will impact them directly, so please, **listen to those most affected by your decisions** and those who wish they could've received the same, anti-racist education**.** Thank you for your time and consideration,

Emely Rose R. Bandolon

From: Stephanie Sullivan
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 8:19 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SJSC

I am writing in support of the SJSC K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials.
Thank you,
Stephanie Sullivan
Reno, NV

Sent from my iPhone

From: Laura Hale
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 8:20 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social Justice Supplemental Curriculum

Curriculum that builds community through acknowledgement and appreciation for the range of cultures and perspectives in Washoe County is not only an asset to our communities, but it is essential in this age of division and strife. We have all seen enough aggressive behavior and violence scapegoating people who are seen as different.

Loud voices spreading age-old conspiracy theories must be challenged and students need the tools to pursue understanding in our increasingly diverse and complex world.

Please support this social justice supplemental curriculum throughout the Washoe County School District.

Thank you!

Laura Hale

From: Maggie Ma
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 8:22 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] BP1140 - Remove 2.02

Good Evening Members of the Board,

In looking at the agenda for tomorrow, June 8th. I noticed a long list of Consent Agenda items prior to the first round of public comments. I am requesting that you remove item 2.02 off the list of items to be discussed.

2.02 POSSIBLE ACTION TO PROVIDE FINAL APPROVAL TO THE PROPOSED REVISIONS OF BOARD POLICY 1140, DISTRIBUTION AND DISPLAY OF INFORMATION AND MATERIALS TO STUDENTS AND STAFF, SPECIFICALLY TO UPDATE LANGUAGE AND PROVIDE ADDITIONAL CLARIFICATION (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

The verbiage is quite vague but my hesitation on this item is that I have noticed that you will not be voting on the revision of BP4500 but rather have adopted to add item 2.02 for possible action. My concern with this language and policy is that it opens a pandora box for students and teachers to display support of their political agendas. Whether it be BLM, LGBQT, Pro-Life or what have you. We all know where you stand on support for the conservative views and Pro-Life, Ms. Taylor. We saw it in the conversation with you and your General Counsel, Neil Rombardo. As a concerned parent, I feel that POLITICS HAS NO PLACE IN THE CLASSROOM EVER.

I hope you will rethink this policy and please remove it from the agenda.

Sincerely,

Maggie Ma
Law Abiding Tax Payer and Resident of Washoe County

From: Chris
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 8:22 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Keep social justice curriculum

As a parent of three WCSD students I strongly support the development and integration of the social justice curriculum. Thank you for your consideration.
Chris Knox

Sent from my iPhone

From: Melinda
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 8:29 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social justice supplemental curriculum

I strongly encourage the Washoe County school board to support the SJSC (benchmark) K-5 series. It is imperative that the valuable instruction provided by these materials continue to be available and provided to students.

Sincerely,
Melinda Barrett

From: Lisa Genasci
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 8:47 PM
To: Public Comments; BoardMembers
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support of the ELA K-5 Supplemental Curriculum & Proposed Task Force

Dear Washoe County School District Board of Trustees:

Without the age-appropriate social justice curriculum, only white people's stories are told, while others' stories continue to be muted. Why are those in opposition so fearful of equality and critical thinking? It seems many need to be reminded of the original Pledge of Allegiance (1892): "I pledge allegiance to my Flag and the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

I am a WCSD parent of this age group and Washoe County tax payer; I fully support the ELA K-5 Supplemental Curriculum and, if needed, Task Force. Let's stop watering down the history of the United States of America and, instead, let's encourage our children to be better prepared for their future, so they can create a nation that truly includes liberty and justice for ALL people regardless of race, gender, orientation, religion, age, etc.

Regards,
Lisa

--
Elisabeth Genasci, MS, CSM, CTW (she/her)
Joy Chooser | Community Volunteer | Positivity & Kindness Advocate
&[i$q eoi$e$pmrk$f}$(lex$(i$kixf$yx$(i$q eoi$e$pmi$f}$(lex$(i$kmzi2$/ [mrwxsr$Glyvglmp

From: Bridget Speer Loring
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 8:49 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SJSC Benchmark K-5 series

Dear President Taylor, Trustees, and Superintendent McNeill,

This evening I am writing to you all to show my support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials.

Thank you,

Bridget Speer Loring, BSW, M.Ed
BLM* LGBTQ Ally*MMIW

Sent from my iPhone

From: Allan Ferrenberg
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 8:55 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social justice supplemental curriculum

Please support this.

Dr Allan Ferrenberg
Reno
--

From: Maureen Kilkenny
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 9:00 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] We SUPPORT the social justice curricular supplement for K-5!

One of my neighbors just told me about the hubris against introducing the new social justice curriculum for K-5. That's backwards. So I'm speaking out to make it clear that WE SUPPORT teaching the whole history of our country, the good stuff and the bad.

As a Christian, I am so grateful for the sacrament of confession (also called reconciliation). We recognize our transgressions (sins), confess them to someone else, sincerely apologize in front of that witness, resolve to make amends, and do penance. In return we are forgiven, we can forgive ourselves, and we can go FORWARD. This may be the most important practice Christ brought to humanity. Non-Christians also recognize the immeasurable value of having a conscience, being self-aware, having the courage to confess, the courage to ask forgiveness, and having the grace to forgive if we were the ones sinned against.

Why am I reprizing this Sunday school lesson for WCSD?

I write this because it looks to me like the opponents of the Social Justice supplement curriculum do NOT know what 7-year old Christian children already know. But they should! By the second grade Christian children have learned that it is GOOD to recognize our sins and GOOD to resolve never to repeat them, They even know that it is hypocrisy - BAD- to lie to ourselves.
Please remind the opponents of the social justice curriculum of this.
Please support the social justice curriculum supplement. There should never be another generation of Americans who do not know/are shocked, as adults, to learn what has happened to blacks in this country... since 1619.

Thank you WCSD for all your work on behalf of all of us in Washoe County!
Thank you for SUPPORTING the social justice curriculum for K-5 in WCSD.

sincerely,
Maureen Kilkenny

Reno, NV 89509

From: Michaelle Van Meter
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 9:01 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series.

Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials.

Thank you.

Signed,
-M. Van Meter

Get Outlook for Android

From: Charlotte Stewart
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 9:08 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Masks, Vaccines

I'm sure by the looks of it you have gotten several comments on these subjects as of recently so I will get straight to the point. You have no business telling us how to raise our children or what toxins to put in their body. Masks have been proven to be more harmful than good and they do nothing to prevent getting the virus. Their are several studies that say they cause dental problems, strokes, as well as make it hard to breathe for children. Not to mention it's a violation of their rights. This and other nonsense must stop you get paid from the tax payers you better start listening to us.

Sincerely
Charlotte Stewart

From: Talia Guzmán
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 9:11 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SJSC - Benchmark Series: Please Support!

Dear Trustees,

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials.

As a proud WCSD student and future educator, I am hopeful that the Board-- and those present-- will recognize that the curriculum is not cherry-picked or out-of-context. All parts of American history must be recognized, or else our children will grow up learning that "If people around you are doing something awful, it's somehow less awful for you to do it too."

Change can be frightening, but it is necessary and in this case, clear. I urge the Board to recognize the value of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series and support its passage.

Sincerely,

Talia Guzmán
Sparks, NV

From: Kathleen Boardman
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 9:13 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Benchmark K-5 series

I am writing to declare my support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. These useful educational materials, created by education professionals, should not be eliminated due to pressure from an ill-informed group.

Thank you.
Kathleen Boardman
Reno

Sent from my iPhone

From: B. G.
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 9:21 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social justice curriculum

I support age appropriate social justice curriculum for each grade.
BG

From: Emma Brown
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 9:24 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] board of trustees

Dear Trustees of Washoe County School District,

It's come to my attention that at the upcoming general meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 8th, 2021, anti-racist curriculum for Kindergarten through Fifth grade is up for possible action under agenda item **5.07.** To be frank, I am in support of the proposed curriculum and ask that you consider a **vote to approve the anti-racist curriculum**.

The very first lesson we all learn in our education is about rules and equal application to all people, from the proposed curriculum, nothing changes. Having a solid civic education and an understanding of how rules of our society impact people differently is crucial to ensuring that people know the severe consequences that their own classmates face from the **laws and true history of our country**. Students are bound to realize this at some point in their educational career but instilling this knowledge at a young age helps create awareness around the adverse effects of racism, which is very prominent and affects students in our classrooms every single day. As so many have said **"if one group of students is old enough to face racism, another group is old enough to learn about it.**" Many of the events of hate in our country are directed by those who have sat right where students sit, in the classroom, but deprived of the early exposure to the impact of their actions.

Please, **vote to approve the proposed anti-racist curriculum.** The students are telling you that it is a necessity along with something they want. This curriculum will impact them directly, so please, **listen to those most affected by your decisions** and those who wish they could've received the same, anti-racist education**.** Thank you for your time and consideration, Emma Brown

From: Christine Verre
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 9:30 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social justice curriculum

WCSD board of trustees,
I am in favor of the proposed social justice curriculum. This curriculum will allow a more inclusive, relatable, and complete discussion of our history.
Christine, parent

Sent from AT&T Yahoo Mail for iPhone

From: Deanna Logoteta
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 9:32 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment for Board Meeting

Good Afternoon Members of the Board,

I'm writing to show my disapproval of the new curriculum that is being proposed. It clearly is supporting an oppressor/victim mentality, pushing Marxism ideas and politically motivated. None of which are in the best interest of our children.

Additionally, after reviewing the agenda for tomorrow, June 8th, I am requesting that you remove item 2.02 off the list of items to be discussed.

2.02 POSSIBLE ACTION TO PROVIDE FINAL APPROVAL TO THE PROPOSED REVISIONS OF BOARD POLICY 1140, DISTRIBUTION AND DISPLAY OF INFORMATION AND MATERIALS TO STUDENTS AND STAFF, SPECIFICALLY TO UPDATE LANGUAGE AND PROVIDE ADDITIONAL CLARIFICATION (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

The ambiguous language appears to be an attempt to usurp parents' voices by adopting 2.02 and not voting on the revision of BP4500. After watching the conversation between Ms. Angie Taylor and General Counsel, Neil Rombardo, it is evident that there is an agenda to push only BLM and LGBQT rights, while silencing other viewpoints, causing more division.

If it is decided that a task force will be created to direct Superintendent McNeill, I would like the following persons to be considered:

Ciara Pegoda
Shannon Coley
John Brunell
Lisa Brunell
Mindy Lilyquist
Brittany Bland
Marika Moore
Joe Morabito
Maria Skolnick

Sincerely,

Deanna Logoteta
Concerned Parent

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

From: Ashley Tate
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 10:03 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda item 5.07

In regards to the WCSD School Board Meeting held on June 8, 2021:

My name is Ashley Tate and I am in full support of agenda item 5.07, the ELA K-5 Supplemental Curriculum.

From: Jane A Detweiler
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 10:02 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 Series

To the WCSD Board of Trustees—

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the evidence-based, research-supported instruction provided by these materials.

Jane Detweiler PhD
Associate Professor of English
University of Nevada, Reno

From: Sarah Mahler
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 10:22 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for the Social Justice Ciriculum

Hello WCSD,

I am a parent and have two daughters. We need an honest evaluation of all our curriculum. I am writing in support of the SJSC Benchmark K-5 series.

Thank you for allowing my input,
Sarah Mahler

From: Christie Whiteside
Sent: Monday, June 7, 2021 10:57 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SJSC Benchmark k-5 series

I am writing in support of these materials and request that they be retained for their valuable instruction. It is time that students in Washoe County receive a full and accurate education in American history.

Thank you,

Christie Whiteside

From: Mario DelaRosa
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 12:16 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Benchmark Social Justice Curriculum

Dear School Board Members;
I am writing in support of the SJSC -Benchmark K-5 series, the anti-racist measure, please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials.
Also, I am asking Mr. Church to renounce from the board, his racist comments are the proven proof that this anti-racist curriculum is more than needed in our schools. This is the time for a change, their racist rhetoric --attached to pseudo-patriotism-- is not working anymore.

Mario DelaRosa
Reno,
Nevada

From: Anthony Shafton
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 5:43 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social Justice Supplemental Curriculum

Don't be swayed by right-wing ideologues who feel threatened by a social justice curriculum which in fact is simply small-d democratic.

--
Anthony Shafton

Reno, NV 89509

From: Sue Arzillo
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 5:44 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SJSC

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials.

Susan Arzillo
Sparks, NV

From: Susan Stewart
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 5:46 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social Justice Curriculum

Good Morning,
I am writing to express my complete agreement with the Board's proposal to include more education on previously left out history regarding people of color in the United States and Nevada. For too many years, the history of white suppression has dominated the history in an unfair and dishonest way. I believe as a white person, the best way to bring our country together and live "all men (people) are created equal" is to share the truth of our history.

Thank you for listening,

Susan Stewart

Reno, NV. 89509

From: Kerstin Trachok
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 6:11 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series

Good morning,

I am writing in support of the In support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. I am a licensed Clinical Professional Counselor in the state of Nevada and have worked with children and adolescents for the past ten years as a substitute teacher, a coach, and a therapist and have seen how the lack of education regarding social issues has severely impacted the mental health of marginalized groups. Not only this, but the overall ignorance and intolerance when it comes to these issues is rampant across our state. I was thrilled to hear this curriculum was being implemented and am very disturbed by the recent efforts of The Family Alliance to disrupt this. Please continue to move forward with the plan to implement this wonderful curriculum. Thank you.

All the best,
Kerstin Trachok, LCPC

From: justin kinney
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 6:27 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In favor of K-5 ELA Supplemental Curriculum

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials.

It is time to take everyone's perspectives into account. Learning what happened throughout history--warts and all--is part of a well-rounded education, full of facts, differing viewpoints, multiple perspectives, and critical thinking skills. I trust that the wonderful educators throughout Washoe County can provide the best environment for their students to confront uncomfortable facts with candor, integrity and understanding, just like I trust them to show all the beauty, progress, and amazing things that have been accomplished throughout this country's history.

Best,
Justin Kinney

From: Lisa Rogers MS
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 6:35 AM
To: publiccomments@washoecountr
Cc: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Scgc series

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided.

Lisa Rogers MS.MFTI,MS.CPCI

****Confidentiality Notice****
The information in this electronic mail and attachments contains confidential information belonging to the sender and is legally privileged. This information is intended only for the use of the individual or entity named above. The authorized recipient of this information is prohibited from disclosing this information in accordance with state and Federal Law. If you have received this transmission by mistake, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution, or action taken in reliance on the contents of these documents is strictly prohibited. If you have received this transmission in error, please reply to arrange for remedy of this situation. (Health Insurance Portability Accountability Act, HIPAA, 1996)

From: Tobie
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 6:50 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for SJSC

Hello,

I am a parent of two WCSD students and I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials.

Thank you,
Tobie Barton

From: Gaye McCollum-Nickles
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 6:55 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SJSC Benchmark Curriculum K-5

SJSC Benchmark Curriculum K-5

My granddaughter completed 2nd-grade distance learning right here at my kitchen table. I am familiar with every page, every story in the ELA program. I listened to the kids grow in empathy for their classmates, and watched them expand their understanding of what it means to be a responsible member of any community. This curriculum aids our kids in expressing that profound sense of injustice we see in all young children. Keep this in mind: Indoctrination closes minds; teaching opens them. Indoctrination closes off the world: teaching opens it. I want my granddaughter to grow up with an open mind in a wide open world. Keep the SJSC Benchmark series in WCSD K-5.

Gaye McCollum-Nickles
District D
89509

"Autocratic power requires the degradation of moral authority — not the capture of moral high ground, not the assertion of the right to judge good and evil, but the defeat of moral principles as such." — Masha Gessen, "Surviving Autocracy" (New Yorker author)

From: Tina Atkinson
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 6:57 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] ELA

Please NO Critical Race, Social Justice and Woke curriculum to be taught in any WCSD schools. This in NOT education for the schools to teach but for families to have conversation and teach kids at home. I will pull my 5 kids from the school district.
T. Atkinson

From: James Alderin
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 7:09 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CRT, a good thing

As a fairly recent graduate out of the Washoe County schoole system, why are you guys letting the extreme vocal minority interfere with much needed education curriculum? If we're going to be last in just about everything education wise, may as well at least attempt to teach real history, not just the history of the "winners." You guys should be ashamed for caving so easilly, the students were depending on you guys.

James

From: Mary Richardson
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 7:28 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social Justice Supplemental Curriculum

I support the use of this curriculum in the Washoe County School District. To have fully informed citizens in our democracy, we need to educate our children on all of our past, no matter how shameful it may be. We need to educate our children to get beyond fear and ignorance. We need to educate our children on the truth, and not on name calling and (half? Non) truths. We need to educate our children so they have the courage to look forward to the changes we need to make in order to grow closer to the promises of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution for all people.
Thank you
Mary Richardson
Concerned Citizen
89523

From: Tamalyn Gee
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 7:30 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social Justice Supplement

Hello,

My daughter attends school in the WCSD. I would like to express my support for the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. This is such valuable instruction for children, so much so I wish it was extended through all grades. Please do not succumb to opposition or hate. The kids need the SJSC and our community needs the kids and adults to learn it.

Thank you for your time,
Tamalyn Gee

From: Michelle Cripps
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 7:49 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CRT in schools

I am writing in support of teaching CRT in our Washoe county schools. We are in desperate need of truth and real history to be taught to our younger generations. Acceptance and understanding is the first step to a full recovery and actual justice for all in our country. Continuing to teach whitewashed history will not make our future generations successful. The argument that these things be "taught at home" is asinine. The people espousing this reasoning will never be in a position to teach their children the reality of our world. I know this from personal experience. My Caucasian parents were not equipped with the tools to teach these much needed lessons. Please, please, for the sake of our future, move forward with this curriculum.

Thank you for reading this.

Sincerely,
Michelle Heath

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

From: Mark Stevens
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 7:56 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social classes

These lessons should be taught at home. The parents have the responsibility and the rights to teach “their” children social skills. Public schools should stay within the boundaries of academics and away from the personal lives of families.

Sent from my iPhone

From: Victoria
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 7:59 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] social justice

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. This is necessary and essential. Please continue.
Washoe County Property Tax Payer
Victoria Smith

From: Dan Beeler
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 8:04 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Policy

Enough of tea party control of School Boards and Educational policies...let's teach...not control and indoctrinate.....no more Baptist doctrine

From: Kate Pflughoeft
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 8:10 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] social justice and safety

Hello,

I appreciate the efforts that have been made to try to get more equality into the curriculum with the use of the social justice materials. I feel that it would be a benefit to all the students of the district to be exposed to more global lesson plans. While a lot of focus has been on fears that people have about the new curriculum not improving the scores that NV schools receive nationally, I think they are missing that these lessons may improve critical thinking skills which would, in turn, improve scores overall. Please continue your efforts to work this material into the elementary classrooms.

Separately, I would ask that you revisit the masking issue for this summer and fall. The number of kids in the WCSD that do have pre-existing conditions is far from zero, please consider their health and safety over concerns being raised over comforts.

Thank you,
Kate

From: slhsmith926
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 8:10 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social Studies Cirriculum

Greetings.

I am a WCSD parent writing in support of updating the social studies curriculum. Removing the ugly parts of our nation's history from curriculum is a rewriting of that history. In my opinion there is a great deal of fear mongering going on regarding this topic and it would be a shame, and a disservice, to our students to limit age appropriate discussions regarding racial justice issues in America.

We, as Americans, can approach these 2 things simultaneously: we can be proud of our country and its traditions, while also acknowledging hurtful mistakes.

Please don't let a loud group of trouble makers make decisions that limit our children from a well-rounded education.

Kind regards,
Sara Smith

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

From: Danielle Smith
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 8:30 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for WCSD Social Justice Curriculum

It is absurd and wildly incorrect to assume that the current school curriculum, completely centered and designed around the perspectives of white Americans, is in anyway race neutral. So already by simply maintaining the status quo you are allowing children to be taught that only the perspectives of white people matter and thus the lived realities of people of color are invalid or only as valid as white people will allow. In other words, you are reinforcing the idea of white supremacy by once again showing that avoiding even the slightest discomfort for white people is more important than ensuring that the needs of people of color are met after being completely neglected throughout history. This is not up for debate, as a reminder the anniversary of the Tulsa Massacre just passed and no one has ever been held accountable for the actions of that white mob. There are countless other stories like this throughout history, many of which have been glossed over or removed altogether from history books. Critical race theory and other curriculum centered around the needs and lives of people of color are critical to addressing the issues often centered around race of this nation. It will not solve every issue but no one solution can, that doesn't mean we shouldn't do things that move the needle in the right direction.

What white people fear will happen to their children - they'll be made of fun or made to feel belittled if the bad parts of their history are taught - already happens everyday to children of color. The only history centered around Americans of color that the current curriculum finds meaningful enough to include are the bad parts of our history - slavery, the genocide of Native Americans (though the white centered history would never call it genocide) - and never in full context where the onus is placed on white Americans as it should be. Dedicating certain months to the history of marginalized groups is not adequate. These histories are part of American history, not footnotes or extras, but main pieces just like white history.

More importantly think about the message you are sending the children of color in your schools today. By caving to the demands of white people once again, you'll be reminding them that like everywhere else in America their experiences don't matter unless or until white people says it does. That's the really what's at the crux of this decision. Do only white people get to decide what happened in the past? That's the current way you're teaching it but if you add this critical race theory or social justice lens you'd be telling them that everyone's history is important not just white peoples.

And finally, a reminder that it isn't just white people who have to pay taxes, we all do so we should all be represented in the curriculum. It's not about "wholeness", it's about accuracy and telling a complete story not picking and choosing which parts we like.

Danielle Smith

From: YeVonne Allen
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 8:34 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item 5.07 SUPPORT

Hello Wonderful WCSD!

This is Agenda Item 5.07 Public Comment.

I am in SUPPORT of the agenda item, K-5 ELA Supplemental Curriculum.
I support the work of Superintendent McNeill, the staff, and the administration that are seeking a curriculum that is social justice-focused and promotes critical thinking.

Thank you,

YeVonne Allen

From: William Toledo
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 8:43 AM
To: Public Comments; BoardMembers
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SJSC

Hello,

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please do not let a small group of fringe extremists take away these valuable learning opportunities from our students. The district has in the past espoused commitments to mental health, including in their rationale to keep schools open during a very dangerous pandemic. Part of mental wellness is for students to feel seen and represented in the curricular materials they engage with. Keeping the SJSC series is essential for this goal.

Thank you,

Dr. Toledo

Get Outlook for iOS

From: Ashby Bellows
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 8:45 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item 5.07

Dear Trustees of Washoe County School District,

It's come to my attention that at the upcoming general meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 8th, 2021, anti-racist curriculum for Kindergarten through Fifth grade is up for possible action under agenda item **5.07.** To be frank, I am in support of the proposed curriculum and ask that you consider a **vote to approve the anti-racist curriculum**.

The very first lesson we all learn in our education is about rules and equal application to all people, from the proposed curriculum, nothing changes. Having a solid civic education and an understanding of how rules of our society impact people differently is crucial to ensuring that people know the severe consequences that their own classmates face from the **laws and true history of our country**. Students are bound to realize this at some point in their educational career but instilling this knowledge at a young age helps create awareness around the adverse effects of racism, which is very prominent and affects students in our classrooms every single day. As so many have said **"if one group of students is old enough to face racism, another group is old enough to learn about it.**" Many of the events of hate in our country are directed by those who have sat right where students sit, in the classroom, but deprived of the early exposure to the impact of their actions.

Please, **vote to approve the proposed anti-racist curriculum.** The students are telling you that it is a necessity along with something they want. This curriculum will impact them directly, so please, **listen to those most affected by your decisions** and those who wish they could've received the same, anti-racist education**.**

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Ashby Bellows

Sent from my iPhone

From: Sarah Stone Phillips
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 8:47 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Critical Race Theory aka Language Arts Supplemental Materials

To the Washoe County School Board:

I find myself writing this email in response to the critical race theory being adopted into our education system disguised as the Language Arts Supplemental Materials. As a parent, I am disgusted that something so political and polarizing to our community is being snuck in under our noses. School board members are supposed to be watching out for our children's future and educational needs - not segregating them further by teaching them to see each other for their differences instead of promoting community and comradery. I am firmly against bringing this curriculum to our school system and I am further against being left in the dark by our school board. The school board works for the families of Washoe county, not the other way around. If this school board will not hear what the community is standing for or against, then we need new board members.

Best regards,
Sarah Phillips

From: Lonny Rimel
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 9:37 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SJSC K-5 Series

Please support the above referenced series. We need to do better in educating our children.
Thanks,
Lonny Rimel

From:
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 9:42 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment

Importance: High

Rashad Turner – Once a leader and founder of the Minneapolis / St Paul BLM movement now denounces the organization as a Marxist group. https://news.yahoo.com/blm-chapter-founder-quits-calls-143232807.html

BLM leaders have recently resigned after information has surfaced that they have personally profited monetarily while promoting the destruction of the communities they claim to be advocating for.

Dr. Carol Swain, a highly revered educator speaks out against teaching critical race theory and gender theories (tongue in check, as it is really indoctrination) of children to suggest that they are born systemically racist – based upon their skin color. Dr. Swain is an award-winning political scientist, a former professor of political science and professor of law at Vanderbilt University, and a member of the **James Madison** Society, an international community of scholars affiliated with the **James Mad**ison Program in American Ideals and Institutions at Princeton University.

Automatic	**VICTIM**	**vs**	**VICTIMIZER**
	OPPRESSED	**vs**	**OPPRESSER**

This brings me to mention the Marxist Conduct of this Washoe County School Board and their handling of the public meetings. During the March meeting at the Damonte Ranch High School, the pubic was placed into an overflow area based upon capacity. However, Sisolak had opened capacity size to 50%, the auditorium was less than 33% full. There was so much confusion when public comment was opened due to the procedure (or lack thereof), which was chaotic and extremely unorganized. Because of this confusion several people from the overflow area went peacefully to the doors asking to be permitted entrance to the under populated arena. This along with 3 people who possessed medical exemptions from wearing masks were forced to leave. This all giving the board an excuse to shut down in person attendance and time to work out a means of keeping an overabundance participation in public comments.

Once the board opened the meetings up again to the public a chose to use a very small room – basically keeping public out. It is obvious that the truth behind the venue is to limit the public to be present at one time. The board can gaslight and spin it all they want – but it is not difficult to understand that the board is working towards squelching the participation (a Marxist tactic). The setup of the board meetings is concerning as it displays a "systemic" unorganized body. It is realized that this is intentional, however, please be aware that it is not a good trait!

I oppose any flag being placed next to the American flag – BLM, LGBTQ or Right to Life. The pledge of allegiance should be said to the Stars and Strip American flag only (and I end that with an exclamation point! This is an issue that the NAACP should address – NOT the promotion of 'Social Justice" (i.e., Critical Race Theory). I heard a gentleman from the NAACP state at the last board meeting on March 25, 2021, that those objecting to the curriculum were misinformed. He

stated that he spent 20 minutes talking with those who objected, I was outside and have to say I didn't see him at all in the crowd. The people objecting are very much informed and fully understand the deception of the curriculum.

A teacher also spoke that those speaking out about the curriculum were uninformed and mostly of an older demographic. Let it be recorded that a lot of parents' fear for their children being singled out and punished for their objecting. Another tactic of Marxism.

Janet Butcher

Senior MS Dynamics 365 CE Specialist & IBM i Developer

Unless otherwise specified, all time references in this email are based on Pacific time.

From: Tammy Soong
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 9:43 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please keep SJSC

Dear President Taylor, Trustees, and Superintendent McNeill,

As the parent of two children in the WCSD, I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials. My son is part of the graduating class of 2021. He is empathetic, open-minded, and eager to make the world a better place. It would be unfortunate if future generations of Washoe County students were unleashed on the world without the same good intentions because of the loud, ignorant voices of a few people who, ironically, could stand to be taught the curriculum.

Please hold strong. I can only imagine how difficult it is to be yelled at and threatened constantly, so thank you.

Sincerely,
Tammy Soong

From: Dave Cherry
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 9:46 AM
To: Public Comments; BoardMembers
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SJSC

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials.

Sincerely,

--
Dave Cherry
Goldencitygraphics.com

"The truth will set you free. But first, it'll piss you off."
--N.E.R.D. & Rihanna

From: Michelle Rutherford
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 9:49 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social Justice Curriculum

Dear Board of Trustees,

As a parent, an educator and a Washoe County resident of 42 years I would like to voice my support in favor of the proposed Social Justice Curriculum for grades K-5. Students need skills for increasing tolerance and kindness in our community and this is one step in the right direction.

I am saddened that the voice of a vocal minority will force these important topics to be avoided in the classroom. Fairness and equity are topics that all teachers should need no permission to teach.

Michelle Rutherford

From: Ekaterina Diaz
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 10:04 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social justice curriculum

This email is to show my support for the implementation of a social justice curriculum in our school in Washoe county. I have been a victim of racism and bullying for standing up for human rights while attending schools in this district. A curriculum such as this would give a voice to all people of color attending our schools and ensure that students are educated on the importance of human rights and how they are still being violated in this country.
Thank you,
Ekaterina Díaz
UNR Alumni and current MSW student at UNR

Sent from my iPhone

From: Danica Jones
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 10:07 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Critical Race Theory should not be a subject in our schools

Dear Washoe County School Board,

Please do not teach Critical Race Theory to our children. We should not group people into socially constructed groups at the cost of showing our children that each one of them is a valuable individual capable of great things and NOT defined by a social group.

Let's stop dividing by color and teaching our children that racism is present in every aspect of life, in every interaction and every relationship.

Respectfully,

Danica Jones

From: Joan
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 9:57 AM
To: Public Comments
Cc: BoardMembers
Subject: [EXTERNAL] support for ELA K-5Supplemental Curriculum

Dear Washoe County School District Board Members, I wish to register my support for the K-5 English/Language Arts social justice supplemental curriculum. Part of developing fully-functional, critically-thinking citizens is to teach children to ask questions, do research, and challenge biases in appropriate ways. We will not be able to heal the divisions in our society until we can learn to communicate effectively which includes developing our abilities to view issues from the perspective of those who may have different life experiences than our own. The proposed supplemental curriculum is a step in the right direction.

Kind regards,
Dr. Joan Steinman

Reno, NV 89521

From: Joni Inglis
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 10:23 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] social justice curriculum

Good Morning,
Im sending this email IN SUPPORT of the CRT and social justice curriculum.
Please dont let the racist and insecure folks take over our school district.

Joni Inglis

From: Faye Berg
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 10:23 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: SJSC

On Tue, Jun 8, 2021 at 10:21 Faye Berg <bergfaye@gmail.com> wrote:

> To whom it may concern, I have recently read negative comments and a petition circulating via social media against SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 programming. I would like to offer my opinion in FAVOR of this teaching curriculum on social justice.
>
> While living abroad in Germany (my husband and I are both US Navy veterans), I learned that the Germans find social justice and history of their atrocities a valuable lesson for all German students so that the honest past is not repeated by their generation. They take it so far as to not allow homeschooling in Germany so children are not given only their parents one-sides and often bias and uneducated views.
>
> We could learn this lesson and future generations could end our cycle of racial discrimination and intolerance of different cultures and religions as well as the violence it often teaches.
>
> Thank you for your time, please vote your conscience.
>
> Mr and Mrs Louis Berg (Faye)
> --
> Faye Berg

--
Faye Berg

From: Tabitha Carlisle
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 10:37 AM
To: McNeill, Kristen; Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Critical Race Theory

I am sad and embarrassed that I need to write this email. With all the research I have done on this "curriculum", I can not believe it is even up for discussion. We have so many other good resources and tools to discuss discrimination and race relations. This program is political propaganda and nothing more than a way to divide our community further. Please let's put our kids first and stop the politics. There is no place for this in our schools.

If you can not stop this, then it is time for a new school board.

-Tabitha Carlisle

From: Brandon Goyer
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 10:45 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In Support of the K-5 ELA Social Studies Supplemental Curriculum

Dear Board of Trustees,

I'm writing today to express my full support for the K-5 ELA Social Studies Supplemental Curriculum. As a father of two children attending a Washoe County elementary school, I see absolutely nothing wrong, and everything right, with teaching our children basic principles that promote equal treatment of everyone in our society, regardless of their gender, color, ethnicity, sexual orientation, etc. There is nothing wrong with learning the value of treating everyone fairly and understanding a more complete picture of our history as a society, so that we can move forward and not continue to perpetuate the mistakes of the past.

Certainly this needs to be made age-appropriate, and I trust the board will make this a top priority as they implement this curriculum. However, teaching our children truth and giving them the skills to think critically about the treatment of others, particularly those who are different than them, is precisely how you build a better, stronger community. Those who want to blast this curriculum as racist against white people and politically motivated are not only missing the point, but are allowing themselves to be corrupted by other people and groups who possess ulterior motives and compromised moral values. Treating people fairly is a moral value that we should all as a community agree on, and I believe that this curriculum, when properly executed, will help our children begin to form and possess that important value.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Brandon Goyer

Virus-free. www.avg.com

From: Adrian Lowry
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 10:51 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for SJSC

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials

Thanks,
Adrian Lowry

From: Nicole Fierro
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 10:53 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social Justice Standards, Curriculum, and Instruction

To: Washoe County School District Board of Trustees

Concerning: Conservative Protests Against Social Justice Standards and Curriculum and Instruction.

I am writing to respond to the recent activism of a group of individuals, apparently led by Attorney Joey Gilbert, who have been attending recent school board meetings and handing out fliers at school sites to protest the "social justice standards being put in place by the Washoe County School District. As a former student in WCSD and current English Education teacher candidate, I find their argument not only dishonest, but ignorant, and insulting.

The argument about how US History content is taught in our public schools is not new. For decades different groups have been trying to control public school boards and textbook committees to push a version of national identity that reflects their values. Most recently, some conservatives have pushed for a version of US History that promotes "American Exceptionalism," and ignores the realities of our nation's political, social, and economic institutions in denying equality. This group claims that teaching the hard history of the United States not only promotes division but leads to "white students" feeling guilty about the nation's complicated history.

The entire point that these armchair historians are missing is that history is an argument! History teachers are trained to teach students how to understand our past by analyzing primary and secondary sources and evaluating multiple perspectives. In that way, students will develop their own claims, use the evidence that they choose, and provide their own reasoning about a historical event or important historical figure. In history classes, we are taught how to analyze historical documents and artifacts, how to verify information by examining multiple perspectives, and how to make a logical fact-based argument pertaining to a historical event. The historical content is important, but the skills that involve being able to analyze information and make a claim and a counter claim is even more crucial to understanding US History.

I encourage you to continue forward with current social justice standards. To learn most accurately about history, we must learn from all perspectives, rather than just a westernized Anglo-Saxon perspective. We must address the pain that many Americans have faced, or we will have a generation ignorant to the follies of our nation. To improve our country, we must learn from history what not to do. I believe this group needs to attend some educational remediation on thinking critically and understanding multiple perspectives, in order to base their arguments in evidence and to fortify their reasoning. The irony, nay hypocrisy here, is that while this group complains about teachers and school districts teaching a history that is more inclusive, they themselves are practicing a form of censorship that leads to greater division. If a black and brown student can experience racism, then a white student can learn about it! I'll leave you with the prophetic words of the German Poet Heinrich Hein; "where they burn books, they will ultimately burn people also."

Nicole Fierro

Former Student at Sparks High School
English Education Teacher Candidate

From: Victor Williams
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 11:03 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Vote Yes On Anti-Racist Curriculum

Dear Trustees of Washoe County School District,
It's come to my attention that at the upcoming general meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 8th, 2021, anti-racist curriculum for Kindergarten through Fifth grade is up for possible action under agenda item **5.07.** I am in support of the proposed curriculum and ask that you consider a **vote to approve the anti-racist curriculum**.
As the parent of four grown children who attended Washoe County schools as well as the University of Nevada, Reno, I am fully behind telling our kids the truth, the WHOLE truth and nothing but the truth, and that includes describing every historical aspect of the American experience, from the glorious to the deplorable, and everything in between. Otherwise, our nation cannot grow, and certainly cannot progress beyond the cultural and economic disparities that have too long held our nation back from its full promise.

The very first lesson we all learn in our education is about rules and equal application to all people. From the proposed curriculum, that lesson not only remains intact, but is strengthened. Having a solid civic education and an understanding of how rules of our society impact people differently is crucial to ensuring that people know the severe consequences that their own classmates face from the **laws and true history of our country**. Students are bound to realize this at some point in their educational career, but instilling this knowledge at a young age helps create awareness around the adverse effects of racism, which is very prominent and affects students in our classrooms every single day. As so many have said, **"if one group of students is old enough to face racism, another group is old enough to learn about it.**" Many instances of hate in our country are created by those who have sat right where students sit, in the classroom, but deprived of the early exposure to the impact of their actions.
Please, **vote to approve the proposed anti-racist curriculum.** The students are telling you that it's something they want. This curriculum will impact them directly, powerfully and positively, so please, **listen to those most affected by your decisions** and those who wish they could've received the same, anti-racist education**.**
Thank you for your time and consideration,
--
Vic Williams
Writer | Editor | Communications
Professional Reno NV 89509

From: Sally Casas
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 11:09 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In support of SJSC (Benchmark) K-5

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials and do not bow into the crazy demands of Joey Gilbert et al and his cult following. It is important for children of all ages to learn about social justice in a way that allows them to ask questions, research and challenge biases and it is NOT "indoctrination", "reverse racism (this does not exist by the way)", or "critical race theory". If we lived in a world where there was equality, we would not need this to be added into the curriculum, but unfortunately we don't, so there is a need, despite what the cultists think.

(please do not publish my email address in your minutes - you can use my first name but not my email address)

From: Leo Horishny
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 11:16 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: teaching social justice, yes!

I'll be part of the proud 20% who strongly support the 1619 Project goals, the teaching and self awareness of social justice for students and later as adults, and not only should students be taught the 1619 curriculum, I would like to know that high schoolers were assigned Nancy Isenberg's, "White Trash: The 400 Year Untold Story of Class in America" as well as, for upper high school students, at least, Richard Slotkin's trilogy: "Regeneration Through Violence". BOTH of those books, within 2 chapters reading them, put forth actual history that clearly was not taught when I went to school, for sure! But it happened, none the less.

As a white, 63 year old male, educated at St. Albert's grade school and at Reno High School, and then college, I 150% believe in these ideas and if needed, I'll be more than happy to stand up publicly for these, long overdue history lessons.

The louder they cry and moan about these ideas, the more they prove the desperate need for them.

Leo Horishny

Sun Valley, NV 89433

From: Deborah Bailey
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 11:23 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda item 5.07 - Support for Task Force

I am writing in support of the WCSD task force to develop a "social justice" curriculum. As the parent of a former WCSD student, tax-payer, and concerned citizen, I applaud this act of faith in our next generation.

Our children already are being exposed to the disparities within our world. Most children need and want a fair and just place, and the new curriculum is a compelling opportunity to address that desire. The curriculum is an opportunity to show our children what a just world could look like and what heroes look like across the spectrum of diversity. Seize the moment.

I came of age in the toxic racism of Birmingham, Alabama in the 1960's and spent time teaching there in the 1980's and early 1990's. I can tell you as a teacher of elementary age children that they get it and are likely ahead of the adults on this issue. What children need to see is, despite the ugly behaviour of some adults, there are also those that press for justice, compassion, and understanding.

Help this next generation write the continuing history of our country. Set up the task force and move forward with helping each student be the best they can be.

Thank you,
Deborah Bailey
Parent of former WCSD student
Community member

From: Anita Hicks
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 11:49 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Critical Race Theory

Opposed!!! As my husband and I have researched a number of articles in regard to the Critical Race Theory curriculum and looked at the information you used to have posted on your website, we have come to the conclusion this curriculum is abhorrent and divisive in nature. Please vote against this potentially deviant curriculum for the sake of our children and our culture.

Anita Hicks
Sent on the fly from my iPhone

From: Laura-Ann Moore
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 11:50 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] WCSD Social Justice Curriculum

Dear Washoe County School District,

My name is Laura-Ann Moore and I am a senior at Incline High School. This year I participated in the We the People program and had the privilege of competing at the national competition and placing 8th in the country with my school. Over the last year, I have learned a lot about what social justice means to me and to my community.

First, ignorance is a result of poor education. Bias and bigotry are not genetic; they are taught.

Second, social justice is an extension of morals already taught in schools. We are taught respect, fairness, and kindness. These principles are intrinsically linked with the ideals of social justice.

Third, social justice education is for the common good. In We the People, my team and I were tasked with providing a way to bring our individualistic and divided society together. We came up with the principle of enlightened self interest, which says that when you help others you are helping yourself. If you teach children about the principles of equality, fairness, justice, and respect, you will be practicing enlightened self interest by ensuring a future for yourself and your children where people in Washoe County are more empathetic and respectful of others.

With all of these reasons in mind, WCSD should instate Social Justice Curriculum for K-5 students. Thank you for your time.

Laura-Ann Moore

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

From: Katy Simon Holland
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 11:51 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for social justice education (5.07) and strategic planning (5.05)

Dear Trustees,
Thank you for your dedicated service to our students and for your courageous efforts to insure that ALL WCSD students have the **opportunity and the responsibility** to learn respect for differences, the full history of our struggles as a people to achieve each individual's potential, no matter their circumstances, and to learn how to have meaningful dialogue about how best to manifest the promise of our Constitution and Bill of Rights for ALL Americans.

Thank you in advance for supporting the staff's recommendation to continue moving forward with social justice education. This is civic education at its best and most important and is NOT so-called Critical Race Theory. Our forefathers knew that one of the chief goals of public education in the new nation was to teach future leaders how to maintain and insure the promise of democracy for all.

In addition, I wholeheartedly support the effort to craft a new Strategic Plan and Promise of a Graduate, and I would be happy to volunteer to assist the effort in any way.

Respectfully,
Katy Simon Holland

Katy Simon Holland, MA
President
Simon and Associates Consulting

From: Tria Garnsey
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 12:31 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I Support Social Justice Curriculum

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of Social Justice Curriculum in Washoe County schools. As it stands today, my two children, aged 6 and 14, are only learning accurate American history, and our centuries long brutality toward other cultures, at home. Nothing can change in this country unless and until we confront the injustices white colonialism has perpetrated since before the Mayflower landed in Plymouth.

Accurate history, and its ongoing consequences for BIPOC communities must be taught to all students in the interest of a better future. After all, if we weren't seeking to create a better world through education, we wouldn't have public schools. It is a duty of educators to impart accurate information, no matter how ugly. Systemic racism exists, and all students are harmed by varying degrees, and BIPOC students the most.

Regards,

Demetria Garnsey
Lemmon Valley

From: Thomas Albright
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 12:56 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] item 5.07: Please support anti-racist curriculum reforms

Dear WCSD board members,

As a parent, educator, and Washoe County resident, I strongly urge you to support the proposed anti-racist curriculum measure, which I understand will be item 5.07 in tonight's (8 June 2021) agenda.

This measure is extremely important for our community, which like so many others, has experienced problems with racism for so long. I am white and have learned much through the experiences of dear friends and family members who are not. This curriculum will help our students understand and humanely/empathetically consider and question racism that too many of our students already experience at very young ages. The students who live this, like my family members, are strongly in support of this measure. Please listen to these students, who are the most affected.

Thank you for serving our community and for your consideration,
Thomas Albright
Reno, NV

From: Gordon McGregor
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 12:57 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed social justice curriculum

To whom it may concern:

My name is Fran McGregor and I am a recently retired teacher of the WCSD. I taught 29 years in the district, 28 of those in 6th grade. I am also the former Vice-President of the Washoe Education Association. I am writing in support of the proposed social justice curriculum.

In all my years of teaching, I found it most successful to allow students to openly discuss important issues with one another. My policy was to allow all students to give their opinions and then allow for discussion. All points of view were heard and respected. Students may not have always agreed with one another, but these rich discussions led to not only a better understanding of one another's point of view, but also a better understanding of the issue at hand. As an educator, I always felt it was more beneficial to students to openly discuss issues rather than pretend they didn't exist.

During my last years of teaching, I used the novel, **Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry,** by Mildred Taylor. This is a Newberry Award winning book based on the author's family history. They were an African American family living in rural Louisiana in the 1930's. Throughout the novel, the author shows how her family dealt with discrimination during the Jim Crow era. For my students, reading this novel was always an eye-opening experience. They had absolutely no idea that this actually happened in America. This is not an easy book to read. It is a book where one has to stop and talk. The discussions with my students were always deep and rich, and each year I was amazed at the depth of their thinking. At the end of the class period, students would beg not to stop reading. Through the reading and discussion, they were thoroughly engaged. I have always been proud that I was able to expose my students to this novel and to this ugly but true period of our shared history.

As an educator, I believe students must be exposed to our true history. Our American history is rich, and there are examples of both how unique and wonderful this country is, but also how we have had to deal with our ugly dark past. If we cannot learn from this dark past, we are doomed to repeat it.

Please consider adopting this curriculum. As an educator, I truly believe our students are better served by exposure to our true history. I believe they are intelligent enough to thoughtfully look at our history and learn from it. If we don't do this for them, we will have failed our young people.

Fran McGregor
Retired WCSD educator

From: Cher Daniels
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 12:59 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Education CRT

Our children need to be taught Math, Reading, and Writing. Our children should not be taught Critical Race Theory or Equity. This will only teach our children to look at skin color which is racist.

Cher Daniels

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

From: Julia Angst
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 1:00 PM
To: Public Comments; BoardMembers; McNeill, Kristen; Church, Jeffrey; Minetto, Ellen; Caudill, Andrew B; Thigpen, Kurt L; Taylor, Angela; Calvert, Jacqueline M; Nicolet, Diane M
Subject: [EXTERNAL] WCSD Social Justice added content

As a parent of two elementary students in WCSD, I am very much concerned and opposed to the proposed WCSD social justice content, seeing that it is very biased and divisive.

The proposed added curriculum of social justice resources, specifically the Social Justice Guiding Question and the Essential Questions, are focused on content that is very subjective, one-sided and should absolutely NOT be incorporated into public education. Seeing this singular-view of content presented as potentially being taught to our kids has driven me more seriously to consider private or home schooling.

Reading through the teaching resources, there were many statements that will only serve to divide our young students into victims and oppressors. Asking a 5th grader "How does white male privilege allow people to have a false sense of self" or "How does that impact what is acceptable and what is not" is inappropriate and can only serve to make kids feel guilty for something they haven't done and have no control over (the color of their skin and gender), or make them feel like they're supposed to live up to this ridiculous and negative expectation. A more positive focus (that I believe is already taught at Lenz today) would be how we should treat others the way we would like to be treated and that everyone is equal.

Instead of asking "Should everyone have the same as everyone else? Should people who have more give it to others?", how about teaching kids that in our great country, you can work hard to get what you want out of life. For example, if a student works hard to study for a test, the better they will perform on that test. The same work ethic applies in life as adults. Perhaps teaching kids about college scholarships that are available (especially for low-income families and diverse candidates) and other opportunities that are available to help people accomplish their goals in life would be a good approach. To address giving back, Lenz already participates in food drives and other ways to help those that are less fortunate and teach our children the importance of giving and contributing to society.

Assumptions in the teaching resources that are made about our founding fathers and the constitution in the statement ""Creating the Constitution," page 4: "We the people…" is a loaded phrase that, at the time, really just referred to white males." is an opinion, as is "how omission in law has contributed to systemic racism and bias (i.e., economic, health, housing, education)". I am shocked that such biased information would be presented as facts to teach to our kids.

Since the board will no longer be voting to accept this added curriculum, and wil now be discussing the possible action to direct McNeill to create a task force, I would like to propose to the board and McNeill that the people below be considered for the task force (a group of parents in several districts and two community members) to help ensure all viewpoints on this topic.

Ciara Pegoda
Shannon Coley
John Brunelle
Lisa Brunelle
Mindy Lilyquist
Brittany Bland
Marika Moore
Joe Morabito
Maria Skolnick

Regards,

Julia Angst

From:
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 1:15 PM
To: Public Comments; BoardMembers
Subject: [EXTERNAL] ELA supplemental curriculum k-5 5.07

Dear Members of the Washoe county school Board of Education My name is Erika Reed I am *a mother of two school-aged children who currently attend school in the Washoe county school district , I attended k-12th grade in the district, graduated from UNR, and worked in the school district until I stopped to become a stay at home mom.*
I am writing in support of agenda item 5.07 which is an elementary school social justice focused supplemental curriculum . This proposed curriculum is educational , inclusive, and much needed in this district.

I believe *talking about differences in an age-appropriate way benefits children positively. I have been watching the board meetings at home and a common theme I've heard people say is kid's do not see color, or differences. That is simply not true and there is nothing wrong with seeing the differences in people. What we don't what kids to do is judge, discriminate, or stereotype another person because of race, religions , sexual orientation, or any other differences one may have. I believe that if we begin to have more age appropriate inclusive discussions at an early age children won't see differences as something to fear but as something to embrace.*

I hear a lot of people get in front of the board and speak about Martin Luther King Jr. and what his hopes and dreams were for this country and it sounds good however,what we have to remember is that what he was speaking about was controversial at the time and that he was assassinated. He was not popular during his time. Social justice issues always make people uncomfortable,speaking about race always make people uncomfortable but we have to do it. Martin Luther king jr. if he were not assassinated would be 92 years old today. my grandpa is 93 yearsold Martin Luther King Jr. very well could still be alive today. He had a dream that has yet to be fulfilled we have to keep striving and working towards his dream we are not there yet. I feel like we owe it to our children to allow them to have these conversations at an early age so that in 10,20,30 years they are not at a board meetings like this having the same tired antiquated arguments about race, sexual orientation, and religion.

I have experienced racism in the district as a student when I was younger and as an employee when I worked in the district. My kids have experienced racism is the district as well. As a mother of two black children in this district and just as a minority it hurts to know that there are teachers who are fighting against teaching the proposed curriculum it feels very systematic.

I appreciate *your taking the time to read and consider my family's experiences,*
Thank you for your consideration of my thoughts on the matter. I hope that you vote to pass agenda item ELA k-5 supplemental curriculum 5.07

Erika Reed

From: Heather Burris
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 1:28 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social Justice Curriculum

Good afternoon,

I wanted to take a moment to express my support for this program. I didn't see the announcement requesting comments previously. I feel that the backlash you have received is primarily from a loud few who do not understand what the program actually is and I doubt they bothered to review the information. This is not a political issue. They are unwilling to learn what privilege actually means and just read the headlines and talking points. I am disappointed that as a result the district is not pursuing the curriculum at this time. These parents are exactly the reason why this education is necessary, they do not understand and therefore their children will not understand. They seem to believe it's hate directed at white people. Empathy and understanding of what others go through that is different from their own experiences is important to the progress our country is making in this area, it is necessary to instill this in children starting from a young age. I hope that this will be brought forward and approved in the near future.

Thank you,

Heather Burris
WCSD Parent

From: Margo Memmott
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 1:36 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Public comment - SJSC (Benchmark) k-5

Please see my email as sent to jbarchelder@washoeschools.net.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** Margo Memmott
> **Date:** June 8, 2021 at 1:30:33 PM PDT
> **To:** jbarchelder@washoeschools.net
> **Subject: Public comment - SJSC (Benchmark) k-5**
>
> Dear Board of Trustees
> My husband and I strongly support SJSC (benchmark) k-5 series. Our son is in second grade in our school district and have a strong desire for him and his classmates to learn more about social justice in the classroom. The curriculum is badly needed in our district and it is way overdue for our district to begin adopting curriculum that embraces the complexity of our country's history. These kids need this curriculum and we strongly support it's adoption.
> Margo and Jeramie Memmott
>
> Sent from my iPhone

From: Ankush Joshi
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 1:41 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL]

Dear Trustees of Washoe County School District,

It's come to my attention that at the upcoming general meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 8th, 2021, anti-racist curriculum for Kindergarten through Fifth grade is up for possible action under agenda item 5.07. To be frank, I am in support of the proposed curriculum and ask that you consider a vote to approve the anti-racist curriculum.

The very first lesson we all learn in our education is about rules and equal application to all people, from the proposed curriculum, nothing changes. Having a solid civic education and an understanding of how rules of our society impact people differently is crucial to ensuring that people know the severe consequences that their own classmates face from the laws and true history of our country. Students are bound to realize this at some point in their educational career but instilling this knowledge at a young age helps create awareness around the adverse effects of racism, which is very prominent and affects students in our classrooms every single day. As so many have said "if one group of students is old enough to face racism, another group is old enough to learn about it." Many of the events of hate in our country are directed by those who have sat right where students sit, in the classroom, but deprived of the early exposure to the impact of their actions.

Please, vote to approve the proposed anti-racist curriculum. The students are telling you that it is a necessity along with something they want. This curriculum will impact them directly, so please, listen to those most affected by your decisions and those who wish they could've received the same, anti-racist education.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Sincerely, Ankush Joshi

From: Carla Trounson
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 1:52 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social Justice Curriculum

Hello -

I'm writing today to voice my support of a social justice curriculum. We just commemorated the 100th anniversary of the Tulsa Massacre of 1921. So many people had not heard of these killings in the nations heartland and the massacres all around our nation. The bodies are at this moment being dug up, and with them, the truth- the whole truth of America. We have to tell the stories of all Americans, even the uncomfortable truths. I am a historian. My granddaughter will attend Washoe County Schools. She will know ALL our history. Please don't continue to kill the memory and deeds of people who wanted nothing more than to raise their families and live their lives. Their stories demonstrate humanities cruelty and beauty and resilience. We will never know peace today without acknowledgment of the past, and equality and equity in the present.

Thank you, Carla L. Trounson
--
The longest road out is the shortest road home

From: chris lanier
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 1:57 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] IN SUPPORT OF SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 Series

I am writing in support of the adoption of the Benchmark Social Justice units in the WCSD curriculum. They seem like an age-appropriate and worthwhile attempt to broaden students' perspectives, enlarge their sense of empathy, and introduce critical thinking concepts. That is a benefit to children of all racial and ethnic backgrounds; as our kids grow up and navigate the "real world," they will be participating in a more diverse society, and working in a more diverse workplace. Being able to understand and communicate with people of varying backgrounds is a "soft skill" that will only become more necessary as the demographics of America shift.

Beyond the utilitarian motives of preparing students for their future careers, education also plays a crucial role in informing students about the civic society they participate in. When I was growing up, the historical and political perspectives I was taught were completely whitewashed. There was no mention of how the Constitution was shaped by compromises with slave states, or that Washington and Jefferson enslaved people - much less that Jefferson had impregnated Sally Hemmings at age 16, and never legally emancipated her. It was only in the last few years that I learned that both Truckee and Reno had Chinatowns, after Chinese labor had successfully connected the area to the transcontinental railroad – and that these Chinatowns were uprooted by violence and arson, perpetrated by white supremacist groups.

And none of this history is remote. Here in Reno, a UNR student became a poster boy for the white supremacist resurgence in Charlottesville, photographed while he participated in a march where the chant was "Jews will not replace us!" I have a friend, a member of the Walker River Paiute Tribe, who is teaching the Paiute language, for the first time, at Schurz elementary school. He had no such linguistic and cultural support when he was growing up there, because the school system was still a vehicle of "assimilation" – continuing the project of the Residential Schools, to "remove the Indian" from Native students. We are just emerging from a Covid tragedy that disproportionately afftected Native, Black and Hispanic communities.

Addressing racism, and unfair power structures, is not a benefit won at the expense of white communities. We all stand to benefit when we raise everyone to the same standard of health, representation, and community engagement. I believe the curriculum is a small but positive step in that direction.

Chris Lanier
Reno, NV

From: Betty Barker
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 2:01 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social Justice Policy

Dear WCSD School Board,

I support your efforts to teach Social Justice in all its many forms with your new curriculum. I am appalled at the incivility of the attacks on Board Members. Disagreement and dialogue are always welcome, but violent and disrespectful speech - NEVER. Adults should exemplify what the curriculum is teaching.

Sincerely,
Betty Barker, MFT
Community Member

From: Jia Feng
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 2:08 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please approve the anti-racist curriculum

Dear Trustees of Washoe County School District,
It's come to my attention that at the upcoming general meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 8th, 2021, anti-racist curriculum for Kindergarten through Fifth grade is up for possible action under agenda item **5.07.** I am in support of the proposed curriculum and ask that you consider a **vote to approve the anti-racist curriculum**.
If we don't hope for certain things to happen to ourselves, we definitely don't want that to happen to anyone. And education, as one of the most important experiences in one's life, should represent what we seek and educate for a better and fair world. I am in support of the proposed anti-racist curriculum at WCSD.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jia Feng

From:
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 2:23 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social Justice Curriculum, Critical Race Theory, LGBTQ Agenda

June 8, 2021

To the Washoe County Schoolboard,

You must remove the action item from the Consent Agenda and hold a hearing on the revision of Board Policy 1140. You need to hear what the parents have to say about this policy and we are not backing down.

Placing this highly controversial action item on the Consent Agenda robs the PEOPLE of the opportunity to weigh in on this important decision. Your agenda must be brought out into the open so the PEOPLE of Washoe County will know what the truth is that you are planning to do to our children.

These are our children and you will **NOT** indoctrinate them. The Washoe County Schoolboard works for the PEOPLE of Washoe County.

The children are innocent, loving and they are **NOT RACISTS**. They know nothing about being racists and you want to teach them all about it. Your agendas need to be brought out into the light so the families and the citizens of Washoe County know what your agenda is.

Deborah Mardon
Grandmother of student in Washoe County School District

From: ROBERT STECKER
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 2:25 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment 6/8 Board Meeting

Dear Trustees of Washoe County School District,

It's come to my attention that at the upcoming general meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 8th, 2021, anti-racist curriculum for Kindergarten through Fifth grade is up for possible action under agenda item **5.07.** To be frank, I am in support of the proposed curriculum and ask that you consider a **vote to approve the anti-racist curriculum**.

The very first lesson we all learn in our education is about rules and equal application to all people, from the proposed curriculum, nothing changes. Having a solid civic education and an understanding of how rules of our society impact people differently is crucial to ensuring that people know the severe consequences that their own classmates face from the **laws and true history of our country**. Students are bound to realize this at some point in their educational career but instilling this knowledge at a young age helps create awareness around the adverse effects of racism, which is very prominent and affects students in our classrooms every single day. As so many have said **"if one group of students is old enough to face racism, another group is old enough to learn about it.**" Many of the events of hate in our country are directed by those who have sat right where students sit, in the classroom, but deprived of the early exposure to the impact of their actions.

Please, **vote to approve the proposed anti-racist curriculum.** The students are telling you that it is a necessity along with something they want. This curriculum will impact them directly, so please, **listen to those most affected by your decisions** and those who wish they could've received the same, anti-racist education**.**
Thank you for your time and consideration,
Robert Stecker

From: DAVID THAXTON
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 2:49 PM
To: Public Comments
Cc: BoardMembers
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item 5.07 - In support of ELA K-5 Supplemental Curriculum

Dr. Taylor, and Trustees of the Washoe County School District -

First, I want to thank you for your tireless service during these most trying of times. Your dedication to the students and families of Washoe County has been apparent and commendable, While I have not always agreed with the decisions that you have made, I have not doubted for a moment that they were deliberated and enacted with the best interests of our students and families at heart. Indeed, many decisions (especially the decisions around re-opening) have turned out to be good ones, and my doubts have evaporated like rain in the desert. I thank you for your wisdom and foresight.

I want to speak to you today, but I also want to respect your time, as I know the work you are doing is important. So rather than taking up my allotted three minutes to stand at the podium, I want to write this that you may read it at your convenience.

I am in support of the adoption of the ELA K-5 Supplemental Curriculum. The curriculum is appropriate and timely. As you well know and have experienced, we have deep divides in our country. A curriculum that focuses on inclusivity, treating people with respect, critical thinking and working towards equity is precisely what we need to be addressing in our schools. One of our most sacred traditions in this country is being eroded - that of being able to have respectful debate about subjects upon which we disagree. I have watched meeting after meeting in which a parade of public commenters spew abusive, threatening, dishonest, disrespectful and hateful rhetoric at the Board for hours on end. I can not escape the irony of how much blind rage, vitriol and disrespect they display in opposing a curriculum that lays a foundation for respectful dialogue, empathy and critical thinking in regards to issues such as race, privilege and injustice. This is the right curriculum and it is at the right time. It is on us as educators, parents and community members to ensure that our children and grandchildren are equipped with the tools to make democracy work.

Please accept my support and gratitude for your work. Know that the loudest voices in the room are just that - loud. They are not the only voices. Stay strong. Keep doing the work we need.

Sincerely,

David Thaxton

From: Cherub Hartigan
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 3:00 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] WCSD Board of Trustees Meeting_20210608 Meeting_Item 5.07

Hello,

I wanted to share feedback regarding the task force for Item 5.07 on the Agenda (below).

5.07 PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON THE NEVADA ACADEMIC CONTENT STANDARDS IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA) AND SOCIAL STUDIES; REVIEW OF PUBLIC INPUT FOR THE K-5 ELA SUPPLEMENTAL CURRICULUM; INFORMATION PROVIDED FOR THE PROCESS USED TO UPDATE CURRICULAR MATERIALS; AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO DIRECT SUPERINTENDENT TO CREATE A TASK FORCE OF STUDENTS, PARENTS, FAMILIES, AND EMPLOYEES THAT WILL PROVIDE INPUT AND GUIDANCE TO THE SUPERINTENDENT IN THE CREATION OF SUPPLEMENTAL CURRICULUM MATERIALS (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION) ***This item will not be heard before 4:00 p.m.***

Based on the feedback from the community, my recommendation/request is for the district to provide educational opportunities this summer for parents to truly learn more about what's included in the curriculum including a deeper dive of the benchmark examples & what they actually mean. Based on feedback I've heard, Benchmark is happy to answer questions & a video sharing content.

Sadly, I've heard wildly misinformed ideas being shared on social media about what the Social Justice curriculum covers. Many community members sharing public comments on social media & in the public board meetings are quick to tell everyone how poorly Nevada rates in terms of education. Based on their concern, I would hope those same community members would be equally concerned to continue their education especially for something they give such fervent feedback on in addition to ensuring their children have access to this education.

Based on the small percentage of POC in the Reno/Sparks area, it would behoove the community to educate themselves as the region continues to grow at such a rapid pace. I wholeheartedly agree with the Social Justice curriculum & the focus on teaching critical thinking skills.

Thank you for all you do especially in such an unnecessarily polarized & politicized environment.

Sincerely,

Cherub Hartigan

From: Julie Lee
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 3:04 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] agenda 5.07

I oppose the agenda item 5.07, benchmark K-5 supplemental curriculum.
Julie Lee

From: Molly J
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 3:05 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for SJSC

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials.

--
Molly Livingston

From: Elizabeth Cadigan
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 3:15 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment: Social Justice

Board of Trustees and Superintendent Dr. McNeil,

I have decided to send in my public comment rather than give it in person out of respect for your time during tonight's meeting. The last time I spoke at a board meeting was at the end of March. During this meeting, I noticed that the number of people who were there to give public comment had been steadily growing with each meeting. While I believe that everyone should be given a chance to use their voice and make public comment, I recognize that honoring this right is one of the reasons why the board meetings run as long as they do.

As an educator within the district, I support the work the WCSD is doing to make our district an inclusive place to both learn and work. I urge the board to approve the social justice curriculum and to continue working on finding ways to promote inclusivity throughout our district. I have heard about the possibility of the start of a Social Justice Taskforce within the district and hope that the board will also consider the allowance of such a group to exist.

Thank you,

Elizabeth Cadigan

From: D'Lisa Crain
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 3:28 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Board Meeting Item #5.07

WCSD Board of Trustees & Superintendent Dr. McNeill -

As a mother of a student in Washoe County School District, a district employee for the last 17 years yand a community member I am writing to ask you to approve the social justice curriculum. Supporting students to critically think for themselves, consider other's points of view and diverse perspectives is key to a healthy community and to the future of a healthy democracy. I want my own children to have the full experience of the many stories that are the fabric and truth of this nation's history, not one narrative that is perpetuated and considers one viewpoint.

Let our kids think for themselves and let our teachers be their guides in critical thinking.

Thank you…
D'Lisa

From: J Ross
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 3:51 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item #5.07

To the board members of WCSD,

As a parent to 4 students currently enrolled in WCSD I am disturbed by the curriculum that is being considered. It is much opinion that this is a subject matter that should be addressed in the home, or higher grades. I also believe this is public opinion being taught, and not facts.

Please stop pushing personal and political agendas on our children. Please help the teachers keep to simple curriculum. Isn't it enough that teachers have to change their curriculum to cater to state and national tests?!

Again, I am stating that I am against teaching Critical Race theory in our schools.

Thank you for your time.

-Joanna Ross

From: Monica Washington
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 3:55 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Strongly in support of of K-5 ELA Supplemental Social Justice - Anti Racist Curriculum - June 8, 2021 Meeting

Please consider moving forward with the adoption of the K-5 ELA Supplemental Social Justice curriculum.

We need our students to be future leaders of this country and world who can think critically and analyze situations to make the best decisions. As my uncle always told me, "History is important because if we don't learn it, it will repeat itself."

I am a 45 year old teacher, parent and community member who just learned about the Tulsa Black Wall Street massacre. It's time to educate our students on ALL of history, even the events that make some uncomfortable. Noone is perfect, we learn from our past and our country is no different. We have flaws and can only make ourselves better as a country by acknowledging this. This is when we will truly move forward and become the great country we are known for.

Thank you,
Monica Washington

From: Suzanne Batmale
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 4:14 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Social Justice Curriculum

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Suzanne Batmale**
Date: Mon, Jun 7, 2021 at 9:53 PM
Subject: Social Justice Curriculum
To: publiccomments@washoeschool.net <publiccomments@washoeschool.net>

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a parent at Incline High School and I fully support the new Social Justice Curriculum.

It is shocking to me that anyone would oppose the educated, researched, child-centered guidance that only helps our community to uplift one another. Reading that "this is something that should be taught at home" is frustrating because if these common sense "parenting" basics were effectively being taught at home, this entire curriculum likely wouldn't be necessary. Our education system is, once again, picking up the dropped pieces in our collective effort to raise kind, respectful and respectable children.

When I read that this curriculum is perceived to be targeted at an audience too young to receive it, I am frustrated by the lack of actual research on the part of opponents. Research clearly shows that small infants show signs of racial preference.
It's also clear that opponents are not actually reading the curriculum- how is it that Chrysanthemum is an offensive text? How is "What does it mean to be a friend?" a question that provokes anything other than good citizenship?

Presenting history in a factual way doesn't cultivate a hatred for one's country. Presenting history in a factual way doesn't diminish anyone receiving the lessons. Presenting history in a factual way allows for the basis of understanding to be solid, to be anything but politically motivated and to be a common ground we can build upon together.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Batmale
--

--

From: Barbie Mack
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 4:19 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] No on Benchmark...

No vote on benchmark social justice curriculum. No thank you.

Barbie Mack

From: Diana Walker
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 4:21 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment for Social Justice Curriculum

This email is for public comment on the changes made to the Benchmark Curriculum to be more inclusive and begin to address social justice concerns. This email is in support of the curriculum. The curriculum aligns with the social studies standards that are required to be taught by the state of Nevada. In addition, a curriculum that helps students to identify and navigate through circumstances of inequity is long overdue. We have a responsibility to all families.
Regards,
Diana

From: Pat Fling
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 4:34 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support SJSC

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials.

Pat Fling

From: Grandma and Grandpa Clark Clark
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 4:47 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL]

Dear Members of the Board,
Thank you for persevering through the longest school year of our lives. You held the line for our children through the hardest darkest times, and I appreciate you.
"The two most important things we can give our children are roots and wings." (J. W. von Goethe) Teaching history gives kids roots, and learning science gives kids wings.
Our county is transitioning into a technology/science hub for our nation. We have a solid new science curriculum; it's wonderful that our classroom computers will be refreshed every four years. To all the board members who support solid science education, thank you!
History is reality past. Reality is often complex and uncomfortable; we want the students in our district to have a firm grasp on reality. Studying history exposes students to reality -buffered by time- so they may understand humanity in all its complexity. To all the board members who support solid, inclusive, history education in all its rich complexity, hold the line.
Ignorance is the opposite of education. I want our students to have roots and wings; I also expect them to correctly spell "reading, writing, and arithmetic".
In this century, science and history are required subjects at the local, state, and federal level. The failed Back to the Basics movement is an embarassing footnote in American education which violates this century's local, state, and federal curricular standards. Abolishing history and science education is irrelevant to board discussions.
Discussions irrelevant to meetings of the trustees are both superfluous and a violation of WCSD board of trustee rules.
Thank you so much for your time,
Sincerely,
Mrs. Bobee-Kay Clark

From: Hannah busha
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 4:48 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for SJSC K-5 series

Hello,

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain.

Thank you
Hannah Busha

From: Ursula Sindlinger
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 4:50 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I support the SJSC Benchmark K-5 series

Hello,

I am in full support of the SJSC Benchmark K-5 series.

The hysteria being spread by the opposition group reminds me of the days when similar folks tried to stop sex education in public schools. Whenever fear is used to stop progress, we can't let fear like that win.

Their fear of having their children learn that equality has not been the norm in our nation is baseless. I learned such things in elementary school in the 1960s and I am the better for it.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 775-225-6388. Unfortunately, due to my job, it is difficult for me to get to the school board meetings in the middle of the work day.

Thank you,

Ursula Sindlinger

Reno, NV 89521

From: Erin Basta
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 5:04 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL]

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain. Alternatively, I am also in support of creating a committee of teachers, parents, administrators, etc. (As superintendent Mcneill recommended) to come up with a valid and fair social justice curriculum.

I support the Washoe county school District board with the exception of Jeff Church who clearly does not have a background in education and seems determined to undermine any progress in the district.

Thank you for your time,
Erin Chandler

From: Cindy Anderson
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 5:23 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social Justice in Benchmark

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials.

Thank you,
Cindy Anderson

From:
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 5:45 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item 5.07

As taxpayers, community members, and parents, we oppose the social justice cirruclium and any task force that Kristin McNeill would be in charge of.

-Jessi Himphill

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

From: Maggie Babb
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 5:50 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SJSC BENCHMARK K-5 curriculum

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials. As a teacher I truly believe these are valuable learning opportunities for our students in these times. We cannot keep doing more of the same, we must reflect and evolve to meet the needs of ALL of our students.

Maggie Babb

From: Lydia DeFlorio
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 5:58 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] social justice curriculum

My name is Lydia DeFlorio, and I am both a Washoe County School District parent and associate professor in the College of Education and Human Development at UNR. I am writing to voice support of the supplemental ELA curriculum materials. I know it may seem like there is widespread opposition to these materials, and maybe there is, but there is also widespread support—particularly among people who actually understand the importance of culturally responsive and inclusive practices, educational equity, and what these materials are and are not.
As someone who both studies and teaches these things, my thoughts as I reviewed the materials that were posted online is that this is a good first step. By no means will a supplemental curriculum serve as some magic bullet or fundamentally change the inequities that exist, but it will serve the purpose of allowing more students to see themselves and their families reflected in the curriculum—which sends the message that Washoe County School District is a place where they can belong. It will also help foster critical thinking skills and promote other traits like acceptance and empathy. As a parent, those things are all extremely important to me.

I know the superintendent is recommending that a task force be established to review these materials and then revisit in the fall. If that is what happens, I would like to ask you to seriously think about who would be on the task force and how those members would be selected. If the district truly cares about equity and inclusion, then the goal should not be about getting a"balance" of ideologies, but rather a body that represents the diversity of our students and families in WCSD—particularly those whose voices aren't always amplified, including those who identify as African American, Indigenous, Latinx, and other people of color. I would also ask that you recognize that diversity, equity, and inclusion is a valid area of scholarship and that people with this expertise also be included on this task force. UNR is a stone's throw away, and I can assure you that there are many of us who would gladly serve in this capacity.

Thank you.

Lydia DeFlorio

From: Pam Payne
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 5:58 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for ELA curriculum

Please note my support for this curriculum based on its developmental appropriateness and necessity in our schools.

Pamela B. Payne, PhD, CFLE
Sent from my iPhone

From: Paula Koger
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 6:04 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Ridiculous!

So hypocritical!!!!

Angie Taylor shame on you for not scolding the claps of the audience After a public comment you agree with!!!!!

Blatant bias on display for the entire community to see!

Shameful!!!

Sent from my iPhone

From: Dawn Hepner
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 6:18 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public comment

In reviewing the response to recovery draft, I felt strongly that social justice curriculum is not in line with the strategy behind the response to recovery. This school district should focus on what this plan is about and the goals outlined. We need our children to be taught an education of reading, writing, math, and true US History. I have read thru the proposed curriculum for social justice and all this curriculum does is divide our children, families, and community. Be leaders in the community who will bring everyone together - not tear everyone apart. Focus on giving our children the education they need and deserve, not what the propaganda dictates. Let's get our children back on track to being excited to learn and succeeding in life. My son, who is entering his junior year, has never been more miserable and bored going to school than he is now. Focus on solving that problem.

Thank you
Dawn Hepner

Sent from my iPhone

From: David Fisher
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 6:19 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CRT & Curriculum

Hello,

To put it bluntly, there is nothing wrong with Critical Race Theory (save the inelegant name).

I have been to three school board meetings, and seen various pundits in the news regarding CRT, and they all share one thing in common: They don't understand. Or they're lying. Or both.

According to the Boston Review:
"The exact targets of CRT's critics vary wildly, but it is obvious that most critics simply do not know what they are talking about. Instead, CRT functions for the right today primarily as an empty signifier for any talk of race and racism at all, a catch-all specter lumping together "multiculturalism," "wokeism," "anti-racism," and "identity politics"—or indeed any suggestion that racial inequities in the United States are anything but fair outcomes, the result of choices made by equally positioned individuals in a free society. They are simply against any talk, discussion, mention, analysis, or intimation of race—except to say we shouldn't talk about it."

That is an accurae descriptor of the dialog I've experienced.

The only reason this in controversial at all is because Christphoer Rufo, a representative of the Discovery Institute, a Fra-Right Christian Nationalist "think tank" mentioned CRT on Fox, Trump was watching, and here we are.

Rufo posted this on Twitter, 3/15/21:

"We have successfully frozen their brand—"critical race theory"—into the public conversation and are steadily driving up negative perceptions. We will eventually turn it toxic, as we put all of the various cultural insanities under that brand category.

The goal is to have the public read something crazy in the newspaper and immediately think "critical race theory." We have decodified the term and will recodify it to annex the entire range of cultural constructions that are unpopular with Americans."

Right here, in plain English, he admits that he's lying. What's more, there is a member of the school board itself, Jeff Church, who is also lying.

Mr. Church creates a "feedback loop." He posts misinformation (and outright falsehoods) on either renotaxrevolt.com or watchdogjeff.com, or both, amplifies it through the Nevada Patriots Facebook group, and then those members come down and scream at the school board for a few hours, three minutes at a time, repeating the views of Church back to him.

It is interesting that Mr. Church wants a postponement to review the directive for a diversity task force, with the excuse that three days is not enough time for him to review the material. I think this is false, what he really wants is to get his advice from other Far Right activists to craft lies about the contents, disseminate them, and then have his minions come down and lie about that.

The new curriculum should be approved.

Thank you.
David Fisher, M.A. CRC

From: Jennifer Tibben
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 6:25 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social justice

I am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the valuable instruction provided by these materials.

Jennie Tibben
Sent from my iPhone

From: Katia
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 6:30 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support of anti-racist curriculum

Dear Trustees of Washoe County School District,

It's come to my attention that at the upcoming general meeting of the Board of Trustees on June 8th, 2021, anti-racist curriculum for Kindergarten through Fifth grade is up for possible action under agenda item **5.07.** To be frank, I am in support of the proposed curriculum and ask that you consider a **vote to approve the anti-racist curriculum**.

The very first lesson we all learn in our education is about rules and equal application to all people, from the proposed curriculum, nothing changes. Having a solid civic education and an understanding of how rules of our society impact people differently is crucial to ensuring that people know the severe consequences that their own classmates face from the **laws and true history of our country**. Students are bound to realize this at some point in their educational career but instilling this knowledge at a young age helps create awareness around the adverse effects of racism, which is very prominent and affects students in our classrooms every single day. As so many have said **"if one group of students is old enough to face racism, another group is old enough to learn about it.**" Many of the events of hate in our country are directed by those who have sat right where students sit, in the classroom, but deprived of the early exposure to the impact of their actions.

Please, **vote to approve the proposed anti-racist curriculum.** The students are telling you that it is a necessity along with something they want. This curriculum will impact them directly, so please, **listen to those most affected by your decisions** and those who wish they could've received the same, anti-racist education**.**

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Katia Albright

From: Jen Horn
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 6:55 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social Justice

School Districts across this country are teaching CRT and lying about it. In Rockwood School District Literacy Coordinator Natalie Fallert wrote to all principals suggesting that their social justice materials only be visible to students and not parents on their learning platform. She called this "not being deceitful." Someone thought otherwise and made the email public.

A head teacher at Grace Church HS in NYC caught on audio saying, "we're demonizing white people for being born." Later in the conversation he said, "we will make these children whole". How are you going to do that? Grace Church is not the only high school caught lying.

These are just some of the reasons that we are concerned about Washoe County School District's Social Justice curriculum. All we have is a word salad describing Washoe County's social justice curriculum. We have no idea what is going to be taught. But we know exactly what is being taught in school districts across the country.

Teach Dr. Martin Luther King's work that he died for. He wanted people to be "judged by the content of their character, not the color of their skin." Social Justice teaches the opposite, that skin color can tell you everything about a person. Of course, social justice has a new definition of racism, apparently, someone must have power to be a racist. A person can hate an entire race but not be a racist. The only power I possess is my vote. I have never oppressed anyone and I'm not a racist. But that doesn't matter, social justice says because of my skin color I'm both an oppressor and a racist. That is racism.

The book "Rules for Radicals" says if you want someone to sit down and shut up, call them a racist. That has worked for decades*, but it doesn't work anymore*. Call me a racist all you want, I know I'm not. **But we know this curriculum is racist.**

Social justice or CRT is 100% POLITICAL. Just like calling "Crisis Pregnancy Centers" unethical was political. This school district wants to "advertise" planned parenthood and never give adoption as an option.

Thank you,
Jen Horn
Sparks NV

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

From: Leja, Jennifer
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 7:15 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Curriculum Discussion

I'd like to highly encourage you to pass this curriculum that is being discussed tonight.

One thing that seriously needs to be talked about in regards to this topic of critical race theory, is what will happen if it's not passed? Many teachers are already teaching these topics without a set curriculum. At least with a curriculum, the topics can be regulated and taught in a uniform way. This will help stop teachers from giving their personal perspectives on these big issues - something that is desperately needed for teachers on both ends of the political spectrum.

- Ms. Leja

Jennifer Leja, M.S.
7th Grade English/Language Arts
7th Grade Edgenuity
Cold Springs Middle School

From: Theresa Bohannan
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 7:25 PM
To: Public Comments; Taylor, Angela
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social Justice Curriculum

Dear Board of Trustees,

It is unnecessary to establish a task force to review any adoption of the social justice curriculum. It is your job to vote on the agenda item as it stands. A task force will delay and only draw out more contention. It is long past due to teach our children about the issues that plague our society, such as systematic racism. Further, I do not recall receiving any notification about this survey and question using the results as a rationale for the delay in adopting this curriculum.

Listening to public comment is disheartening and only provides numerous examples of why this curriculum is needed. The public comment is not representative of the community and has been hijacked by those with a political agenda. They will not be satisfied with a task force or any other remedy. They will not stop until they completely control and dominate all curriculum.

You are leaders, so now is the time to lead. Vote to adopt the curriculum.

Thank you,
Theresa Bohannan
Reno, NV

From: Steve
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 7:45 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CRT teachings

I've gone over the CRT for 2nd grade and I extremely disapprove. Your using an author that is and has a socialist background. Your teaching about letting students design thier own social justice flag. Your not teaching about the American flag or the history behind it. Your using race to ignite racial tension in kids. And you want to use our children to ignite this race war the media portrays daily.
You will not indoctrinate my child into this type of thinking.
I personally know teachers that will not teach this to children in their class.
You all need to be removed from the appointed seats you now fulfill. This is not Nevadafornia! This is Nevada

From: Thomas, Sarah
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 7:52 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Curriculum Discussion

I highly encourage you to pass the curriculum that is being discussed tonight. After reviewing the curriculum, it's clear that the best way forward for our students and our community is to pass it.

Sarah Thomas, M.Ed
Social Studies
Mendive Middle School

"Nothing can stop the power of a committed and determined people to make a difference in our society." -- John Lewis

Get Outlook for iOS

From: McGovern, Jennifer
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 7:56 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Labor law violations having Bus Drivers work for free

My name is Jennifer McGovern, I am an employee with WCSD department of Transportation as a Bus Driver. However, I do not represent Washoe County School District.

I want to bring attention to a situation that needs immediate remedy. WCSD Transportation has asked drivers to report to work on 6/7-6/9/2021 and I quote "To avoid a loss in compensation for the snow/smoke days where compensation was previously earned." We were also told we could not use comp or vacation to pay ourselves. This leaves bus drivers in the seat of a commercial vehicle without pay.

The cherry picked NRS 391.180 used to justify this decision for non payment of the above listed daysis not applicable under the law to apply to bus drivers. Bus drivers are ESP employees who are paid hourly.

Under Apendix C of WSCD & WESP/NSEA negotiated agreement dated 2019-2021 page 56, outlined in the ESP schedule A and Schedule B you will see a series of Steps. All steps are paid hourly.

NRS 391.301 "Employee" defined. As used in NRS 391.301 to 391.309 inclusive unless the context otherwise requires "employee" means a person who:
1. Is employeed by a school district in this state; and
2. Is required as a condition of his or her employment to hold a license issued pursuant to this chapter.
See NRS 391.031 for kinds of licensure

I will paraphrase for time sake. Employee with a licnese to teach, counsler, para professional etc. Not a CDL driver who is safely taking kids to and from school. The whole chapter of 391 is in regards to teachers salary. Salary as defined by Nevada Administrative Code is as follows.

NAC 608.080 "Salary" defined means a wage rate based on a fixed dollar amount for a period of time other than an hour. I repeat other than an hour.

If you want to know why you can not retain bus drivers. This is why. In good faith we all showed up to drive our students. But myself and others do not agree to non payment and

request any and all hours worked on those days to be paid in accordance to our Negotiated agreement and Nevada State Labor Laws.

HR has no right to interpret the law, the law defines itself. So saying salary means compensation to avoid paying hundreds of drivers is either ignorant or shows willful intent to defraud. Which is a violation of NRS 608.190 this cares with it criminal and administrative penalties.

All I am asking is to do what is right. Thank you and goodnight.

Jennifer McGovern

From: Missy Falk
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 7:57 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] proposed new equality curriculum

Greetings,

Consider me a "yea" for adopting new programs to teach WCSD students true history, along with racial and gender equality. It is long past time for these concepts to take root.

Sincerely,
Melissa Falk

From: Kimberly Allcock
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 8:00 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] IN FAVOR of Justice curriculum

I have 4 children in WCSD and I am very much in favor of the Justice Curriculum being debated at this moment. Those in opposition are spewing lies and misinformation.

Dr. K. Allcock, Ph.D.

From: Briana Guzman
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 8:08 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social Justice Curriculum

Good Evening,
I was extremely saddened to hear of the overwhelming objection to the new Social Justice Curriculum through benchmark. When I first heard about the new curriculum and perused the material I found it to be an excellent way to begin to allow more students of different races and different backgrounds to be heard and seen. The education system has a lot of social justice work to do and I felt this was a very easy decision to make and didn't realize that it would need more advocates. I would hazard a guess that the 83% of responses that were against the new curriculum are extremely biased and should not be used as a sole metric for rejecting this curriculum. I hope that the task force that is put together to examine the argument against the curriculum will consider making more voices heard. As I sit and watch the people making comments against the curriculum at the meeting this evening they seem to be very like minded in a way that does not support all of our students but only their children.
You are going to make the decision that you feel is best but I want to make sure you are aware that there is support for curriculum that brings forward voices from all races and all voices. For those saying that this should be taught at home, it isn't being taught at home and I would counter that you could still talk to your children about this curriculum at home. There are more voices, faces, races and people that are a part of our American story than are being heard in our classrooms. I would encourage all families to actually look at the curriculum. It is the same ELA program the elementary schools have already been using just adding more voices, more authors and more stories from our shared history.
The curriculum is not divisive it is inclusive. It is not cherry picking stories it is including stories that have been hidden away.
Please don't cave to the racist and bullying behavior of the people making their comments tonight. Teachers SHOULD teach our children as many of the commenters stated this evening, but it should include ALL of them not just the white children but the children who are black, who are indigenous, who are Latinx, who are Asian, who are Pacific Islanders, ALL of them. Those children deserve to be heard as well. They deserve to have their story told. They deserve to have people in stories look like them and and who have shared experiences. My white children will not be discriminated against for learning more about the world around them. My white children need to hear these stories so that they can be well rounded citizens of this country. Citizens that love and care for their neighbors, their classmates, and their country.

Thank you,
Briana Guzman

From: g russell
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 8:18 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Social Justice Curriculum

I am writing to you today in support of the proposed Benchmark curriculum.

From: Calen Evans
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 8:30 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item 5.07, ELA K-5 supplemental Curriculum

Hello Trustees,

I'm writing to you today in support of adopting the K-5 supplemental curriculum which focuses on aspects of social justice. As you all know a very small minority of our community has been using "their concern" over our students and education system as a means to push a divisive, social, and political agenda. I hope that all of you can see right through this.Their aim isn't to better our community. All but one of you actually know what's going on in our classrooms and you know that 99% of what they're saying is a flat out lie.The concern is that when a lie is said over and over and over again, people can start to believe it. We can't let that happen. Don't allow this ignorance and divisiveness to influence your decisions. We don't all have to agree on everything. We don't all align socially or politically and that's OK. We can see and understand the truth and work towards creating a school district that is more accepting and open to all students. Don't allow this small and loud minority to take you away from the fact that the vast majority of our community does not feel the way they do.

This supplemental Benchmark curriculum is absolutely harmless, and provides meaningful ways for students and educators to discuss social justice issues. It's OK to have constructive conversations in the classroom regarding social issues because that can lead to better understanding by people on BOTH sides of an argument. I assume all but one of you have looked into the curriculum and it's NOTHING like this loud minority is making it out to be. You know that, educators know that, and when this curriculum is implemented, 99% of the public will see it for exactly what it is. Again, don't allow the ignorance and misinformation that's been on display to influence your decision making.

Lastly, I implore you to listen to educators when it comes to making decisions. Educators know what's going on in the classroom. They're on the frontlines of education everyday trying to shape our future. The people who have been speaking up at board meetings lately, are not in the arena. They have NO first hand knowledge of what's actually going on in the classroom. They're getting all their information from one source, that's not creditable, and none of them are actually interested in checking whether or not the information they're pushing is accurate or factual. It fits their narrative, so they don't care that it's false, they believe it anyway. That's the day and age we're living in, but even with that being said, we don't have to buy into that false reality. We can continue to do better

I appreciate the time and work the majority of you put into this position. Thank you for your service.

Sincerely,
Calen Evans

From: Sarah Cummings
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 8:34 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In support of Social Justice Curriculum

Dear WCSD Board of Trustees,

I am a parent of two elementary school children in the district and am writing in support of the SJSC (Benchmark) K-5 series. Please retain the evidence-based, research-supported instruction provided by these materials.

Thank you,
Sarah Cummings

From: Beth Martin
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 8:42 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] June 8 Public Comment

Beth Martin for the record. Thank you for providing the time for me to speak today.

1. I am very grateful that AB 261 was signed by the governor because that supports what our district has already identified as a need in our curriculum. The intent of the social justice supplements is to improve academic outcomes by making sure all students feel represented in their curriculum while having opportunities to consider different perspectives and have constructive conversations about very relevant issues. This will help build life long literacy skills for our students. I also notice this will support goal 1 in our response to recovery plan. It is my hope that we can move forward with looking to include social justice supplements within our curriculum by having a task force to help us navigate an open learning path for all of our students.

2. I would like to recognize the work of the science department led by Traci Loftin and her team to help roll out the new science curriculum for our k-5 students. They have done an amazing job to ensure that teachers have a nice curriculum roll next school year. This has been needed for a long time. As we know the experiences provided to the kids using this FOSS curriculum will be a very positive one.

3. To Lindsay Anderson for always filling me in when I would email her with questions regarding bill progress and meetings during the legislative session.

4. To trustee Caudill for always being here to support us during some very tough times within our district including but not limited to hiring a new leader for us and helping guide us through the pandemic. You have always been available to your constituents and employees, and you are willing to have tough conversations in a respectful manner which demonstrate your leadership, professionalism, and respect for our district. Thank you for the time you have given to us, I wish you the best.

5. And with that here's to tomorrow and closing out year 13 with the district, thank you to everyone who helped me and my hard working colleagues continue on this never ending road of learning even when the negative noise is so loud. We do it all for our kids!

From: Leah Farrell Robards
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 8:50 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SJSC Benchmark K-5 curriculum

Hello. I am writing to pledge my support for the SJSC(benchmark) K-5 series. As a mother of a child who has experienced bullying for simply being who they are, as well as a former employee who has witnessed intolerance in the school setting, I feel that many children would benefit from these studies. I also implore all members of the board to not be swayed by fringe groups, and outside interests. At least one of the groups protesting these materials is a hate group disguised as a community organization. I found some extremely intolerant misinformation on their website. Another group is run by a community member who has some very bigoted opinions, as well as many "facts" not based on science on his website. This group recently aggressively passed out flyers at local schools. This does not seem to be acceptable behavior and I really hope the board does not feel intimidated or influenced by this tactic. Please consider that, despite the very excessive actions by those opposed, there are many in the community who support this necessary curriculum. Thank you.

Leah Robards
She/Her

From: Martha L Hildreth
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 9:00 PM
To: Public Comments
Cc: Martha L Hildreth
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SJSC benchmark K-5 series

Please do not give in to obstructionists who wish to wash out the experience of non white peoples in our history & society by blocking this excellent, accurate curriculum. These people want to effectively keep up the marginalization of over 50% of Americans.

Sincerely
Martha Hildreth, Ph.D
Emerita
UNR department of History

From: Janine Nelson
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 8:58 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Task Force and Curriculum

I write not to express my opinion about whether or not social justice curriculum belongs in our schools, but to address the task force concept and curriculum itself.

First, I am grateful WCSD was willing to form a task force. I've seen the recommended composition of the task force. I want to stress my hope that the group will be comprised of appropriate diversity – diversity in gender, socioeconomic status, race/ethnicity, etc., as well as those who are both for and against social justice conversations in schools. A one-side composition of any kind does not allow for meaningful and forward-thinking discourse. Should this mean the task force be larger, the district owes it to the children who will receive the curriculum to ensure all views are considered in the process.

Second, regarding the curriculum, I implore the district and trustees to require the curriculum be proven, evidence-based, and age appropriate through consultation with experts in the field of social justice and childhood education. As far as I am aware, WCSD does not have expertise in social justice research. Consult with those who do and request their review of multiple options. It is unlikely the district would implement other academic curriculum without evidence-based substantiation and this curriculum should be no different. Accepting the first curriculum presented and rushing to implementation could be dangerous and damaging to children of all backgrounds.

--
Janine Nelson

From:
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 9:08 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda item 5.07

I support agenda item 5.07 to add social justice supplements to the existing curriculum.

Thank you,
Jenna Varshabi

From: Rachel Fisher
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 9:37 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda 5.07, 6/8 BOT Meeting

Dear Board of Trustees,

I am writing to you tonight as an elementary educator in Washoe County in full support of the supplemental social justice curriculum guides created for the K-5 ELA Benchmark program.

Much of the public comment you have received on the proposed social justice curriculum has been filled with misinformation, with the questions that many believe are part of the addition being twisted by political groups with inflammatory language to promote a false narrative of critical race theory being infiltrated into our schools. The actual question and discussion guides do NOT teach or encourage critical race theory for elementary students.

As district leadership who understand what the curriculum actually entails and knowing that the recent data released from the survey is extremely flawed and cannot be accounted for, I encourage you to rise above the disinformation--listen to the teachers, students, parents, and family members from marginalized groups that are telling you that this social justice lens is long overdue and critical to our students being thoughtful and engaged citizens in a diverse global landscape.

AB 261 was recently signed into law by the governor of Nevada mandating diversity and inclusion into public school curricula. This law was passed so that localities and school districts would not be strong armed by community members who would rather pretend that aspects of our history are not painful, or that our present day social unrest is not affected by systemic racism and lack of inclusive education that embraces diversity and encourages students to analyze and think critically about not only their real-world experiences, but those of others. Nevada has stepped up as a state to show an understanding that marginalized groups deserve to be recognized for their contributions to our history and current society, and that often their stories have been denied a place in our school systems--and that there are those who would prefer to continue to deny this history and to deny that there are effects of systemic racism that continue in our society today.

Take the first step in working towards the goal of AB 261 by approving the new supplementary materials so that our classrooms can begin being a place where ALL students can feel proud of who they are and understand the complex nuance of American history and how they can become well versed community members. Then use the task force to ensure that WCSD has the proper tools to ensure that all components of AB 261 are upheld, and that education reflects the diversity of our student body, teachers, and community.

Thank you for your time,
Rachel Fisher

From: Melissa M Burnham
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 11:06 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Task force.

Please assure that any task force will be filled with experts, not just community members and parents without any knowledge of curriculum. Representation of people who don't know anything and have no expertise is absurd when it comes to developing a curriculum supplement.
Thanks!

Melissa Burnham, Ph.D.
Department Chair

Sent from my iPhone

From: kathie julian
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 11:40 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for the Social Justice Curriculum and Task Force

From: kathie julian
Subject: Support for the Social Justice Curriculum
Date: June 8, 2021 at 4:57:27 PM PDT
To: Jeffrey.Church@washoeschools.net
Cc: jacqueline.calvert@washoeschools.net, Kurt.Thigpen@washoeschools.net, DNicolet@washoeschools.net, eminetto@washoeschools.net, andrew.caudill@washoeschools.net, ataylor@washoeschools.net

Jeff

As a resident of Incline Village, I support the inclusion of critical thinking and culturally sensitive curricula — including coverage of contributions from our minority communities over the years. The people who raise concerns about "CRT" appear to be following Mr. Rufo's playbook below— trying to **weaponize** any curricula that dares to call for culturally sensitive and inclusive education, that dares to ask our students to think.

I learned about the Tulsa race massacre only this year —— despite having been an avid reader of history as a youth, and despite having been a History Major at Stanford! And this despite having a father who grew up in Oklahoma City during the early 1900s and indeed was a young man when the Tulsa race massacre happened. Unbelievable that I could live all of these years without learning about this horrible incident, in short the full history of my country — not just the pretty parts.

I love my country dearly, and that's why I support the inclusion of culturally sensitive and culturally inclusive curricula (termed Social Justice in this case) all introduced in an age-appropriate manner. I want critical thinkers in the future, and this curriculum will contribute to that.

Best

From a Washington Post Article:

Christopher Rufo, a prominent opponent of critical race theory, in March acknowledged intentionally using the term to describe a range of race-related topics and conjure a negative association.

*"**We have successfully frozen their brand — 'critical race theory' — into the public conversation and are steadily driving up negative perceptions,"** wrote Rufo, a senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute, a conservative think tank. "We will eventually turn it toxic, as we put all of the various cultural insanities under that **brand category.** The goal is to have the public read something crazy in the newspaper and immediately think 'critical race theory.'"*

Kathie M. Julian
Incline Village, NV

From: Nicole Beaulieu
Sent: Tuesday, June 8, 2021 8:55 PM
To: BoardMembers
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public comment regarding inclusive curriculum change

Good Evening, Board Members,

I am writing to express my support of the proposed curriculum change in support of inclusivity.

Mr. Church, I am addressing you directly to express my amazement with your position against the proposed changes in favor of racial education and inclusion. Furthermore, your alignment with Joey Gilbert, an individual identified by the FBI as an active participant in the insurrection on January 6th is completely appalling and unacceptable. You are you are using your position of power as a member of the school board as a personal podium for your racist and homophobic agenda. This is unacceptable and disturbing. I would like to suggest that you align with the other members of the Board, the students that are actively engaging with the Board to improve our curriculum, and to stand on the correct side of history.

Regards,
Nicole Beaulieu