

<b>Name</b>	<b>Topic to Be Discussed</b>
Cielo Echegoyen	The importance of Ethnic Studies
Liczy Hernandez	Ethnic studies
erick Carbajal	Item 9.5- Ethnic Studies Graduation Requirement
Alexandro Jose Gradilla, PhD	Item number 9.5-Ethnic Studies Graduation Requirement
Dr. Lucha Arévalo	Ethnic Studies Graduation Requirement
Karla Vargas	Ethnic Studies as a HS requirement
Andrea Sanchez	Ethnic studies as a graduation requirement.
Elizabeth M. Weber	Ethnic Studies
Gregory Christopher Brown	Ethnic Studies
Ndindi Kitonga	ethnic studies in Santa Ana Unified
CF	Police presence on SAUSD campuses
Melissa Nolan	<p>My name is Melissa Nolan and I am a parent of a 6th grader. Through my involvement in my son’s schooling I have seen that cultural diversity has not been taught. That has worried greatly because the lessons have not represented us as Latinos. In our home we come from Mexican and Cuban upbringings. I have made it my goal to teach my son at home about different cultures. I would feel so proud if that was presented at school. I strongly believe that if Santa Ana schools make ethnic studies a requirement, other schools will follow.</p> <p>Love and Peace, Melissa Nolan</p>
Anonymous	Good evening, councilmembers. Thank you for affording me this

opportunity to speak.

I am a high school teacher in SAUSD and I would have preferred to give my name, but unfortunately I am afraid that speaking up on this issue may make me a target for harassment so I have decided to send this statement in anonymously in the hopes that you might read it during the school board meeting on Tuesday, 6/9/20. The reason I am here today is to express my concern with regards to the police presence in our schools and advocate for review and reform of the district police department, along with the reallocation of funds towards evidence-based practices for school safety and discipline. As an English teacher, I am positioned to understand my students' dreams, goals, desires, and fears through their writing and every year when we start our unit on empathy, my students write and discuss their experiences with discrimination. Every single year since I have taught in this district I read or hear from at least five students who have experienced racial profiling, harassment, and violations of their basic rights at the hands of police officers. I can recall a day in 2015 when a substitute teacher at Valley High School called the police on a 9th grader who had made a disparaging remark about then-presidential candidate Donald Trump. The teacher reported that this 14-year-old had made a death threat against Trump. Police pulled the student out of class, took him off-campus, and proceeded to search all of his things without a parent or guardian present. I have other stories like this from my short 5 years of involvement with the district, but I don't have time to tell you all of them. The overview of the department of School Police on our district website proudly states in its first lines that "The Santa Ana School Police Department is the 3rd largest school police agency in the State of California, serving the 10th largest school district in the State and the largest in the County of Orange." As if this is something to be proud of. Further reading on our district website suggests that the purpose and duty of our school police is not to police our students, but to educate, support, and maintain positive relationships with students. However, those of us in the classrooms know that this is not true. The reality is that the school

police serve one function: readying our students of color for a future of police brutality and harassment at the hands of the Santa Ana Police Department: one of the deadliest per-capita police departments in the country. (CNBC, 2020). Why do our students need the third largest school police force in the state? The answer, while disturbing, is not hard to determine when you compare the student body demographics between our school district and one with little to no police presence like Irvine USD, Capó, and any other school district serving primarily white, middle class communities. Let's be honest here, the reason there are more police in our schools has less to do with our students' behavior and more to do with the color of their skin.

Those who disagree with me might argue that a heavy police presence in our schools is required due to perceptions of more violence and crime in our schools than in others. These people have not only mistaken the chicken for the egg, but are also blinded by false perceptions of our students and communities. As illustrated in Mayer and Furlong's 2010 article "How safe are our schools?" school violence and behavior-related problems are much less significant than many, including school staff, might assume. Our general perceptions of school safety are influenced by the media's treatment of high-profile events such as school shootings, while ignoring issues like bullying which actually represent a significant portion of behavior-related problems experienced by our students.

Research by Noguera, Hyman and Perone, Anfara Jr. and Theriot, and others suggests that a repressive approach to school safety characterized by police presence, surveillance cameras, locks, and metal detectors do more harm than good by creating an atmosphere of mistrust and alienation that causes students to misbehave.

(Beger, 2002). Behavior issues that were traditionally handled informally by teachers are now being outsourced to police.

Hiring police to monitor and discipline our students is an ineffective quick fix, not a pedagogical tool to be used and abused by school staff members who are unable to engage appropriately with our students. Police don't protect students on campus. As evidenced by the campus police officer at Marjory Stoneman-Douglas School in

	<p>Florida, having an officer present on campus is not even adequate protection against school shooters. I hold no personal grudges against the SROs and police officers that come to our campuses, though as a person of color born and raised in Orange County, I am no stranger to racial profiling and harassment at the hands of police. I have built positive relationships with some of the SROs at the schools I have worked at. However, our students, with few exceptions, have not. Our students don't need the police at their schools. Our students need active interventions, ecological approaches to discipline and school safety involving research-based, community-oriented strategies and supports that respect our students' constitutional rights. The school police have demonstrated to us that this is not their priority. Until a comprehensive review and reform of police practices in our schools and communities has been conducted, police have no place on our school campuses. Right now our students are at home watching the same videos of police brutality that we have all seen on social media and the news. Any student that may have felt safe around school police officers has reason to now doubt that and any student that previously feared school police has reason to fear them. It is time for us to start responding to the needs of our students rather than adopting policies that feel good to us. I hope that you find it prescient enough to perform a full review of the SRO policies in our district and establish a task force composed on teachers, administrators, parents, and students to determine better ways to protect our schools and serve our students.</p> <p>Thank you</p>
Quetzalli Un	Ethnic studies teachers
Annie Velasco	Ethnic Studies
Yadira Velasco	Ethnic Studies
Benjamin Vazquez	Ethnic Studies

Anonymous

Thank you, councilmembers of the SAUSD, for affording me a few moments to give this statement.

I attended middle and high school in Santa Ana for six years, have been an educator in Santa Ana since the summer of 2017, and currently serve as an art and art history teacher to students at the middle and high school level. I am here standing in solidarity with my fellow Santa Ana educators and their mission to address and demand reform regarding police presences on SAUSD campuses. I am choosing to remain anonymous today to protect my safety and employment, and am grateful to the Board for this accommodation afforded to me.

"Stop speaking Spanish!"

These are the demands of a Santa Ana School Police officer to bystanders as they attempt to reassure a 14 year-old boy crying for help as he is pinned to the ground in a headlock. "Relájate, mijito," calls Elvia Fernandez, filming the incident. "No te muevas. Don't move." Another bystander contributes. "Calm yourself down, dawg. Be a man. Be a man right now."

What would warrant such a violent response, might you ask? Guns? Drugs? Gang activity?

He was vandalizing a park bench, and tried to run when he was spotted.

This incident took place at John Adams Park on April 8th, 2014. Just over two weeks later, the OC Register reported that the officer involved had not "violated policy when he placed the teen in what appears to be a headlock." In fact, it was, as then-SAUSD Police Chief Hector Rodriguez stated, "consistent with the district's policy and within the authority school police have under

the penal code.”

Just over six years later, the nation would reel in horror as footage showed George Floyd, a Black man in Minneapolis, pinned to the ground with a knee on his neck, begging for help that would ultimately never come. His crime? Attempting to purchase groceries with a counterfeit bill. I cannot help but notice similarities between these two events—an unarmed person of color pinned to the ground and restrained for a petty crime by a cop that is so emboldened by his privilege and authority—so sure that he will not be held accountable for anything that goes wrong—that not even cameras or bystanders can dissuade him. Over and over again—citywide, statewide, nationwide—we have witnessed police abuse their power and authority to disproportionately target people of color. To add insult to injury, the American people—and the community of Santa Ana—directly fund this oppression through their tax dollars. During the 2019 fiscal year, literally half of Santa Ana’s budget went towards policing. The Santa Ana Community Safety Assessment that produced these findings in July 2019 also found that only 1 in 5 people polled thought that police and other law enforcement were very or extremely effective in improving the safety of their neighborhood. 49% of those polled—almost half—ranked police and law enforcement as being totally or somewhat ineffective. The activist organization Campaign Zero found that the Santa Ana PD had reported 299 non-lethal (i.e. batons, tasers, strangleholds) force incidents between 2016 and 2018—more uses of non-lethal force per arrest than 85% of the 100 assessed departments in

California during this period.  
How can we justify such a significant allocation of community funds to an organization that does not have the community's trust? How can we justify the presence of police inside schools in Santa Ana—a community where nearly 80% of the population identifies as Hispanic or Latino—when, time and time again, a clear bias against people of color is demonstrated in arrest statistics? At a time when many of Santa Ana's residents avoid government-run organizations (including the police) for a myriad of reasons—fear of discrimination, violence, and deportation among them, especially in light of the xenophobic language and actions perpetuated by the Trump administration —how can we expect students to see the police in their schools and feel safe? "Stop speaking Spanish!"

Can you imagine a white SRO having the power to say that in Santa Ana on camera as he pins a sobbing child to the ground, only to have his actions publicly vindicated by the Chief of Police? The fact that many of us can—the fact that we've seen this same sort of narrative play out dozens of times just within our lifetimes—speaks to the deep-seated, unwavering, and unchecked power of law enforcement. There is no place at our schools—our sanctuaries of learning, nurturing, and safety—for this authoritarian, punitive, biased, and egregiously hostile construct.

As an educator, I am tasked with equipping students with the tools and skills that they need to succeed, and in order to do this, my students' basic human needs must be met. I can tell my

	<p>students that they matter; that there are people out there that care about them regardless of their circumstances; that there is power and goodness in speaking one's native tongue, but they will never truly believe it so long as society continues to support a construct that regularly disregards the very rules it was intended to uphold: to protect and to serve. We can begin to lay the groundwork for this change at the level of schools right now here in our Santa Ana community by phasing in community-oriented strategies, security, counseling, and interventions for students, and phasing the police out. We need to set an example for our students by creating an environment that fosters trust and respect, rather than investing in a system that fosters fear and mistrust and upholds systemic racism. I thank the councilmembers for their time and attention.</p>
Susan Luevano	Ethnic Studies graduation requirement
Rachel Will	Anti-Racism in Santa Ana Schools - I support the OC Educators for Social Justice Network I'm supporting anti-racist education and ethnic studies, defunding police departments across Orange County and investing in social services including education, and the support of student and teacher mental health.
Dan Ma	Ethnic Studies Education
Karen Garcia	Ethnic studies requirement for SAUSD
Rafael Solorzano	Ethnic Studies High School Requirement
Jorge F. Rodríguez, Ph.D.	Adoption of resolution number 19/20-3353 - Ethnic Studies requirement

Lucinda Solorzano	Ethnic Studies
Anat	SUPPORT FOR RESOLUTION NO 19/20-3353 Ethnic Studies Graduation Requirement
Yuri Lara	In favor of an Ethnic Studies Graduation requirement for High School students and the expansion of Ethnic Studies classes.
Alejandra Ponce	Ethnic Studies to be a graduation requirement
TNG	The need for more councilors, aids and strategic programs on campus and less school police
Alondra Zendejas	Making Ethnic Studies a mandatory course for students to take.
Erica Gonzalez	Ethnic Studies as a high school graduation requirement
Jacquelin Dang	Importance of Ethnic Studies
Robert Andaluz	Ethnic Studies Resolution
Carah Reed	Ethnic Studies
Jesus Santana	Ethnic Studies as a Requirement
Perla Dionicio	Ethnic Studies as a high school requirement
Melissa A.	Ethnic studies
Xitlaly Sanchez	Ethnic Studies Requirement
Mike Rodriguez	Resolution to implement Ethnic Studies Requirement
Francisco Roman	Charter Schools in Santa Ana: The charter schools in Santa Ana don't perform well and the funding can be better used for the district schools. School choice is misguided and doesn't improve

	<p>upon education here in our great city. Charters have no oversight and can commit fraud and embezzlement without us knowing. Teachers are sick of the charter school system that they leave in the middle of the year as it exploits them and they have little to no experience teaching. Charters also destroy the public school system in cities across the USA such as Flint and Detroit. Do we really want to keep funding these schools that bring worse results and destroy public education in Santa Ana? With that, I hope this topic is heavily discussed in this meeting. I also request for this to be read aloud by someone.</p>
J	<p>Student voice and perception of officers on campus</p>
Emma A	<p>I support an ethnic studies requirement for high school students because students should not have to wait for college to learn the histories of communities of color. Because that is what I truly believe. Education is a deliberate act. All kids should be able to access bilingual education, learn the histories and stories of other people, and have discussions in the classroom that foster mutual understanding.</p>
Amy Cappelle	<p>Hello!</p> <p>I just learned that that SAUSD is considering making ethnic studies a required course. I wholly support that requirement and applaud the district for taking this step so quickly as a response to our current events.</p> <p>I am not a resident in SAUSD, however, I will begin my term as a school board member for a public charter school beginning in August. I am excited to have your district as a shining example of action.</p> <p>I hope you get the support you need to make this new requirement a reality. We cannot change the future if we do not know the past and the lived experiences of those in the present.</p>

	<p>Sincerely, Amy Capelle Pending Journey School Board Trustee</p>
Laurie Medina	<p>To Whom it May Concern,</p> <p>I support an ethnic studies requirement for high school students because students should not have to wait until college to learn the histories of communities of color. Education is a deliberate act, and all students should be able to learn the histories and stories of other people and have discussions in the classroom that foster mutual understanding.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration, Laurie Medina</p>
Karla Navarro	<p>Hello members of SAUSD, My name is Karla Navarro And I live in Santa Ana, CA ward 4 I support the Adoption of Resolution No. <u>19/20-3353</u> - Ethnic Studies Requirement Type: I would like to call on you to address a serious crisis in our education system. A large percentage of students are underrepresented by the current outdated curriculum, and subjected to microaggressions by faculty and peers. I ask that you make schools safer and inclusive by protecting the rights of all students from harassment, discrimination, and violence by implementing the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I ask that you combat racial discrimination and division with a curriculum that promotes inclusivity and diversity. Including but not limited to Ethnic studies courses.</li><li>• Through initiatives and programs, have students explore ways in which race and ethnicity have historically evolved, their relationships to power and inequity, and their intersections</li></ul>

	<p>with other axes of stratification (i.e., gender, class, sexuality, and culture)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Faculty and staff receive annual anti-racism/ anti-bias training from a trained professional in the field.</li> <li>• Hiring diverse BIPOC counselors and educators to expand mental health services for minority students looking for support. Minority students are in need of culturally sensitive and relatable counselors.</li> </ul> <p>I also would challenge SAUSD to re-evaluate its school policing policies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Studies show that social institutions that partake in policing maybe inadvertently label deviant youth as bad or criminal, and in doing so, strip them of dignity, fail to acknowledge their struggles, and do not treat them with respect. In turn youth may end up in juvenile delinquent system, which has life long consequences.</li> <li>• Institutions and Authority Figures who Criminalize Students should be aware of the implications this will create. There should be other options for Discipline as well as providing support and access to resources for mental health</li> </ul> <p>Thank you for your time.</p>
Ambereen	<p>Please approve the resolution requiring ethnic studies. The next generation needs to be educated about real history - one that isn't centered on whiteness, creating white supremacists.</p> <p>Thank you,  Ambereen Siddiqui  Orange County Resident</p>
Palmira Muniz	<p>Hello</p> <p>My name is Palmira Muniz and I am an Orange County resident and educator. As someone who educated children from the SAUSD schools, I've had to do my share of teaching students about various ethnic studies and sociological topics, but my teachings can only go so far. It is important that we take the time and money to educate</p>

	<p>students on the world around them so they can better understand and accept one another, and better equip themselves against the bigotry in this country.</p> <p>On behalf of the Santa Ana community, I believe item 9.5 should be considered.</p> <p>Thank you, Palmira</p>
Lauren Paz Soldan	<p>Good morning,</p> <p>I am writing to voice support for Agenda Item 9.5: Ethnic Studies Requirement. As a parent in Irvine USD and an educator in Orange USD, I hope that Santa Ana leads the way in Orange County in implementing curricula that better represents our populations and students.</p> <p>Thank you, Lauren Paz Soldan University of Virginia CLAS 2010 Harvard University Graduate School of Education 2012</p>
Patricia Salazar	<p>To whom this may concern,</p> <p>I am a 2019 SAUSD graduate and just finished my first year at the University of Notre Dame. My second semester I took a class that was related to African American, Latin/Hispanic, and Chicano Studies. I learned so much in that class that I wish I learned earlier in my life since I am a proud Mexican American citizen. I hope you consider the future of these students as well as the past of their ethnic history. No matter their background, every SAUSD student needs to learn about the history of their country that includes EVERY race and ethnicity, not just that of the success and failures of white men in this country. Please make ethnic studies mandatory for SAUSD students.</p>

	<p>Thank you, Patricia Salazar Seegerstrom High School Alumni</p>
David Garcia	<p>Good afternoon,</p> <p>I wanted to take this time to fully stand with OC Democrats for Direct Action. I want to express my full support for the "Support Agenda Item 9.5 Adoption of Resolution No. 19/20 - 3353 - Ethnic Studies Requirement."</p> <p>Implementing Ethnic Studies as a requirement in SAUSD would most definitely expand the knowledge of several students. It would help students understand historical events and comprehend the importance of culture.</p> <p>It is a requisite class to educated students that are uneducated on cultural values, social movements, etc.</p> <p>-- Respectfully,</p> <p>Sergio D. Garcia</p> <p>California State University of Fullerton   Class of 2022 Cinematic Television Arts Major   Bachelor of Arts</p>
Daniel Macias	<p>Good afternoon,</p> <p>My name is Daniel Macias. I am an alumni from Valley High School and have the opportunity to serve the district as a tutor at my alma mater. I am emailing today to urge our district to require ethnic studies as a graduation requirement.</p> <p>Our nation is home to a multitude of diversity, in regards to race and ethnicity. Given this diversity, it is important to provide the</p>

	<p>awareness and education to create culturally competent students. The information about minority’s history and experiences in our nation is almost completely relegated in current requirements. A well organized and strong ethnic studies curriculum can foster cross-cultural understanding to enable our students to thrive in today’s society.</p> <p>As a result to such education, one is equipped with tools to address the marginalization of various groups of people within their own and other’s communities. Respect, tolerance, and empowerment is also taught within their own racial/ethnic identities, among with the identities of others. All in the meanwhile, they gain a more solid understanding of their shared American identity. Various research suggests that there are better engagement levels, along with academic and social outcomes, with such curricula.</p> <p>In the climate that we find ourselves in, these are more than ever the most important resources we can give to our students. We must not overlook the rich history of ethnic-minority groups. As we prepare our students to contribute to society by means of workforce or higher education, we must also introduce them to the knowledge of our nation’s and global diversity. We want to inspire the youth’s mind and incite the initiative to be the revolutionaries and leaders in our world today. I urge the Santa Ana Unified School District to bring ethnic studies as a requirement to successfully be able to do so.</p> <p>Sincerely, Daniel Macias</p>
Jillian Strong	<p>Good afternoon,</p> <p>My name is Jillian and it is my understanding that tonight the Board will be voting on Resolution No. 19/20- 3353 on whether Ethnic Studies will be required for Santa Ana students. I'm writing to you in support for this measure and to validate the utmost need for</p>

	<p>Ethnic Studies in our schools. While I am currently a resident of San Bernardino County, I have lived in Orange County and worked with Santa Ana High School students.</p> <p>There is a great need for Ethnic Studies in our schools and leaves students with a positive sense of self, history, culture, and development. For too long we have been teaching our students Eurocentric history, and while all history has left an impact on today's world, there is a great need to speak on historic events that do not pertain to those of European descent.</p> <p>Education can be enjoyable for all, but students need to see themselves in past historical events so they can gain a greater understanding of their purpose and place in our communities. In today's world it is crucial that we create a focus on strengthening our students.</p> <p>I do hope you listen to the community and make the right call in support of the notion of mandating Ethnic Studies in our schools.</p> <p>Best, Jillian Strong</p>
Judith Perez	<p>Hello,</p> <p>Today now than ever should our schools invest in funding and supporting ethnic studies programs to our youth.</p> <p>I support and encourage Santa Ana School District to support in having all students take Ethnic Studies Courses. I would be happy to teach intro to ethnic studies in high school and look forward to teach them in college.</p> <p>In solidarity, Judith Judith C. Pérez, Ph.D.</p>
Diana Gonzalez	Hello,

	<p>I am Diana Gonzalez and I am a resident of Santa Ana, California. I am emailing to push the idea of making ethnic studies a required course for all students. As a student of Santa Ana USD, I am currently heading for my senior year, I would like to learn in depth about this subject and so would the hundreds of other students on campus.</p> <p>Thank you, Diana Gonzalez</p>
Tanya Navarro	<p>*Please read out loud*</p> <p>Hello members of SAUSD, My name is Tanya Navarro, lifetime resident of Santa Ana ward 4. Currently attending Santa Ana College.</p> <p>I support the Adoption of Resolution No. 19/20-3353 - Ethnic Studies Requirement Type:</p> <p>I would like to call on you to address a serious crisis in our education system. A large percentage of students are underrepresented by the current outdated curriculum, and subjected to microaggressions by faculty and peers. I ask that you make schools safer and inclusive by protecting the rights of all students from harassment, discrimination, and violence by implementing the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-I ask that you combat racial discrimination and division with a curriculum that promotes inclusivity and diversity. Including but not limited to Ethnic studies courses.</li><li>-Through initiatives and programs, have students explore ways in which race and ethnicity have historically evolved, their relationships to power and inequity, and their intersections with other axes of stratification (i.e., gender, class, sexuality, and culture)</li></ul>

	<p>-Faculty and staff receive annual anti-racism/ anti-bias training from a trained professional in the field.</p> <p>-Hiring diverse BIPOC counselors and educators to expand mental health services for minority students looking for support. Minority students are in need of culturally sensitive and relatable counselors.</p> <p>I also would challenge SAUSD to re-evaluate its school policing policies.</p> <p>-Studies show that social institutions that partake in policing may inadvertently label deviant youth as bad or criminal, and in doing so, strip them of dignity, fail to acknowledge their struggles, and do not treat them with respect. In turn youth may end up in the juvenile delinquent system, which has life long consequences.</p> <p>-Institutions and authority figures who Criminalize students should be aware of the implications this will create. There should be other options for discipline as well as providing support and access to resources for mental health</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p> <p>Contact me anytime</p>
Noemi Ruelas	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>My name is Noemi and I support making ethnic studies a requirement! Even though I was born and raised in Santa Ana, I did not learn about MY history until I took Chicana/o Studies classes at UCLA. Ethnic studies classes empowered me all throughout college and guided me to be an advocate for my community to this day. This was a great privilege for me, and Santa Ana students need/deserve this and more.</p> <p>Best, Noemi Ruelas</p>
Liliana Ledezma	Greetings,

	<p>My name is Liliana Ledezma and I am emailing to show my support for Agenda Item 9.5, Adoption of Resolution No. 19/20- 3353- Ethnic Studies Requirement.</p> <p>I am a former Santa Ana Unified School District student and I never learned any history beyond the traditional Eurocentric/ White American history until I took courses at UC Berkeley. Not everyone shares the privilege to attend UC Berkeley, but everyone has the right to learn from the Ethnic Studies subject. It should start in primary school. It should start in SAUSD primary schools, now!</p> <p>Sincerely, Liliana Ledezma</p>
Monica Montero	<p>Hello members of SAUSD, My name is Monica Montero</p> <p>I support the Adoption of Resolution No. 19/20-3353 - Ethnic Studies Requirement Type:</p> <p>I would like to call on you to address a serious crisis in our education system. A large percentage of students are underrepresented by the current outdated curriculum, and subjected to microaggressions by faculty and peers. I ask that you make schools safer and inclusive by protecting the rights of all students from harassment, discrimination, and violence by implementing the following:</p> <p>I ask that you combat racial discrimination and division with a curriculum that promotes inclusivity and diversity. Including but not limited to Ethnic studies courses.</p> <p>Through initiatives and programs, have students explore ways in which race and ethnicity have historically evolved, their relationships to power and inequity, and their intersections with other axes of stratification (i.e., gender, class, sexuality, and culture)</p>

	<p>Faculty and staff receive annual anti-racism/ anti-bias training from a trained professional in the field. Hiring diverse BIPOC counselors and educators to expand mental health services for minority students looking for support. Minority students are in need of culturally sensitive and relatable counselors.</p> <p>I also would challenge SAUSD to re-evaluate its school policing policies. Studies show that social institutions that partake in policing may inadvertently label deviant youth as bad or criminal, and in doing so, strip them of dignity, fail to acknowledge their struggles, and do not treat them with respect. In turn youth may end up in the juvenile delinquent system, which has life long consequences. Institutions and authority figures who Criminalize students should be aware of the implications this will create. There should be other options for discipline as well as providing support and access to resources for mental health</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p>
Stephanie Shipley	<p>Hello members of SAUSD,</p> <p>My name is Stephanie Shipley. I support the Adoption of Resolution No. 19/20-3353 - Ethnic Studies Requirement Type:</p> <p>I would like to call on you to address a serious crisis in our education system. A large percentage of students are underrepresented by the current outdated curriculum, and subjected to microaggressions by faculty and peers. I ask that you make schools safer and inclusive by protecting the rights of all students from harassment, discrimination, and violence by implementing the following:</p>

	<p>I ask that you combat racial discrimination and division with a curriculum that promotes inclusivity and diversity. Including but not limited to Ethnic studies courses.</p> <p>Through initiatives and programs, have students explore ways in which race and ethnicity have historically evolved, their relationships to power and inequity, and their intersections with other axes of stratification (i.e., gender, class, sexuality, and culture)</p> <p>Faculty and staff receive annual anti-racism/ anti-bias training from a trained professional in the field.</p> <p>Hiring diverse BIPOC counselors and educators to expand mental health services for minority students looking for support. Minority students are in need of culturally sensitive and relatable counselors.</p> <p>I also would challenge SAUSD to re-evaluate its school policing policies.</p> <p>Studies show that social institutions that partake in policing may inadvertently label deviant youth as bad or criminal, and in doing so, strip them of dignity, fail to acknowledge their struggles, and do not treat them with respect. In turn youth may end up in the juvenile delinquent system, which has life long consequences.</p> <p>Institutions and authority figures who Criminalize students should be aware of the implications this will create. There should be other options for discipline as well as providing support and access to resources for mental health</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p>
<p>Maria Baeza</p>	<p>Hello members of SAUSD,</p> <p>My name is María Del Rosario Baeza, and I support the Adoption of Resolution No. 19/20-3353 - Ethnic Studies Requirement.</p>

	<p>I would like to call on you to address a serious crisis in our education system. A large percentage of students are underrepresented by the current outdated curriculum, and subjected to microaggressions by faculty and peers. I ask that you make schools safer and inclusive by protecting the rights of all students from harassment, discrimination, and violence by implementing the following: I ask that you combat racial discrimination and division with a curriculum that promotes inclusivity and diversity. Including but not limited to Ethnic studies courses. Through initiatives and programs, have students explore ways in which race and ethnicity have historically evolved, their relationships to power and inequity, and their intersections with other axes of stratification (i.e., gender, class, sexuality, and culture) Faculty and staff receive annual anti-racism/ anti-bias training from a trained professional in the field. Hiring diverse BIPOC counselors and educators to expand mental health services for minority students looking for support. Minority students are in need of culturally sensitive and relatable counselors. I also would challenge SAUSD to re-evaluate its school policing policies. Studies show that social institutions that partake in policing may inadvertently label deviant youth as bad or criminal, and in doing so, strip them of dignity, fail to acknowledge their struggles, and do not treat them with respect. In turn youth may end up in the juvenile delinquent system, which has life long consequences. Institutions and authority figures who Criminalize students should be aware of the implications this will create. There should be other options for discipline as well as providing support and access to resources for mental health Thank you for your time.</p>
Karen Plascencia	<p>I support that every curriculum in the OC make ethnic studies a requirement! Our children deserve to know the truth</p>
Alec Saavedra	<p>Hello members of SAUSD, My name is [Alec Saavedra]</p>

I support the Adoption of Resolution No. 19/20-3353 - Ethnic Studies Requirement Type:

I would like to call on you to address a serious crisis in our education system. A large percentage of students are underrepresented by the current outdated curriculum, and subjected to microaggressions by faculty and peers. I ask that you make schools safer and inclusive by protecting the rights of all students from harassment, discrimination, and violence by implementing the following:

I ask that you combat racial discrimination and division with a curriculum that promotes inclusivity and diversity. Including but not limited to Ethnic studies courses.

Through initiatives and programs, have students explore ways in which race and ethnicity have historically evolved, their relationships to power and inequity, and their intersections with other axes of stratification (i.e., gender, class, sexuality, and culture)

Faculty and staff receive annual anti-racism/ anti-bias training from a trained professional in the field.

Hiring diverse BIPOC counselors and educators to expand mental health services for minority students looking for support. Minority students are in need of culturally sensitive and relatable counselors.

I also would challenge SAUSD to re-evaluate its school policing policies.

Studies show that social institutions that partake in policing may inadvertently label

deviant youth as bad or criminal, and in doing so, strip them of dignity, fail to acknowledge their struggles, and do not treat them with respect. In turn youth may end up in the juvenile delinquent system, which has life long consequences.

Institutions and authority figures who Criminalize students should be aware of the implications this will create. There should be other

	<p>options for discipline as well as providing support and access to resources for mental health</p> <p>Thank you for your time!</p>
Fernando Delgado	<p>Hello members of SAUSD,</p> <p>My name is Fernando Delgado, and I support the Adoption of Resolution No. 19/20-3353 - Ethnic Studies Requirement Type: I would like to call on you to address a serious crisis in our education system. A large percentage of students are underrepresented by the current outdated curriculum, and subjected to microaggressions by faculty and peers. I ask that you make schools safer and inclusive by protecting the rights of all students from harassment, discrimination, and violence by implementing the following: I ask that you combat racial discrimination and division with a curriculum that promotes inclusivity and diversity. Including but not limited to Ethnic studies courses. Through initiatives and programs, have students explore ways in which race and ethnicity have historically evolved, their relationships to power and inequity, and their intersections with other axes of stratification (i.e., gender, class, sexuality, and culture) Faculty and staff receive annual anti-racism/ anti-bias training from a trained professional in the field. Hiring diverse BIPOC counselors and educators to expand mental health services for minority students looking for support. Minority students are in need of culturally sensitive and relatable counselors. I also would challenge SAUSD to re-evaluate its school policing policies. Studies show that social institutions that partake in policing may inadvertently label deviant youth as bad or criminal, and in doing so, strip them of dignity, fail to acknowledge their struggles, and do not treat them with respect. In turn youth may end up in the juvenile delinquent system, which has life long consequences. Institutions and authority figures who criminalize students should be aware of the implications this will create. There should be other</p>

	<p>options for discipline as well as providing support and access to resources for mental health. Thank you for your time.</p>
<p>Todd Peterson</p>	<p>To Whom It May Concern:</p> <p>Please consider this email a statement of support for the adoption of Resolution No. 19/20 - 3353, the Ethnic Studies Requirement.</p> <p>Thank you and please be well, TFPeterson</p>
<p>Whitney Manivong</p>	<p>Hello members of SAUSD, My name is Whitney Manivong</p> <p>I support the Adoption of Resolution No. 19/20-3353 - Ethnic Studies Requirement Type:</p> <p>I would like to call on you to address a serious crisis in our education system. A large percentage of students are underrepresented by the current outdated curriculum, and subjected to microaggressions by faculty and peers. I ask that you make schools safer and inclusive by protecting the rights of all students from harassment, discrimination, and violence by implementing the following:</p> <p>I ask that you combat racial discrimination and division with a curriculum that promotes inclusivity and diversity. Including but not limited to Ethnic studies courses. Through initiatives and programs, have students explore ways in which race and ethnicity have historically evolved, their relationships to power and inequity, and their intersections with other axes of stratification (i.e., gender, class, sexuality, and culture) Faculty and staff receive annual anti-racism/ anti-bias training from a trained professional in the field.</p>

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Emily Jackson	<p>Dear Santa Ana Unified School District:</p> <p>Please require all students to take an Ethnic Studies course. It is clear from this moment in time that our schools need to do a better job of educating young people about the REAL history of America. As a parent in Fullerton, I want to encourage you to be a leader in Orange County by adopting this resolution, and then please encourage my own school board to do the same.</p> <p>Regards Emily Jackson</p>
Susan Perlson	<p>Dear Superintendent,</p> <p>I am so excited to hear that the Santa Ana Unified School District is considering an Ethnic Studies Requirement.</p>

	<p>Your leadership will set a standard for other districts that need to step up to the plate!</p> <p>Thank you so much for your advocacy.</p> <p>Sincerely, Susan Perlson parent with BOUSD</p>
Thomas Hunt-Gibbon	<p>Hello members of SAUSD, My name is Thomas Hunt</p> <p>I support the Adoption of Resolution No. 19/20-3353 - Ethnic Studies Requirement Type:</p> <p>I would like to call on you to address a serious crisis in our education system. A large percentage of students are underrepresented by the current outdated curriculum, and subjected to microaggressions by faculty and peers. I ask that you make schools safer and inclusive by protecting the rights of all students from harassment, discrimination, and violence by implementing the following:</p> <p>I ask that you combat racial discrimination and division with a curriculum that promotes inclusivity and diversity. Including but not limited to Ethnic studies courses. Through initiatives and programs, have students explore ways in which race and ethnicity have historically evolved, their relationships to power and inequity, and their intersections with other axes of stratification (i.e., gender, class, sexuality, and culture) Faculty and staff receive annual anti-racism/ anti-bias training from a trained professional in the field.</p>

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Patrick Cahill	<p>Hello members of SAUSD, My name is [Patrick Cahill] I support the Adoption of Resolution No. 19/20-3353 - Ethnic Studies Requirement Type: I would like to call on you to address a serious crisis in our education system. A large percentage of students are underrepresented by the current outdated curriculum, and subjected to microaggressions by faculty and peers. I ask that you make schools safer and inclusive by protecting the rights of all students from harassment, discrimination, and violence by implementing the following: I ask that you combat racial discrimination and division with a curriculum that promotes inclusivity and diversity. Including but not limited to Ethnic studies courses. Through initiatives and programs, have students explore ways in which race and ethnicity have historically evolved, their relationships to power and inequity, and their intersections with</p>

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Esther Navarro	<p>Hello members of SAUSD, My name is Esther Navarro</p> <p>I support the Adoption of Resolution No. 19/20-3353 - Ethnic Studies Requirement Type:</p> <p>I would like to call on you to address a serious crisis in our education system. A large percentage of students are underrepresented by the current outdated curriculum, and subjected to microaggressions by faculty and peers. I ask that you make schools safer and inclusive by protecting the rights of all students from harassment, discrimination, and violence by implementing the following:</p> <p>I ask that you combat racial discrimination and division with a curriculum that promotes inclusivity and diversity. Including but not limited to Ethnic studies courses.</p>

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<p>Sehaj Makkar</p>	<p>Hello members of SAUSD, My name is Sehajleen Makkar.</p> <p>I support the Adoption of Resolution No. 19/20-3353 - Ethnic Studies Requirement Type:</p> <p>I would like to call on you to address a serious crisis in our education system. A large percentage of students are underrepresented by the current outdated curriculum, and subjected to microaggressions by faculty and peers. I ask that you</p>

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Thank you for your time.

<p>Greg Camphire</p>	<p>Now is the time for Ethnic Studies, because we are in the midst of a global uprising in support of basic human rights. Hundreds of years of institutionalized racism and the facist division of ethnic groups against each other has made it extremely important for future generations to get the education they need.</p> <p>In a city that is 80% Latino, many residents are not in touch with their own cultures and identities, not to mention the cultures and experiences of African Americans, Native Americans, Asian Americans, and other groups that have disproportionately suffered under a white supremacist system in the U.S.</p> <p>It is critical and essential for young people to grasp a more balanced and compassionate understanding of race, ethnicity, and healthy discourse/debate about those topics. Ethnic studies courses can teach students to comprehend the differences between racial prejudice and racism as social practice, as well as differences between individual and institutional racism.</p> <p>Several other California school districts, including Long Beach, Los Angeles, El Rancho and San Francisco, are all offering Ethnic Studies courses. Don't let Santa Ana students be left behind!</p> <p>Please adopt Resolution No. 19/20 – 3353 Ethnic Studies Requirement.</p> <p>Thank you, Greg Camphire</p>
<p>Isuri Ramos</p>	<p>My name is Isuri S. Ramos. I am a SAUSD alumna from Wilson Elementary School, Willard International School, and Santa Ana High School Class of 2011. I support Ethnic Studies as a graduation requirement because SAUSD students deserve learning about their cultures in the classroom. SAUSD students are deserving of an enriching educational experience. I ask that you vote in support of</p>

	<p>an Ethnic Studies graduation requirement.</p> <p>--</p> <p>Best Regards, Isuri S. Ramos University of California, San Diego '16</p>
<p>Mayra Maldonado</p>	<p>Hello members of SAUSD, My name is Mayra Maldonado</p> <p>I support the Adoption of Resolution No. 19/20-3353 - Ethnic Studies Requirement Type:</p> <p>I would like to call on you to address a serious crisis in our education system. A large percentage of students are underrepresented by the current outdated curriculum, and subjected to microaggressions by faculty and peers. I ask that you make schools safer and inclusive by protecting the rights of all students from harassment, discrimination, and violence by implementing the following:</p> <p>I ask that you combat racial discrimination and division with a curriculum that promotes inclusivity and diversity. Including but not limited to Ethnic studies courses.</p> <p>Through initiatives and programs, have students explore ways in which race and ethnicity have historically evolved, their relationships to power and inequity, and their intersections with other axes of stratification (i.e., gender, class, sexuality, and culture)</p> <p>Faculty and staff receive annual anti-racism/ anti-bias training from a trained professional in the field.</p> <p>Hiring diverse BIPOC counselors and educators to expand mental health services for minority students looking for support. Minority students are in need of culturally sensitive and relatable counselors.</p>

	<p>I also would challenge SAUSD to re-evaluate its school policing policies.</p> <p>Studies show that social institutions that partake in policing may inadvertently label deviant youth as bad or criminal, and in doing so, strip them of dignity, fail to acknowledge their struggles, and do not treat them with respect. In turn youth may end up in the juvenile delinquent system, which has life long consequences.</p> <p>Institutions and authority figures who Criminalize students should be aware of the implications this will create. There should be other options for discipline as well as providing support and access to resources for mental health</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p>
Diana Tran	<p>To Whom This My Concern,</p> <p>As an alumnus of SAUSD and an active community member I urge you to pass this agenda item to bring Ethnic Studies to our educational system.</p> <p>I personally did not learn about all the cultures until I went to college and felt so behind my peers. I would have benefited from even more if Ethnic Studies were included in my PreK-12 educational career. It is imperative for our youth to learn about the vast history of all the cultural which exist in our diverse community and nation.</p> <p>Please pass this agenda item, which will make Ethnic Studies a requirement in the curriculum in our schools.</p> <p>Thank you, Diana Vuong Tran, M.Ed</p>

<p>Lyndsey Lefebvre</p>	<p>Dear Trustees,</p> <p>This email is to rise in support of Agenda Item 9.5. It is essential that Santa Ana students be given the support to study Ethnic Studies Curriculum to further understanding of their community and self. Being raised with the ability to learn about identity provides students learning opportunities for discussions that might never happen without it.</p> <p>Please support your students and educators by passing this resolution.</p> <p>Lyndsey Lefebvre La Habra, CA</p>
<p>Rachel Potucek</p>	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I am writing in support of Agenda Item 9.5, Ethnic Studies Requirement. I applaud the Board for taking up this item. We need more leadership like this. All students, regardless of race, need to know about our history and celebrate our diversity. Leaders like you are helping our country overcome systemic racism and prejudice by raising generations of better educated young minds. Please pass this item. Thank you for your work.</p> <p>Regards, Rachel Potucek</p>
<p>Jada Amaya</p>	<p>I support</p>
<p>Elizabeth De La Torre</p>	<p>Public comment: For Item # 7.2 Hello my name is Elizabeth De La Torre I am a parent with a student at Jackson Elementary. My opinion is that this group or committee that is making the plans for a safe return to school physically should include a lot more teachers. They are the ones</p>

that will be with the students in all different stages. Perhaps also include some substitute teachers as well. Which brings me to one of my questions how will substitute teachers maintain safe from traveling from on school site to another? Will there be a specific group to each school? Moving on to Target 1 on your chart it is written that shared supplies will be cleaned daily. Well at this point there shouldn't be any shared materials. How many essential custodians will be available for each school to clean and disinfect through out the day? It doesn't matter if there are only 10 or 40 bodies in 1 room it only takes 1 to spread the virus and many custodians to clean every surface in a school. Target #2 the hydrating stations, I am hoping you are referring to the stations I have seen around university campuses where students can refill their water bottles. In my opinion water fountains should be closed off. My next point is hand sanitizer, what are the guidelines on safety usage? is it safe to use continuously on kids? Instead of soap and water? Who will be monitoring these stations? What brand will you be using? Regardless of all this in my opinion we are still in Stage 1 of reopening schools physically here in Santa Ana with covid19 cases increasing everyday. One of the phrases I always hear in IEP meetings is that students should be taught in a safe and least restrictive environment, the stages you are proposing for returning physically to school are not even 50 percent safe and are very restrictive in that matter. This is also for the principal at our school who is promoting the schools outdoor space. With our California weather its hard to tell how our climate will be from one hour to the next or even the next day. I wouldn't like to see students sit out on a hot day or windy day besides all the climate changes there would be to many distractions for the students. I am a parent who supports virtual learning for NOW, It is not the best but it is the safest for our students and teachers for the times we are living now. There is no guaranty our students will be safe on campus with the amount of administrators and custodians that will be available to pursue all of these functions around a school campus. With my statement I am not saying these precautions shouldn't be taking place, 100 percent they should! But not in a

	<p>school. What I am saying is that our district wouldn't be able to perform, Track, Trace all students health, environment and most important their education. We don't have the RN's to pursue this and even though we are getting equipment from the state these materials could break down or not work properly.</p> <p>There are so many things I would like to write but I don't want this to become a chapter book and all my points would end up mute.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
Elizabeth Villagomez	<p>Hello members of SAUSD, My name is Elizabeth Villagomez</p> <p>I support the Adoption of Resolution No. 19/20-3353 - Ethnic Studies Requirement Type:</p> <p>I would like to call on you to address a serious crisis in our education system. A large percentage of students are underrepresented by the current outdated curriculum, and subjected to microaggressions by faculty and peers. I ask that you make schools safer and inclusive by protecting the rights of all students from harassment, discrimination, and violence by implementing the following:</p> <p>I ask that you combat racial discrimination and division with a curriculum that promotes inclusivity and diversity. Including but not limited to Ethnic studies courses.</p> <p>Through initiatives and programs, have students explore ways in which race and ethnicity have historically evolved, their relationships to power and inequity, and their intersections with other axes of stratification (i.e., gender, class, sexuality, and culture)</p> <p>Faculty and staff receive annual anti-racism/ anti-bias training from a trained professional in the field.</p>

	<p>Hiring diverse BIPOC counselors and educators to expand mental health services for minority students looking for support. Minority students are in need of culturally sensitive and relatable counselors.</p> <p>I also would challenge SAUSD to re-evaluate its school policing policies.</p> <p>Studies show that social institutions that partake in policing may inadvertently label deviant youth as bad or criminal, and in doing so, strip them of dignity, fail to acknowledge their struggles, and do not treat them with respect. In turn youth may end up in the juvenile delinquent system, which has life long consequences.</p> <p>Institutions and authority figures who Criminalize students should be aware of the implications this will create. There should be other options for discipline as well as providing support and access to resources for mental health</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p>
David Carbajal	<p>Good Afternoon SAUSD,</p> <p>I write to you with joy in my heart after learning that tonight you will discuss the possibility of implementing Ethnic Studies as a graduation requirement for SAUSD. It is more clear than ever that we are in a moment in history in which Ethnic Studies is a necessary part of any student's life, especially for those living in a community like Santa Ana.</p> <p>We know that one day, the next generation of youth will read about the events that happened this month, they'll read about the importance of it. As a product of SAUSD working in community health care, I see the impact knowing the cultural context of my community. Ethnic studies helps us learn about our communities and appreciate them.</p>

	<p>I am so excited to hear that this will be on the agenda for tonight.</p> <p>Warm regards, David Carbajal</p>
Mildred Maldonado	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I'm writing this email to the Santa Ana Unified School Districts' consideration to have all students take an Ethnic Studies course. I'm a woman of color, a Guatemalan immigrant who has been living in the United States for 35 years. During my time here, I have experienced disconnection with my culture due to family dysfunctionality and instability, and racism further aggravated the situation. I did not know where I came from, and I had no idea who I was. To make matters worse, my father was a racist man towards other cultures. So, I grew up hearing derogatory comments and stereotypes of all the different people living in the United States. Despite all this, I always knew that we are all God's children, and we should treat others with love and respect. However, I did not know how to help my dad understand that racism is not right, and I did not know how to voice my feelings because I had no identity. As I grew up, I started getting educated; I started understanding the problems that people of color face, but it was not until I took an Ethnic studies course in college that I understood the gravity of the problem. Through this ethnic course, I learned who I was, and I learned to stand up to racism and social injustice.</p> <p>For this reason, all students must take ethnic courses throughout their education career. So, we all can understand racism, understand the damage it does to all, and stop it. I'm pleading with you to implement this Ethnic Studies requirement because we have to learn to be culturally responsive to dismantle racism once and for all.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p>

	Mildred Maldonado
Liliana Mora	<p>Good afternoon Superintendent,</p> <p>I am writing to urge the board to approve the Ethnic Studies Resolution presented in agenda item 9.5. My comment can be read publicly.</p> <p>My name is Liliana Mora, I am a former SAUSD student and have a sibling currently attending Godinez High School. I have first-hand experience growing up in Santa Ana and struggling with the fact that my schools and government entities were not representative or inclusive of me and my family. I thought all I could do was accept the inequalities and work harder to become the exception to the rule. It was until my later years in college that I found courses that helped me address the hard questions, like why I didn't feel "American" or why we can't blame individuals for their disadvantages. It shouldn't have taken going to college to learn how to think critically and feel empowered.</p> <p>I know I am not the only one facing this struggle. Many research studies by entities such as the <u>National Education Association</u> and <u>Stanford University</u> have shown the academic AND social benefits of ethnic studies. Implementing ethnic studies at the K-12 level will help our youth become more involved in their studies and politically in their communities. At the state level, there have already been bills and <u>model curriculum guidelines</u> to implement ethnic studies. Santa Ana, a city made up of about 75% Latinos, would be smart to set the example and show they value their youth by approving an Ethnic Studies curriculum.</p> <p>Thank you, Liliana Mora</p>
Shayan Ehssan	Hello,

	<p>My name is Shayan Ehssan, and I'm a resident of the neighboring city of Anaheim. I support and think that the board should support Agenda item 9.5, Adoption of Resolution No. 19/20 - 3353 - Ethnic Studies Requirement.</p> <p>Thank you, Shayan Ehssan</p>
<p>Maria De Jesus Zacaria Torres</p>	<p>School board members,</p> <p>My name is Maria Zacarias, I am a resident of Santa Ana and I am in support of making ethnic studies a requirement for graduating high school seniors. As a first generation college student, I realize the importance of being taught about people that students of color can identify with. Learning about people you can identify with can impact a student by empowering them to do what they thought was impossible. Please consider adopting agenda item 9.5 to make ethnic studies a requirement for all graduating high school seniors.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Maria Zacarias</p>
<p>Lucia Gonzalez</p>	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Lucia Gonzalez and I went to Saddleback High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts,</p>

Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.

In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.

In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:

1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need.
2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them.
3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.
4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.  
Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues

	<p>our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.</p> <p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you, Lucia Gonzalez</p>
Jasmin Servin	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Jasmine Servin, and I went to Saddleback High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p>In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p>

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3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.
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Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.

As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change

	<p>implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you, Jasmine Servin</p>
Melissa Guanzon	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I am a resident of Santa Ana in support of Agenda Item 9.5, Adoption of Resolution No. 19/20 - 3353 Ethnic Studies Requirement.</p> <p>I believe this is a good first step in tackling the injustices based off race, prejudism, and racism that we are seeing in our world today. Change starts with education and I believe having an Ethnic Studies Requirement will be essential to having a brighter future.</p> <p>Thank you, Melissa Guanzon</p>
Jair Nava	<p>Dear School Board, My name is Jair Nava and I went to Saddleback High school. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over. An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness. A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material. In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues. In addition to an ethnic studies</p>

	<p>requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment: 1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need. 2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them. 3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important. 4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators. Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments. As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support. Thank you, Jair Nava.</p>
<p>Rohemah Muhamed</p>	<p>Hello members of SAUSD Board of Education and SAUSD Superintendent Jerry Almendarez, I support the Adoption of Resolution No. 19/20-3353 - Ethnic Studies Requirement</p>

I would like to call on you to address a serious crisis in our education system. A large percentage of students are underrepresented by the current outdated curriculum, and subjected to microaggressions by faculty and peers. I ask that you make schools safer and inclusive by protecting the rights of all students from harassment, discrimination, and violence by implementing the following:

I ask that you combat racial discrimination and division with a curriculum that promotes inclusivity and diversity. Including but not limited to Ethnic studies courses. Through initiatives and programs, have students explore ways in which race and ethnicity have historically evolved, their relationships to power and inequity, and their intersections with other axes of stratification (i.e., gender, class, sexuality, and culture)

Faculty and staff receive annual anti-racism/ anti-bias training from a trained professional in the field.

Hiring diverse BIPOC counselors and educators to expand mental health services for minority students looking for support. Minority students are in need of culturally sensitive and relatable counselors.

I also would challenge SAUSD to re-evaluate its school policing policies.

Studies show that social institutions that partake in policing may inadvertently label

deviant youth as bad or criminal, and in doing so, strip them of dignity, fail to acknowledge their struggles, and do not treat them with respect. In turn youth may end up in the juvenile delinquent system, which has life long consequences.

Institutions and authority figures who Criminalize students should be aware of the implications this will create. There should be other options for discipline as well as providing support and access to resources for mental health

Thank you for your time.

<p>Libby Frolichman</p>	<p>I want to urge the Santa Ana Board of Education pass Agenda Item 9.5, Adoption of Resolution No. 19/20-3353 - Ethnic Studies Requirement. As the background information states, current events dictate that it is time for all aspects of society to step up to changing the status quo. Introducing an Ethnic Studies requirement is a very good first step towards positive change. I look forward to the action plan that the Superintendent's Task Force will present at the July 29, 2020 Board meeting.</p> <p>Thank you, Libby Frolichman</p>
<p>Cassandra Prado</p>	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Cassandra and I went to Godinez High school. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p>In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p>

In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:

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3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.
4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.  
Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.

As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change

	<p>implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you, Cassandra</p>
Keila Villegas	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Keila Villegas and I went to Valley High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over. An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness. A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material. In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues. In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment: 1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need. 2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with</p>

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Evelyn Peace	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Evelyn and I went to Godinez Fundamental High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p>

A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.

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	<p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you, Evelyn</p>
Anthony Rivera	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Anthony Rivera and I went to Saddleback High School. I am composing this email to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p>In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p> <p>In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:</p>

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As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.

	<p>Thank you, Anthony Rivera</p>
<p>Mayra Luna</p>	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Mayra Luna and I went to Segerstrom High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p>In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p> <p>In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need.</li></ol>

	<p>2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them.</p> <p>3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.</p> <p>4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.  Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.</p> <p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you,  Mayra Luna</p>
Granison Crawford	Hey there,

	<p>My name is Granison Crawford, and I feel that ethnic studies is an educational necessity because we are a nation of comprised of a multitude of cultures and ethnicities, and it is that diversity in which we as a nation hold pride. That being said, in order to strengthen the understanding of who we are as a nation, it is of paramount importance that that diversity be required and represented in our education system.</p> <p>NOW is the time for such a reform to the education system because it is self evident with our current state of affairs that there is a huge disparity in the lack of knowledge and representation of the aforementioned national diversity.</p> <p>I personally learned the history of Europeans multiple times throughout my various levels of educations, but was rarely introduced to the wider spectrum of ethnic studies. Fortunately I was raised in a diverse community, but it is clear that many have not had that opportunity or benefited from such an environment, and we cannot simply hope people get it. We have to make it accessible.</p> <p>If knowledge is half the battle, then implementing a requirement for the accessibility of knowledge is the action necessary to bring about a change and shift the tide against the ongoing war that ignorance creates. There is no time like the present, and the time for ethnic studies is NOW.</p> <p>Sincerely, Granison Crawford</p>
Bryan Chavez	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Bryan Chavez and I went to Saddleback High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery,</p>

Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.

An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.

A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.

In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.

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3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented

	<p>minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.</p> <p>4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators. Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.</p> <p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you, Bryan Chavez</p>
Karina Lopez	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Karina Lopez and I went Saddleback. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is</p>

predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.

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Emily Sandoval	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Emily Sandoval, and I went to Legacy College Prep. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p>

In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option as well. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.

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<b>Maria Ruvalcaba</b>	<p>To Whom It May Concern,</p> <p>I am writing in support of Agenda Item 9.5 to Adopt Resolution No. 19/20 – 3353 – Ethnic Studies Requirement.</p> <p>During this historical time in our lives where students are being exposed to mass media about current events and community issues that directly impact and affect their lives, it is crucial that Santa Ana youth have context through which they can learn, process, and understand the world around them. By making Ethnic Studies courses available to all students—starting as young as 6<sup>th</sup> grade—students will graduate with a more comprehensive understanding of the world around them and will learn to think critically about issues they see around them. The benefit that learning about various cultural histories and understanding the deep impact these have on one’s life is beyond belief. Sadly, many students take only one or two courses too late during their college careers—some don’t are never even exposed to other histories and cultures during their educational journey—this prohibits them from gaining a wider understanding of inclusion and diversity and how the world works around them. I urge that you make Ethnic Studies a mandatory course that is taught as early in a student’s educational career as possible.</p>

	<p>Thank you,</p> <p><b>Maria Ruvalcaba</b></p>
Angela Vazquez	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Angela Vazquez. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p>In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p> <p>In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need.</li></ol>

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As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. It is important that we continue to keep children connected to their ancestors and help them understand where they come from. I want my kids to be taught the different histories of all the countries that help make the United States of America run. Let's start by planting that seed with incorporating ethnic studies to the district. I love my city and in order to grow and change with the current times we need to do right by our future, our children.

	<p>I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Angela Vazquez</p>
<p>Maricela Castro</p>	<p>Buenas tardes!!! Mi nombre es Maricela Castro soy Madre de Familia de Escuela Garfield Elementary soy Voluntaria y participo en el Concejo Escolar como Presidente del DAC. Mi proposito de este mensaje es para apoyar los Estudios Etnicos para nuestros Estudiantes en nuestras Escuelas en el Distrito Escolar de Santa Ana. Esto seria para genial para Reforzar nuestras raices y nuestras culturas...</p> <p>Gracias de Antemano Maricela Castro</p>
<p>Krystal Hernandez</p>	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Krystal Hernández Lavenant, and I went to Saddleback High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p>In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p>

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2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them.
3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.
4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.

Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.

As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.

Thank you,  
Krystal Hernández Lavenant

<p>Jeff LeTourneau</p>	<p>Dear School Board Members</p> <p>Please allow this email to serve as a communication of strong support for the proposed Ethnic Studies graduation requirement. As years pass, and fewer and fewer young people have direct or indirect exposure to the failures and shortcomings of our historic past, it is incumbent upon educators to keep those failures front and center, lest we repeat those tragic moral lapses once again!!!</p> <p>Respectfully, Jeff LeTourneau West Vice-Chair Democratic Party of Orange County</p>
<p>Vanessa Cardenas</p>	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Vanessa Cardenas and I went to Santa Ana High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p>In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p>

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As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change

	<p>implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you, Vanessa Cardenas</p>
Nestor Pantoja	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Nestor Pantoja and I went to Segerstrom High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p>In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p> <p>In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school</li></ol>

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Thank you,  
Nestor Pantoja

<p>Idalia Rios</p>	<p>Buenas tardes,</p> <p>Como una orgullosa madre del SAUSD, me uno en apoyo a favor de los estudios etnicos en el distrito. Estoy a favor de que los estudiantes tengo acceso a la historia pero sobre todo de sus raices.</p> <p>El distrito de Sant Ana puede ser pionero si elige que estoy clases sean parte del curriculo estudiantil.</p> <p>Les agradezco de ante mano, por una vez mas abogar a favor de nuestros estudiantes.</p> <p>Con respeto, Idalia N. Rios Proud parent of SAUSD</p>
<p>Emily Santos</p>	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Emily Santos and I went to Saddleback High School I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p>In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p>

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As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.

Thank you for your time,

	Emily Santos
Roxana Castelan	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Roxana Castelan, and I went to Century High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p>In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p> <p>In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need.</li><li>2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist</li></ol>

	<p>or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them.</p> <p>3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.</p> <p>4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators. Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.</p> <p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you,  Roxana Castelan</p>
Jessica Riestra	To whom it may concern,

	<p>My name is Jessica Riestra and I am a Santa Ana born and raised alumni. I am a proud alumni student of Segerstrom High School. I am emailing you as a alumni of the district in expressing my support in having Ethnic Studies be mandatory for high school students. With ethnic studies being one of my majors, I recognize the importance of having Ethnic Studies be part of our curriculum. Coming from a diverse community, I did not even realize the historic struggles to my own culture and community. Moreover, ethnic studies help us understand other cultures a bit better. We learn the historic movements that were led by each Ethnic group. Moreover, we learned how even the creation of Ethnic Studies was extremely difficult. I have never felt as proud of who I am, until now. I was able to connect with so many like-minded students and understand their struggles just as well as they understood mine. Moreover, how high schools such as Hiram Johnson High school in Sacramento have implemented them, and it has shown tremendous improvement upon how students of color do. Moreover, having people of color teach these courses and become mentors and advisors to these students is important. Throughout my time in high school, I had to deal through a lot of pain. Through the economic struggles of a low income family to health concerns and a variety of personal issues, I felt so alone. It is crucial to have teachers who look like you teach you about the struggle of your people. It motivates you and it empowers you to do better. It gives you hope for a better future. I wished all school districts in every county implemented Ethnic Studies courses onto their districts. We need to do better! The change begins with you!</p> <p>Sincerely, <b>Jessica Riestra</b></p>
Anh-Vy Phan	<p>Dear SAUSD,</p> <p>Hello, my name is Anh-Vy Phan. I graduated from Saddleback High School in 2018 and am currently attending UC Berkeley, majoring in Political Science and Asian American and Asian Diaspora Studies</p>

	<p>(from the Ethnic Studies department). During my time at Berkeley, I've had the fortune of taking various Ethnic Studies courses and I can't express into words the overwhelming feeling of relief I'd experienced. To finally have my culture and ethnicity be represented correctly in history books is something I'd never experienced during my K-12 years, which are also the most influential years. To go into school, and see the White men as the saviors while your own race has continuously played the villain is disheartening.</p> <p>Through ethnic studies, I was able to heal and learn more about systemic racism, an institution of oppression and topic that has recently come up on the media. I was able to point out why I'd experienced racism, the domestic and international events that led to the discrimination of my people, and most importantly, how to raise awareness, promote re-education, and put a stop to the immense hate experienced by many Black, Indigenous, People of Color.</p> <p>Because of this, I would like to voice my unconditional support for agenda item 9.5, Adoption of Resolution No. 19/20-3553-Ethnic Studies Requirement. I do feel that if I had access to the courses/information I am currently learning in college, I would have been better equipped to serve my community and I would have had a better sense of self-determination. I urge you to support the ethnic studies requirement.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Anh-Vy Phan (she/they)</p>
Michael Villegas	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Michael Villegas and I went to Godinez Fundamental High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p>

An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.

A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.

In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.

In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:

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3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.

	<p>4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.</p> <p>Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.</p> <p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you, Michael Villegas</p>
Brenda Moron	<p>Dear School Board, My name is Brenda Morón and I went to Segerstrom High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over. An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness. A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material. In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian</p>

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Joana Olmedo	Dear School Board,

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Elaine Arriola	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Elaine Arriola and I attended Godinez Fundamental High School and am currently a student at UC Berkeley. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p>

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Luis Cruz	<p>My name is Luis Cruz. I am reaching out as a resident of Orange County supporting the idea to have Ethnic Studies as a graduation requirement. I believe SAUSD students learning about different cultures (or in some student's cases, their own cultures) in the classroom can bring enriching educational experiences that will carry-on past graduation. SAUSD students deserve this. I ask that you vote in support of an Ethnic Studies graduation requirement.</p> <p>Thank you,</p>
Brandon Torres	<p>Good afternoon,</p> <p>I am emailing to express my utter support for the resolution for an Ethnic Studies requirement for high school.</p>

	<p>It is long overdue that students of color can see themselves reflected in their curriculum and learning. Additionally, as our students grow up to be leaders, it is essential that they learn how to identify injustices in their world and know how to take action against them.</p> <p>In support of our students and communities, I demand that we pass this resolution.</p> <p>Thank you, Brandon Torres</p>
Mextli Lopez	<p>Dear Members of the School Board,</p> <p>My name is Mextli López. I came to the U.S when I was three years old and have lived in Santa Ana ever since (with the exception of the three years I spent in Santa Cruz after I transferred to UCSC from Santa Ana College). I attended Lowell Elementary School, Mendez Intermediate and Godinez Fundamental HS before I went on to pursue higher education.</p> <p>I am addressing you today to ask that you vote in favor of creating an Ethnic Studies graduation requirement. Young people in our school district deserve the right to learn about their history. For too long curriculums have centered white experiences and many students in SAUSD have not seen themselves included nor reflected in the books we read or in the histories we are taught. Santa Ana is ranked nationally for being one of the most Latinx cities across the country why is our curriculum not representative of our racial makeup in this district? If you continue to withhold from students their history they will continue to feel misunderstood and like they don't matter. However, if you give students the opportunity to learn about who they are, you give them the tools to be rooted in their identities and feel proud of who they are, you also give them tools to relate to others around them in a healthy way.</p>

	<p>I did not question my own internalized racism until I had the chance to take an ethnic studies course in community college. It should not have taken me that long to gain those tools of self reflection. Countless studies show how memories live in our DNA and how intergenerational trauma is passed down. By creating and enforcing an ethnic studies curriculum you give youth in our city the space and tools to begin to address the memories that live in their DNA, memories perhaps of pain endured by ancestors who survived genocide, who survived slavery, Jim Crow laws, and segregation. They say when one experiences trauma it's hard to tell the ending from the begging of all of that pain. Therapy and psychology are used to assist/support people through creating a timeline of what happened to them. Ethnic Studies Courses acknowledge pain has occurred through racism and segregation and they peace together a timeline of that hurt and how it was transformed into action the actions that led to big victories like the desegregation of schools. Give Santa Ana youth the opportunity to heal and to learn and to grow from our collective history— make Ethic Studies a graduation requirement!</p>
Daniel Diaz	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Daniel and I went to Saddleback. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p>

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As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.

	Thank you, Daniel
Genesis Luviano	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Genesis Luviano and I am a Valley High School alumna. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p>In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p> <p>In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need.</li></ol>

[As a previous employee of SAUSD, as a product of SAUSD, and as a professional currently serving SAUSD students, I am grateful for all the positive work you all do. However, I would be remiss to ignore the fact that improvements are needed. This is a chance to allow the curriculum to reflect the interests and needs of your students. SAUSD is an increasingly diverse district, and should be committed to best serving its population.]

2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them.

[This is a point that should need no further explanation. I think we can all agree these programs benefit the students and directly impact their grades and overall academic achievement.]

3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.

[I believe there are many competent young POCs out there looking to work in districts like SAUSD with the hope of becoming a mentor and role model. In fact, I am sure of this. I know many of these individuals myself. As a Mexican-American student growing up in Santa Ana, my teachers were my heroes. I wanted to color as perfectly as Ms. Sullivan and I wanted to be as nice as Ms. Dunn. I'm not saying positive experiences with my teachers didn't happen, but it would be great to have more people that look like my people to look up to everyday...I may have felt less like an imposter when I arrived at my college campus in western Massachusetts.]

4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.

Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.

[I had very few teachers that outright denied sharing their political beliefs with their students. Many would engage in debates and clearly favor one side to the point that you knew it wasn't innocent anymore. When I was an AVID tutor for an SAUSD school a few years back, I walked into one of the teacher's classroom to see posters on the wall depicting racist and anti-immigrant language and imagery. I was shocked. This is the classroom the "newcomers", students who recently arrived in the USA and are learning English before being placed in college prep courses, spent most of their day. This teacher assigned all his classes to make posters favoring either the pro-immigration or anti-immigration stances. These are the posters he put up. These are the posters most of these "newcomers" came to me to complain about. They were hurt and didn't know why their teacher could put something so mean up on the wall. This was a direct attack on the students he claim(s/ed?) to want to help and serve. It's a complicated thing to have to explain to a student. "He doesn't hate you. He doesn't really mean it. It was just an assignment. Just ignore it." Thinking back, I probably should've reported it. But, honestly, I was just as stunned and hurt as they were. I still struggle to reconcile my own trauma at the hands of what I would like to think are mostly well-meaning individuals. Again, this doesn't mean all my white teachers were like this. Some of them were amazing and did all they could to learn and respect even when they didn't understand.]

	<p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Genesis Luviano</p>
Mitzi German	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>Hello, my name is Mitzi. I was born, raised, and now, fortunately, work in the City of Santa Ana for underrepresented communities in OC. I am emailing to express my support for Ethnic Studies courses to be taught in SAUSD schools. I personally was not exposed to any ethnic study courses until I was 19 at UCI. As a first-generation college graduate Latina, I never felt most empowered until I learned about the struggles communities of color went through yet would still find the energy to unite and overcome those struggles. I believe exposure to this knowledge would have empowered me to find my voice at an earlier age and also provided me the courage to speak up for what I believe in. I believe it is a communal obligation for schools to provide students with the resources and tools to empower them and be resilient. I believe this will provide hope for change and a better future for our community.</p> <p>Best, Mitzi German</p>
Adrian Salinas	<p>Hello members of SAUSD, My name is Adrian Salinas</p> <p>I support the Adoption of Resolution No. 19/20-3353 - Ethnic Studies Requirement Type:</p>

I would like to call on you to address a serious crisis in our education system. A large percentage of students are underrepresented by the current outdated curriculum, and subjected to microaggressions by faculty and peers. I ask that you make schools safer and inclusive by protecting the rights of all students from harassment, discrimination, and violence by implementing the following:

I ask that you combat racial discrimination and division with a curriculum that promotes inclusivity and diversity. Including but not limited to Ethnic studies courses.

Through initiatives and programs, have students explore ways in which race and ethnicity have historically evolved, their relationships to power and inequity, and their intersections with other axes of stratification (i.e., gender, class, sexuality, and culture)

Faculty and staff receive annual anti-racism/ anti-bias training from a trained professional in the field.

Hiring diverse BIPOC counselors and educators to expand mental health services for minority students looking for support. Minority students are in need of culturally sensitive and relatable counselors.

I also would challenge SAUSD to re-evaluate its school policing policies.

Studies show that social institutions that partake in policing may inadvertently label

deviant youth as bad or criminal, and in doing so, strip them of dignity, fail to acknowledge their struggles, and do not treat them with respect. In turn youth may end up in the juvenile delinquent system, which has life long consequences.

Institutions and authority figures who Criminalize students should be aware of the implications this will create. There should be other options for discipline as well as providing support and access to resources for mental health.

	Thank you for your time.
Denyz Melchor	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Denyz Melchor and I went to a SAUSD High school. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p>In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p> <p>In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need.</li></ol>

	<p>2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them.</p> <p>3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.</p> <p>4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators. Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.</p> <p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you, Denyz Melchor</p>
Elizabeth Rios	Dear School Board, My name is Elizabeth Rios and I went to Segerstrom HighSchool. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent

killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over. An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness. A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material. In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues. In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment: 1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need. 2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them. 3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important. 4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators. Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students

	<p>face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments. As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support. Thank you, Elizabeth Rios</p>
Edwin Jesus Mateos-Lopez	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Edwin Mateos and I went to Saddleback High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p>In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p> <p>In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school</li></ol>

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2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them.

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Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.

As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.

Thank you,

Edwin Mateos

Jazmin Moreno

Dear School Board,

My name is Jazmine Moreno and I went to Saddleback High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.

An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.

A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.

In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.

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	<p>do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them.</p> <p>3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.</p> <p>4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.  Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.</p> <p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you,  Jazmine Moreno</p>
Hector Negrete	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Hector R. Negrete and I am a parent of a SAUSD student. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p>

An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.

A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.

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Veronica Muniz	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Veronica Muñiz and I went to Segerstrom High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p>

A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.

In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.

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Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may

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Shelly Manjarrez	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Shelly Manjarrez and I went to Segerstrom high. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p>

	<p>In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p> <p>In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the</p> <p>Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.</p> <p>Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.</p> <p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you, Shelly Manjarrez</p>
Maria Ceja	<p>Dear SAUSD School Board,</p> <p>I am writing to you as a Santanera and SAUSD alumna that is in support of the Ethnic Studies requirement. SAUSD schools, like Santa Ana High School, Mendez Intermediate, and Santiago Elementary, taught me the basics: Maths, English, the Sciences, and Eurocentric American History. What was always left out is the authentic history of Black America and the Black sociopolitical thought that illuminates it. It always left me feeling that as a person of color, as a Mexicana and Chicana, we did not have a history in</p>

this country, which further reaffirmed this minority isolation and stigma constantly reproduced. The history taught in our schools is a reflection of the foundations of this country: white supremacy, racism, and capitalism.

The recent light on the injustices that created black lives matter movement and the solidarity from allies is history in the making. It saddens me that it had to get to this point for it to even be a topic for the school board, but better late than never. We need to require our students to learn our history, as well as the history of other ethnic groups. We need to provide the truth of the strengths of our community. We need to plant intellectual seeds into the minds of our children, as they are our future.

In addition to the Ethnic Studies requirement, the community asks that you:

- cut ties with SAPD and defund the school's police department.
- ensure restorative justice programs, a school psychiatrist/therapists, and full-time nurses at each SAUSD school.
- BIPOC teachers should be recruited; representation of our ethnicities is vital for our children in being in a comfortable learning environment.
- Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity training need to be held by all educators. Diversity and Inclusion training is no longer sufficient. Educators play an important role in educating and socializing our children, let's make sure they are in positive positions within sensitive issues.

I am excited to see these changes implemented. I urge all school members to support these efforts. Thank you.

Best,  
Maria Ceja

<p>Stephanie Resendiz</p>	<p>To whom this may concern,</p> <p>My name is Stephanie Resendiz and as a Santa Ana resident and a Segerstrom High School Alumni, I would like to see SAUSD implement ethnic studies as a required course for all students to take, especially in this climate we are living in it is important that students know the history of resistance and oppression that certain communities have struggled with. Thank you, and hope you implement Ethnic Studies.</p> <p>Sincerely, Stephanie Resendiz</p>
<p>Victoria Jimenez</p>	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Victoria Jimenez and I went to Segerstrom High school. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p>In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p>

In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:

1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need.
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Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.

As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change

	<p>implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you, Victoria Jimenez</p>
Mayra Pineda	<p>Hello members of SAUSD, My name is Mayra Pineda,</p> <p>I support the Adoption of Resolution No. 19/20-3353 - Ethnic Studies Requirement Type:</p> <p>I would like to call on you to address a serious crisis in our education system. A large percentage of students are underrepresented by the current outdated curriculum, and subjected to microaggressions by faculty and peers. I ask that you make schools safer and inclusive by protecting the rights of all students from harassment, discrimination, and violence by implementing the following:</p> <p>I ask that you combat racial discrimination and division with a curriculum that promotes inclusivity and diversity. Including but not limited to Ethnic studies courses.</p> <p>Through initiatives and programs, have students explore ways in which race and ethnicity have historically evolved, their relationships to power and inequity, and their intersections with other axes of stratification (i.e., gender, class, sexuality, and culture)</p> <p>Faculty and staff receive annual anti-racism/ anti-bias training from a trained professional in the field.</p> <p>Hiring diverse BIPOC counselors and educators to expand mental health services for minority students looking for support. Minority students are in need of culturally sensitive and relatable counselors.</p>

	<p>I also would challenge SAUSD to re-evaluate its school policing policies.</p> <p>Studies show that social institutions that partake in policing may inadvertently label deviant youth as bad or criminal, and in doing so, strip them of dignity, fail to acknowledge their struggles, and do not treat them with respect. In turn youth may end up in the juvenile delinquent system, which has life long consequences.</p> <p>Institutions and authority figures who Criminalize students should be aware of the implications this will create. There should be other options for discipline as well as providing support and access to resources for mental health</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p>
Emily Corona	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Emily Corona and I went to Middle College High School . I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p>

In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.

In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:

1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need.
2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them.
3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.
4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.  
Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial

	<p>sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.</p> <p>Ethnic studies would cultivate a safe space where students could learn about their culture and identity and support one another. It will be progressive towards inclusion and acceptance of people of all walks of life.</p> <p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you, Emily Corona</p>
Cynthia Garcia	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Cynthia Garcia and I went to Santa Ana High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p>

In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.

In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:

1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need.
2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them.
3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.
4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.  
Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial

	<p>sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.</p> <p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you, Cynthia Garcia</p>
Vianey Martinez	<p>Hello,</p> <p>My name is Vianey Martinez and I am a 2017 graduate of Santa Ana Valley High School. I am emailing in support of Agenda Item 9.5, Adoption of Resolution No. 19/20- 3353- Ethnic Studies Requirement.</p> <p>During my three years in undergraduate thus far, I have come to understand the importance of such classes, especially in a community that is predominantly Latinx. While the U.S. History requirement covers some of these topics, they are often glossed over and lack proper elaboration. Courses like these are inspiring to students of color and foster a space that is inclusive of our experiences within the United States. Now more than ever, it is urgent that our education system better encompasses the history of students of color.</p> <p>Best, Vianey Martinez</p>
Jasmine Palmerin	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Jasmine Palmerin and I went to Saddleback High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the</p>

addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.

An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.

A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.

In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.

In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:

1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need.

2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them.

3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on

	<p>including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.</p> <p>4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.  Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.</p> <p>5. Furthermore , I strongly believe that English courses need to start implementing minority literature. As in, teachers should incorporate literature from Indigenous, Latinx, Pan-Asian, and Black writers. I am more than able and willing to share syllabi from UCSB, which has courses like this.</p> <p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.  Thank you,  Jasmine Palmerin</p>
<p>Moises Villegas</p>	<p>Hello,</p> <p>My name is Moises Villegas. I am a resident of Santa Ana Ca. where I have lived my whole life. I am 22 years old and went to all SAUSD K-12 schools. I attended Jim Thorpe Elementary, Macarthur Intermediate, and Segerstrom High School. It is truly a shame that</p>

	<p>I do not have a single vivid memory of learning about my own history within these K-12 schools. And it is disappointing that in 2020, we still do not see the correct education being given to our children. This is of great concern because with white-washed, Eurocentric history lessons the diverse children in our city and their families are not being represented. Children deserve to learn the diverse histories of thier ancestors not just Eurocentric and Colonial centered histories. ETHNIC STUDIES NOW! INVEST IN OUR CHILDREN!</p> <p>Moises Villegas</p>
Lizett Arroyo	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Lizett Arroyo and I went to Godinez Fundamental High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p>In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p>

In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:

1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need.
2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them.
3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.
4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.  
Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.

As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change

	<p>implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you, Lizett Arroyo</p>
<p>Luz M. Martinez</p>	<p>A quien corresponda. Por este medio le hago saber que es de suma importancia la iniciativa de rediseñar la educacion y etoy en apoyo a las clases de etnicidad a qui en este condada OC. Gracias por su liderazgo en esta iniciativa.</p>
<p>Rafael Villegas</p>	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Rafael Villegas and I went to Segerstrom High school . I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. I strongly believe that teaching African American history will help everyone in our community better understand why certain events unfold the way they do; we can see this is in the current events around the country.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. Santa Ana being predominantly Latino and Hispanic can benefit widely from the proposed curriculum being taught at school and would encourage children to embrace their culture and history from a young age. , The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p>

In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.

In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:

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3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.
4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.  
Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial

	<p>sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.</p> <p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you, Rafael Villegas</p>
Cynthia Gomez	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Cynthia Gomez and I went to Segerstrom High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. I took an ethnic studies course in college, and it wasn't until then that I saw how ethnic-centric my world views were—shaped both by the teachings of the public school history books but also as an American and all the implicit biases that come with those identities. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p>In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p> <p>In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:</p>

	<p>1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need.</p> <p>2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them.</p> <p>3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.</p> <p>4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.</p> <p>Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.</p> <p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you, Cynthia Gomez</p>
Angelica O'Campo	Dear School Board,

My name is Angelica O'Campo and I went to Valley High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.

An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.

A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.

In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.

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2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them.

	<p>3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.</p> <p>4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.  Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.</p> <p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you,  Angelica O'Campo</p>
Omar Dominguez	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Omar Dominguez. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave</p>

trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latino, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.

A Latino studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.

In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.

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2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them.

3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latino, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.

4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.

Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial

	<p>sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.</p> <p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you, Omar Dominguez</p>
Carol Haro	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Carol Haro I have taught middle school age and rising high schoolers of the Santa Ana area and am writing to strongly SUPPORT the resolution for agenda item 9.5 ethnic studies requirement. Education needs to move away from euro-centric values and focus on the histories that are too often erased from the narrative of the US. History that is connected to the most vulnerable communities.</p> <p>Thank you, Carol Haro</p>
Erica Heras	<p>Enviado desde mi iPhone</p> <p>Hola buenas tardes, mi nombre es Érica Heras, soy una madre involucrada en las escuelas de mis hij@s, fui nominada como la madre del año en la escuela Garfield, soy parte del PTA de la escuela en los últimos tres años y también soy la Cordinadora del programa padres en Accion en la misma. Tengo tres hijos en el distrito escolar de Santa Ana. La mayor en Godinez Fundamental, Villa Fundamental y Garfield Elementary School. Yo estoy en apoyo de estudios etnicos como clase requerida para nuestros estudiantes. Nuestros estudiantes merecen aprender de sus culturas en el salón</p>

	<p>de clases. Como madre activa en las escuelas de mis hijos merezco que mi voz sea escuchada. Ademas el SAUSD seria un gran ejemplo para todos los distritos escolares y el primero en implementarlo. Muchas gracias...</p>
Julia Hernandez	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Julia Hernandez and I went to Segerstrom High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p>In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p> <p>In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school</li></ol>

district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need.

2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them.

It is disappointing that while there is always a school police officer on campus, there are no case managers and a psychologist with limited hours to serve the whole school community. The message that this sends is that mental health and the wellbeing of our students is not important.

3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.

4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.

Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.

It is also important that teachers are trained in restorative justice, mental health intervention and have a clear understanding of Maslow's Hierarchy of needs. Along with this, teachers, students and

	<p>families need to have the support of competent mental health specialists on campus to ensure students are receiving the best education, are mentally and emotionally sound and that their basic needs are met. This last part is important especially as we enter a recession brought on by the COVID19 pandemic.</p> <p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you, Julia Hernandez</p>
Danny Leon-Barranco	<p>I hope the board of Santa Ana Unified School District vote in the proposed Ethnic Studies requirement for 9th grade students. As a student at Chapman University, I was allowed to discover the depth to the Ethnic Studies Movement and other accompanying movements (MeToo, Black Lives Matter, March for Our Lives, etc). Additionally, I discovered the institutional opposition against Ethnic Studies (and other from White Supremacists in power (e.g. John Huppenthal). For High School students, Ethnic Studies can begin the interest for academics, cultural appreciation, and the building of their innate selves(e.g. student comments regarding Raza/Mars program at Tuscon Unified High School); furthermore, the establishment of a ES requirement can help the retention of students, reduce the drop out rate, improve grade point averages, encourage completion of homework, increase college attendance, increase high school attendance, and aid in completing high school requirements (<a href="https://www.theatlantic.com/education/archive/2016/03/the-ongoing-battle-over-ethnic-studies/472422/">https://www.theatlantic.com/education/archive/2016/03/the-ongoing-battle-over-ethnic-studies/472422/</a> and <a href="https://www.colorlines.com/articles/5-things-you-should-know-about-arizonas-ethnic-studies-program-battle">https://www.colorlines.com/articles/5-things-you-should-know-about-arizonas-ethnic-studies-program-battle</a>). Please, pass it. Thank you,</p>

	Daniel Leon-Barranco
Cristina Cabezas	<p data-bbox="804 183 1115 215">Dear School Board,</p> <p data-bbox="804 261 1885 488">My name is Cristina Cabezas. As a SAUSD Alumni and resident, I strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The ongoing protests show us that the fight for racial justice is far from over. The amount of young people that are protesting demonstrates the hunger that young people have for change and understanding.</p> <p data-bbox="804 532 1850 678">Thus, it is crucial to feed students with the knowledge they seek. Also, younger SAUSD students are watching the events unfold in front of their eyes, so it will be beneficial for them to understand how we reached this point in our society.</p> <p data-bbox="804 722 1877 868">As a former student, I felt and heard many SAUSD alumni sense that our SAUSD education fell short of teaching a history that truly represents our country. Now, you have the opportunity to change that sentiment for future SAUSD students.</p> <p data-bbox="804 912 1644 945">Lastly, the following actions should also be adopted:</p> <ol data-bbox="804 992 1881 1487" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="804 992 1829 1138">1. Cut ties with SAPD. Other school districts around the country have taken this action because they are listening to their citizens. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need our schools.</li><li data-bbox="804 1146 1881 1219">2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools.</li><li data-bbox="804 1260 1839 1373">3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities.</li><li data-bbox="804 1414 1871 1487">4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity training need to be held for all educators.</li></ol>

	<p>As a Santa Ana resident, I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Cristina Cabezas</p>
Jesus Santana	<p>Good Afternoon SAUSD School Board Members,</p> <p>My name is Jesus Santana, a proud 2014 graduate of our Santa Ana Unified School District. I am writing this email in support of agenda item 9.5, Adoption of Resolution No. 19/20 - 3353 - Ethnic Studies Requirement. As a first-generation High School Graduate, I strongly believe that Ethnic Studies is a crucial topic to cover throughout student's K-12 journey. Fortunately for me, it was not until I attended California State University, Fullerton where I was finally able to take my first Ethnic Studies course. It was there where I learned the history of my ancestors and the importance of understanding the many factors and influences that helped create the many beautiful cultures that all of our Santa Ana students, parents, families, and communities currently embrace. I strongly believe that if I would have been exposed to an Ethnic Studies course at an earlier time in my life, for example in my middle school or high school years, I would have better appreciated the beauty of our diverse communities. I strongly encourage you all, School Board Members of SAUSD, to enact Ethnic Studies Courses as a requirement. Especially during a time where many of our youth and families are being exposed to the Black Lives Matter Movement, a topic that many of our youth are witnessing in our communities through marches, protest, news coverage, etc. This is a time to stand in unity with all of our brothers and sisters regardless of what race, ethnicity, color, creed, or religion we may identify with. Thank you so much and I hope you have a wonderful day.</p> <p>Best regards,</p>

	Jesus Santana
Fara Rodriguez	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I am writing as a Santa Ana resident and alumna. I am in support of this resolution. I think students would benefit from an ethnic studies requirement because it is more of a well rounded and inclusive curriculum.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>Best, Fara Rodriguez</p>
Brandon Nguyen	<p>Dear SAUSD,</p> <p>My name is Brandon Nguyen, I am currently attending UC Berkeley. I am fortunate to be offered and able to take Ethnic Study classes, the classes have taught me so much that I did not know before because I wasn't able to take such classes during the earlier years of my education. Thus, I am in great support for Ethnic Studies becoming a requirement.</p>
<b>Isabel Gomez</b>	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Isabel and I went to Segerstrom Highschool. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own</p>

anti-blackness.

A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.

In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.

In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:

1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need.

2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them.

3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.

4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.  
Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they

	<p>may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.</p> <p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p><b>Isabel Gomez</b></p>
Ruby Osoria	<p>To Whom It May Concern,</p> <p>I am an alumna of the Santa Ana Unified School District (K-12). I am writing in support of Agenda Item 9.5, Adoption of Resolution No. 19/20 - 3353 - Ethnic Studies Requirement. As you are aware, the initiative for the implementation of Ethnic Studies is one that began in the 1960s, as BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People Of Color) fought for their histories and stories to be told within academia. Today the SAUSD has the opportunity to provide Ethnic Studies, which has the potential for various positive outcomes for SAUSD students. This includes, but is not limited to, learning about experiences that have historically been excluded from the education system, students will be exposed to course material that centers the narratives of BIPOC and make connections to their own lived realities. Students will have the ability to name systems of oppression, identify forms of resistance, and take part in anti-racist work. The knowledge that students will gain through Ethnic Studies will contribute to preparing students for future careers, in any field. The SAUSD has a responsibility to provide its students with the</p>

	<p>knowledge and tools that will contribute to transforming their communities and work towards social justice.</p> <p>Thank you for your time, Ruby Osoria, M.A.</p>
Monica Prado	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Monica Prado and I went to Middle College High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p>In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p> <p>In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school</li></ol>

district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need.

2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them.

3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.

4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.

Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.

As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.

Thank you,  
Monica Prado

<p>Alida Rodriguez</p>	<p>Dear School Board, My name is Alida Rodriguez and I went to Segerstrom High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over. An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness. A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material. In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues. In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment: 1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need. 2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them. 3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important. 4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators. Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment</p>
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	<p>instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments. As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support. Thank you,</p> <p>Alida Rodriguez</p>
Daisy Cruz	<p>Dear School Board, My name is Alida Rodriguez and I went to Segerstrom High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over. An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness. A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material. In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues. In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment: 1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need. 2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist</p>

	<p>or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them. 3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important. 4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators. Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments. As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support. Thank you,</p> <p>Alida Rodriguez</p>
<p>Fatima Ramirez</p>	<p>I support the implementation of Ethnic group studies for our students in Santa Ana.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Fatima R.</p>
<p>Giovanni Casas</p>	<p>Dear School Board, My name is Giovanni Casas and I went to Valley High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us</p>

that the fight for racial justice is far from over. An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness. A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material. In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues. In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment: 1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need. 2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them. 3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important. 4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators. Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training

	<p>to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments. As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support. Thank you, Giovanni Casas.</p>
Emmanuel Mendoza	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Emmanuel Mendoza and I went to Segerstrom High. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p>In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p> <p>In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police</li></ol>

department to other services we desperaoppression. Money redirected should be used to look for better ways to deescalate and improve security without relying too much on our PD since they are know as one of the worst in the whole state

2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them.

In regards to full time nurses need to be paid better. The reason it is hard to find someone is due to pay. Money re directed from SAPD should be used for health instead of oppreaion.

3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.

4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.

Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.

As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change

	<p>implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>-Emmanuel Mendoza</p> <p>PS we will be watching all of you. If you dont support us Good luck getting re elected</p>
Vanessa Lopez	<p>Our nation is home to a multitude of diversity, in regards to race and ethnicity. Given this diversity, it is important to provide the awareness and education to create culturally competent students. The information about minority's history and experiences in our nation is almost completely relegated in current requirements. A well organized and strong ethnic studies curriculum can foster cross-cultural understanding to enable our students to thrive in today's society.</p> <p>As a result to such education, one is equipped with tools to address the marginalization of various groups of people within their own and other's communities. Respect, tolerance, and empowerment is also taught within their own racial/ethnic identities, among with the identities of others. All in the meanwhile, they gain a more solid understanding of their shared American identity. Various research suggests that there are better engagement levels, along with academic and social outcomes, with such curricula.</p> <p>In the climate that we find ourselves in, these are more than ever the most important resources we can give to our students. We must</p>

	<p>not overlook the rich history of ethnic-minority groups. As we prepare our students to contribute to society by means of workforce or higher education, we must also introduce them to the knowledge of our nation's and global diversity. We want to inspire the youth's mind and incite the initiative to be the revolutionaries and leaders in our world today. I urge the Santa Ana Unified School District to bring ethnic studies as a requirement to successfully be able to do so.</p> <p>-- Vanessa Lopez</p>
Melanie Mendoza	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Melanie Mendoza and I went to Century High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p>In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p> <p>In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions</p>

would also ensure a more racially just school environment:

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2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them.

3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.

4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.

Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.

As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in

	<p>support.</p> <p>Thank you, Melanie Mendoza</p>
Christian Guevara	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Christian Guevara and I went to Godinez Fundamental Highschool. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p>In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p> <p>In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need.</li></ol>

	<p>2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them.</p> <p>3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.</p> <p>4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators. Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.</p> <p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you, [NAME]</p>
Denise Barraza	Dear School Board,

My name is Denise and I went to [SAUSD School district . I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.

An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.

A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.

In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.

In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:

1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need.

2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists

	<p>do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them.</p> <p>3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.</p> <p>4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.  Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.</p> <p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you,  Denise</p>
Mariana Diaz	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Mariana and I went to Segerstrom High School (class of 2010). I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of</p>

Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.

An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.

A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.

In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.

In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:

1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need, such as counseling and mental health support.

2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools.

Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them.

3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.

4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators, on an ongoing basis.

Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.

As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.

Thank you,

Mariana Diaz

Fabiola Cuevas Flores	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Fabiola Cuevas Flores and I went to Segerstrom HIGH SCHOOL. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p>In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p> <p>In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need.</li><li>2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our</li></ol>
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	<p>schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them.</p> <p>3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.</p> <p>4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.  Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.</p> <p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Fabiola Cuevas Flores</p>
Yoselinda Mendoza	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Yoselinda Mendoza and I went to Century High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an</p>

ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.

An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.

A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.

In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.

In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:

1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need.

2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them.

	<p>3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.</p> <p>4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.  Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.</p> <p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you,  Yoselinda Mendoza</p>
Micaela Alvarado	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Micaela Alvarado and I went to Godinez Fundamental High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave</p>

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Melissa Alcantar	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Melissa Alcantar and I go to Godinez Fundamental High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts,</p>

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Alexys Soto	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Alexys Soto and I went to Godinez Fundamental I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p>In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p>

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	<p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you, Alexys Soto.</p>
Berenise Lopez	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Berenise and I went to Roosevelt, Franklin, Lathrop and Century. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p>In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p> <p>In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police</li></ol>

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As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.

	<p>I don't want others to have to wait until college to take an ethics class. The class I took at SAC greatly helped shape who I am and who I want to become.</p> <p>Thank you, Berenise L</p>
Haley Orozco	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Haley Orozco and I went to Godinez Fundamental High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p>In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p> <p>In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school</li></ol>

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4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.

Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.

As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.

Thank you,  
Haley Orozco

<p>Michelle Mendoza</p>	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Michelle Mendoza and I went to Santa Ana High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p>In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p> <p>In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need.</li><li>2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our</li></ol>
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	<p>schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them.</p> <p>3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.</p> <p>4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.  Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.</p> <p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you,  Michelle Mendoza</p>
<p>Karla Fernanda Escobedo Franco</p>	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Karla Fernanda Escobedo Franco and I went to CENTURY HIGH SCHOOL. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5 which stipulates the addition of an ethnic studies requirement for all high school freshmen starting 2022. The recent</p>

killings *-BUT NOT THE ONLY ONES-* of **Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd** have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.

An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective that current American History courses hold. I, myself, having taken such classes, saw no diversity nor representation whatsoever despite living in the state of California which we are well aware holds a vast non-white related history- including black, indigenous, Mexican, and LatinX history that goes untold by your current curriculum,

An Ethnic-Studies course in a city that is predominantly Latinx, would also help our own community confront the anti-blackness that stem from European colonization as well as the anti-indigenous sentiment that prevails. In addition, allowing the large LatinX population of students to *actually* learn relevant topics of history to their own lives, would further enable them to understand how racial inequality has disproportionately affected those within Black, Brown, Indigenous, and Asian communities while upholding a context of white superiority through the courses they have been exposed to, especially American History courses.

A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.

In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.

**In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:**

**1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department.** Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need.

**You all understand the history of systematic oppression and I am here to tell you that no student needs police present in their school. STOP defunding from the mere institution that dictates the future of each kind in Santa Ana. I urge you to invest in afterschool programs. Provide for your students by investing in scholarships for their future. Host college nights. Invest in the infrastructure where they have to be 5 days out of the week from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. Invest in classes for sex- education as well as other elective courses. Provide community involvement programs catered to the large population of Spanish speaking families. Educate parents who have no knowledge on how they can support their children's education. Grant funds for field trips. Grant teachers the supplies they need to teach. Provide each school with enough Psychologists and Nurses that can truly support the needs of students, not cops.**

2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them.

3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.

**4. Anti-blackness, white privilege, and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators before being granted a position, not to exclude substitute faculty and ALL tenured teachers in ALL departments and grades.** Many of our teachers are *white* and live in *suburbs*, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases- which is not needed nor desired in our schools as this is counterproductive at keeping students safe. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. *We need to implement periodic mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments and a curriculum that depicts so.*

As a Santa Ana resident, a former Centurion, a current student at UCLA, an Undocumented student, and a human being, I am well aware that our current curriculum does no effort to focus on the history of those who have been oppressed, silenced, enslaved, massacred, stolen from, and are currently being KILLED in front of your and my own eyes. I urge all school board members to vote in support to truly show that they care about the livelihoods of each and every single one of the students within the district.

Regards,

Karla Fernanda Escobedo Franco

Isaac Ocampo

Dear School Board,

My name is Isaac Ocampo and I went to Godinez Fundamental High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.

An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.

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	<p>do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them.</p> <p>3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.</p> <p>4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.  Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.</p> <p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you,  Isaac Ocampo</p>
Jarvis Jennings	<p>Dear Santa Ana Unified School District Board,</p> <p>I missed the deadline for your meeting so that I could call in because I received the notification of meeting too late.</p>

However, I do have some concerns with a couple of items on your agenda.

1. The upcoming school year and the plan for re-opening the schools and possible full student participation. I believe that your safety measures need to be expanded and more clearly stated. What are your procedures if a student comes to school and they have the COVID-19 virus and does not say anything? Will you be doing temperature checks prior to kids entering the schools? Will the school provide face masks for students who do not have one or will they be sent home if there is a requirement for one? Will the classes practice social distancing all year long on the whole campus, not just in class rooms? How will attendance be handled for students who become sick and miss up to 2 weeks or more due to the virus? How will attendance be handled if a family member of a student is sick and the student has been attending school and then needs quarantine, will the whole school shut down or will you play Russian Roulette with our kids lives? What will be the specific of your PPE? What and how will things be cleaned and why it is so expensive in Santa Ana than in other parts of the county to have things cleaned? Will the cleaning of the facilities include an upgrade of having seat covers in the restroom? How will a student who is found sick during school be segregated to avoid infecting other students.
2. The new Ethnic Course requirement for the 2022-2023 school year. I am a black man raised on the Eastside of Cleveland, Ohio. The eastside was the black side of town and the westside was the white side of town. During my junior high years the school board decided on segregating the schools and sending the kids to the other side of town to attend classes. This was in the late 1970's and the results was nothing but fights the first year of school, every day of the week, there were fights, name calling, threats, shootings, etc... As a parent of 2 Hispanic children attending Valley High

School, I am leery of them being required to take an Ethics course and here is why. First, my daughters will not take the class because they will graduate before your implantation date. Second, who would teach the class, a white person, a black person, a Hispanic person. This is not solving the problem that you addressed in bringing up this issue. Racism is never going to go away in this country. We are all racist against someone or something. You just don't pay attention to it, most people avoid it like the plague. Having this course will lead to some small issues in the class because you will have students who will want to still think it is okay and other students will get upset and conflict will break out. You are not really addressing the problem, you are just trying to put a band-aid on it.

To address racism in this country it starts at the top. If you to make change happen, then get behind putting a new president in office this fall. That is step number one. You cannot have your leader of your country being ok with racism, and if you are for other political reasons and still do not believe he should be gone, then you are part of the problem as well. The leaders of the country must make the first step in getting rid of racism. I do not believe it will be gone in my life time. I do not see new laws being passed for police brutality or hate crimes being enacted in my lifetime as the people supplying money to the law makers will not back them.

For example, the man who was killed in Georgia was basically hunted down by 2 white men and executed, while a 3<sup>rd</sup> man watched and recorded it. For me that is straight simple murder. Not manslaughter or a lesser charge, murder. Yet the NRA will fight tooth and nail to not have guns outlawed or possession of firearms limited. Why? Because they lose money and they have the most money in Washington that back lobbyist to fight for them.

I have been treated badly by the police in the past, not to the extent as the people who are mentioned in your proposal, however it is the same when you are driving, not breaking the law and the

cop asks you why are in this neighborhood. It is called DWB – Driving While Black. You have a nice car and should be driving in a white neighborhood.

If you want to make change, start at the top, not with a class given by someone who most likely has never experienced racism.

Jarvis Jennings

Dear Board Members,

I am listening in on the board members and many people are advocating for the ethnics class. I want to explain my original response.

It is not that an Ethnics course would be good for students, but putting it in now as a result of recent events is my issue.

I have issues with people and organizations all of sudden trying to do something because a black man was murdered on camera by a white policeman. The ethnics course should have been in the curriculum already.

This is a positive reaction, but I would term it a knee jerk reaction. It is like, oh what should we do as everyone else or organizations are doing something what about us.

I hope this is put in, but I have issues with the timing. The protests, looting, and violence is not good for our younger kids to see. I don't believe in the looting because it just gives people the belief that we have not changed as minorities. We are still the same we don't need to change, but we need to keep doing what we are doing. It gives them no reason to change.

Jarvis Jennings

Mary Escalante	<p data-bbox="800 142 1115 175">Dear School Board,</p> <p data-bbox="800 256 1900 444">My name is Mary Escalante and I went to Saddleback High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p data-bbox="800 526 1906 714">An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p data-bbox="800 795 1906 948">A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p data-bbox="800 1029 1871 1143">In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p> <p data-bbox="800 1224 1854 1295">In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:</p> <ol data-bbox="800 1377 1843 1487" style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school</li></ol>
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3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.

4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.

Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.

As a Santa Ana resident and student, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I have attended a summer program that really opened my eyes about Ethnic Studies and why this class is essential. I am excited to see this change

	<p>implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you, Mary Escalante</p>
<p><b>Ada F. Briceño</b></p>	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I am writing in support of Agenda Item 9.5, Ethnic Studies Requirement. Thank you for considering this urgent issue, and your leadership to move this forward. Recent events in our world have shown the need for initiatives exactly like this one, and for action to be taken so that change happen. Ethnic Studies is not "optional" -- it's necessary. We need more people aware and appreciative of our diversity. Please pass this item. Thank you for your work.</p>
<p>Mr. McGoo</p>	<p>Hello members of SAUSD, My name is patrick I support the Adoption of Resolution No. 19/20-3353 - Ethnic Studies Requirement Type: I would like to call on you to address a serious crisis in our education system. A large percentage of students are underrepresented by the current outdated curriculum, and subjected to microaggressions by faculty and peers. I ask that you make schools safer and inclusive by protecting the rights of all students from harassment, discrimination, and violence by implementing the following: I ask that you combat racial discrimination and division with a curriculum that promotes inclusivity and diversity. Including but not limited to Ethnic studies courses. Through initiatives and programs, have students explore ways in which race and ethnicity have historically evolved, their relationships to power and inequity, and their intersections with other axes of stratification (i.e., gender, class, sexuality, and culture) Faculty and staff receive annual anti-racism/ anti-bias training from a trained professional in the field. Hiring diverse BIPOC counselors and educators to expand mental health services</p>

	<p>for minority students looking for support. Minority students are in need of culturally sensitive and relatable counselors. I also would challenge SAUSD to re-evaluate its school policing policies. Studies show that social institutions that partake in policing may inadvertently label deviant youth as bad or criminal, and in doing so, strip them of dignity, fail to acknowledge their struggles, and do not treat them with respect. In turn youth may end up in the juvenile delinquent system, which has life long consequences. Institutions and authority figures who Criminalize students should be aware of the implications this will create. There should be other options for discipline as well as providing support and access to resources for mental health Thank you for your time.</p>
Jenny Bebernes	<p>Good Afternoon,</p> <p>My name is Jenny Bebernes, and I am a resident of Tustin. I am a mother and a school psychologist intern. I share that information because it is relevant to why I am writing.</p> <p>From what I understand, Santa Ana Unified School District is considering becoming the FIRST district in Orange County to have all students take an Ethnic Studies course. While the deadline may have passed, I did want to voice my support on this issue as now more than ever we need concrete actions like this.</p> <p>Morning forward, and looking into the coming school year, my hope is that we will begin to address racism within schools and how courses like Ethnic Studies and systems level change will help to dismantle the practices that have gotten us to where we currently are.</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p> <p>Jenny Bebernes</p>

Angel Navarro

Hello members of SAUSD,  
My name is Ángel Navarro

I support the Adoption of Resolution No. 19/20-3353 - Ethnic Studies Requirement Type:

I would like to call on you to address a serious crisis in our education system. A large percentage of students are underrepresented by the current outdated curriculum, and subjected to microaggressions by faculty and peers. I ask that you make schools safer and inclusive by protecting the rights of all students from harassment, discrimination, and violence by implementing the following:

I ask that you combat racial discrimination and division with a curriculum that promotes inclusivity and diversity. Including but not limited to Ethnic studies courses.

Through initiatives and programs, have students explore ways in which race and ethnicity have historically evolved, their relationships to power and inequity, and their intersections with other axes of stratification (i.e., gender, class, sexuality, and culture)

Faculty and staff receive annual anti-racism/ anti-bias training from a trained professional in the field.

Hiring diverse BIPOC counselors and educators to expand mental health services for minority students looking for support. Minority students are in need of culturally sensitive and relatable counselors.

I also would challenge SAUSD to re-evaluate its school policing policies.

Studies show that social institutions that partake in policing may inadvertently label

deviant youth as bad or criminal, and in doing so, strip them of dignity, fail to acknowledge their struggles, and do not treat them

	<p>with respect. In turn youth may end up in the juvenile delinquent system, which has life long consequences. Institutions and authority figures who Criminalize students should be aware of the implications this will create. There should be other options for discipline as well as providing support and access to resources for mental health</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p>
Anat Herzog	<p>Hello:</p> <p>I filled in the form for public comment around 9am today and did not receive notice for how to call in. Looks like ya'll might just be backlogged. I'm still waiting but in case it doesn't come, below is what I planned to say.</p> <p>Thank you, Dr. Anat Herzog</p> <p>Esteemed SAUSD School Board Members, students, educators, and parents:</p> <p>My name is Dr. Anat Herzog and it has been my honor, since co-founding the Education and Ethnic Studies Summit at Chapman University, to learn with SAUSD Ethnic Studies teachers and students, who every year show up as physical manifestations of what is possible. At the Summit scholars, educators, future educators, organizers, and community members, learn from the perspectives, creative voices, art, and applied research young Santañeros and their teachers bring to Chapman. Ya'll have begun, in this way, to scratch the surface of the potential Ethnic Studies has as a discipline to develop critical thinkers who can engage the world thoughtfully through a lens of historical literacy and a</p>

	<p>framework for engaging systems of power with integrity and ethics in service to humanity. As a District, SAUSD has alumni, students, teachers, parents, and community partners already engaged in this work building the capacity of the District to be a LEADer in Orange County’s Ethnic Studies Movements.</p> <p>Not only am I a scholar- fan of SAUSD’s Ethnic Studies teachers and students, I’m also a cis-gendered white woman, an immigrant, and an adult who has spent hours, energies, and resources working to unlearn and relearn what my education left out; a void that I found suspiciously painful – given my years and levels of education and the lack of use it had in understanding the complexities of power and privilege in the society I live and participate in.</p> <p>We no longer can pretend that there is such a thing as a profession that does not require a moral education, or a democracy that can exist without engaged members. There are no algorithms, that can compute justice, no calculators for morality. Development of cultural competencies, civic dispositions, and historical literacy, which have been gutted from public schooling experience and curricula, are no longer an option. Ethnic Studies at its core, requires student to develop democratic dispositions and encourages engagement, rather than apathy; action rather than cynicism.</p> <p>From a practical perspective, a 2020 education that does not include Ethnic Studies is an irrelevant education. From a moral perspective, an education without Ethnic Studies is a morally deficient education. I implore you to ensure that the education SAUSD provides its students, is both relevant, and morally robust. I implore you to make Ethnic Studies a graduation requirement for ALL students in SAUSD. As you have already begun to do, you will LEAD the way, and you will Light the way. I offer my full support in any way I can.</p>
Name: Alondra Salazar	Name: Alondra Salazar  I am an SAUSD alumn and employee. Please read out loud, thank you !

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Hello,

My name is Alondra, I was born and raised in Santa Ana and am a SAUSD Alumn. I am emailing you to express my support in making ethnic studies a HS requirement because the students in our district should not be deprived of learning their own history. The majority of our students are students of color and their histories/cultures should not be left out of the classroom.

It has been shown time and time again that people feel more accepted and feel better overall if their identities are represented and reflected in the spaces they are in, so why would a classroom curriculum be an exception?

If we are for the youth of color in saUSD then we have the responsibility of giving them the tools to empower themselves and making them feel valued in our classrooms. Including the histories of communities of color is such a critical component of this process.

Also, if we want to create an atmosphere of inclusivity, acceptance and one where we celebrate differences in our district then we must go beyond simply placing posters that say "we care" on our walls and, instead, put this into practice through the education of cultures and differences in the classroom.

Lastly, Ethnic studies is important because as a queer woman of color that has struggled with not being accepted, ethnic studies can help open the door for other cultural studies like Queer studies, which could have really helped me cope with trauma and feel more empowered throughout my teenage years.

Thank you.

	<p>Best,</p> <p>Alondra Salazar</p>
Jose Solorio	<p>Board President Rodriguez and School Board Members,</p> <p>As a parent and community leader, I thank the Board and dedicated staff for working to ensure all our students receive a well-rounded education. When I was at UC Irvine, it was very empowering for me to learn about my Chicano roots and the histories and struggles of people of color, women, and other disenfranchised groups. I know it made me a better student, a productive member of our society, and a better human being.</p> <p>I'll close with one of my favorite quotes:</p> <p>"Our ambitions must be broad enough to include the aspirations and needs of others, for their sakes and for our own." ~ Cesar Chavez</p> <p>Thank you!</p> <p>Jose</p> <p>Hon. Jose Solorio</p>
Sofia Sanchez	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Sofia Sanchez and I went to Godinez Fundamental High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p>

An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.

A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.

In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.

In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:

1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need.

2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them.

3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is

	<p>the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.</p> <p>4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.</p> <p>Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.</p> <p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you, Sofia Sanchez</p>
Hortencia	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Hortencia Escutia and I went to Saddleback High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is</p>

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Danielle Brewer	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Danielle and I went to [School in California]. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts,</p>

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	<p>more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.</p> <p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you, Danielle Brewer</p>
Fritzi Valladares	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Fritzi Valladares and I was a previous SAUSD student. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p>In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p>

In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:

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It is disappointing that while there is always a school police officer on campus, there are no case managers and a psychologist with limited hours to serve the whole school community. The message that this sends is that mental health and the wellbeing of our students is not important.

3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.

4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.

Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues

	<p>our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.</p> <p>It is also important that teachers are trained in restorative justice, mental health intervention and have a clear understanding of Maslow’s Hierarchy of needs. Along with this, teachers, students and families need to have the support of competent mental health specialists on campus to ensure students are receiving the best education, are mentally and emotionally sound and that their basic needs are met. This last part is important especially as we enter a recession brought on by the COVID19 pandemic.</p> <p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you, Fritzi Valladares</p>
Erika Sanchez	<p>Dear School Board, My name is Erika Sanxhez and I am a SAUSD alum. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over. An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness. A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material. In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues. In addition to an ethnic studies</p>

	<p>requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment: 1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need. 2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them. 3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important. 4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators. Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments. As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support. Thank you, Erika Sanchez, M.A.</p>
Hetal Jain	<p>Santa Ana school district,</p> <p>Having everyone take an ethnic studies class is a great idea. I hope pylusd will also adopt this practice. I strongly support this initiative.</p>

	Best, Hetal
Emmanuel Chang	<p data-bbox="804 222 1115 253">Dear School Board,</p> <p data-bbox="804 337 1881 524">My name is Emmanuel Chang and I went to Valley High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p data-bbox="804 609 1906 792">An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p data-bbox="804 876 1906 1024">A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p data-bbox="804 1109 1871 1219">In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p> <p data-bbox="804 1304 1850 1375">In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:</p>

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	<p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you, Emmanuel Chang</p>
<b>Eunice Ho</b>	<p>Dear</p> <p>My name is Eunice and I am a graduate of the UCLA Teacher Education Program. I taught World History and Ethnic Studies at Dr. Maya Angelou Community High School before relocating back to Orange County where I hoped to get hired at SAUSD. For this past school year, I was substitute teaching in SAUSD, FJUHSD, and AUHSD.</p> <p>As an Ethnic Studies teacher, and as a former Ethnic Studies student, I intimately understand the transformative power of Ethnic Studies. I understand that it gives students a space to heal from historical trauma, to reflect upon their identities, to unlearn internalized racism, to re-learn self-love, to become empowered to value their voices, to critically stand in solidarity with other communities of color that they may not necessarily belong to, and a multitude of other things. In short, Ethnic Studies teaches us to love ourselves and love others using a historical framework that is healing. I absolutely support this Ethnic Studies requirement as a teacher, and personally would be honored and proud to teach in SAUSD if this were passed. For the future of youth of color in Santa Ana and all of Orange County: please pass this requirement.</p> <p>I humbly thank you.</p> <p>Eunice</p>

Marisol Barrera

Dear School Board,

My name is Marisol Barrera and I went to Godinez Fundamental High School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.

An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.

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Sara Balanta	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Sara Balanta and I went to OCSA. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p>

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	<p>they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.</p> <p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you, Sara Balanta</p>
<p>Jenna Salley</p>	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Jenna Salley and I went to Orange County School of the Arts. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p>In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p> <p>In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only</li> </ol>

	<p>the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need.</p> <p>2. Ensuring that there are restorative justice programs, a therapist or psychologist, and a full-time nurse at each of the K-12 schools. Even if these services are already implemented at some of our schools, some students have reported that mental health specialists do not follow up and check in on them enough after meeting with them.</p> <p>3. When hiring new teachers, there should be an emphasis on including Latinx, Black, Indigenous, and other underrepresented minorities. At many of our high schools, the Spanish department is the only place where these minority teachers can be found. Representation is important.</p> <p>4. Anti-blackness and racial sensitivity trainings need to be held for all educators.  Many of our teachers are white and live in suburbs, meaning they may not understand why some students act a certain way and may turn to punishment instead of understanding. Some teachers also stigmatize our community and may have internalized biases. Educators are important pillars of our community, but they may do more harm than good if they are not culturally aware of the issues our students face. We need to implement a mandatory racial sensitivity training to ensure that our schools have nurturing environments.</p> <p>As an Orange County resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you,  Jenna Salley</p>
Hannah Kim	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Hannah and I went to the Orange County School of the Arts. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery,</p>

Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.

An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.

A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.

In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.

In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:

1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need.

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Mia Guillen	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Mia Guillen and I went to Santiago Elementary School. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p>

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	<p>As a Santa Ana resident, I know that our current classes do not focus on minority history enough. I am excited to see this change implemented, and urge all school board members to vote in support.</p> <p>Thank you, Mia Guillen</p>
Elena Levin	<p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>My name is Elena Levin and I go to Orange County School of the Arts. I am writing to strongly support Agenda Item 9.5, the addition of an ethnic studies requirement. The recent killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and George Floyd have shown us that the fight for racial justice is far from over.</p> <p>An ethnic studies class on African-American or Black history would help our student population understand the effects of the slave trade from a non-eurocentric perspective. As our city is predominantly Latinx, this class would also help us confront our own anti-blackness.</p> <p>A Latinx studies class would give our students insight into aspects of our own history that is often overlooked. The 1968 Walkouts, Bracero Program, and immigration would be part of the core curriculum instead of supporting material.</p> <p>In order to serve our Vietnamese and Asian student populations, there should also be an Asian studies option. This class would also help our non-Asian students become more aware of Asian issues.</p> <p>In addition to an ethnic studies requirement the following actions would also ensure a more racially just school environment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Cutting ties with SAPD and defunding school the police department. Our school district has the 2nd largest school police force in the state and yet we were only the 10th largest school district in 2018. Funds could be redirected from the school police department to other services we desperately need.</li></ol>

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Thank you,  
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