

JUNE 17, 2020 Regular Board Meeting
Public Comment Items appear in order received by area.

OPPORTUNITY for Public Comment on Consent Agenda Items

No comments received for this portion of the agenda.

UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

1. Leslie Kelly

Unscheduled Comments: Hi my name is Leslie Kelly and I am the Restorative Practice Counselor severing at Edison High School. I am writing in regards to SRO's on campus. I am aware of the stigma in our community regarding police however the partnership with the Restorative Practice Counselor and a School Resource (Relationship) Officer is imperative to the commitment of bridging the gap between the fear of policing in our students of color. I have witnessed and supported personally Officer Melody Hughes as she's met with students from issues ranging from fights, weapons on campus to minor infractions like vaping. She has worked each case on an individual basis, sat in re-entry and repair circles, met with parents and has been a calming presence when needed. She according to her role and badge could easily address these situations with brute force but instead uses the power or relationship building to meet the needs of the students she comes in contacts with. I truly believe that the restorative approach and training has been a benefit to how we work together collaboratively to support our Edison students. I can honestly say that she is our front line and our eyes on campus and continues to find ways to better serve our students to make them feel safe and supported on our campus and is not afraid to solicit my support. I appreciate you all for your time and consideration.

2. Jennifer Reyna

I believe the district should cut designated sites. The data has shown an average of only 2% growth on SBAC compared to those who aren't DS. Why is FUSD spending 22 million on those sites and there is not an astronomical gain?

3. Kim Vasquez

I have been teaching at Ewing for 30 years. My last 4-5 years have been Designated. I was not in favor of going Designated. We didn't get to vote. We were told we had to do it because of our underachieving test scores. After having done it now, I have seen growth in math and reading with my kindergarten students. They reached BAS reading levels that I have not reached with previous classes (F/G) and they have been mastering math standards 100%, even though their baseline test scores were lower. When we added Pre-K and TK, the gap in my classroom got bigger, not smaller. Some Kinder students missed the opportunity to show their biggest growth this year, which is usually in the 4th quarter, due to schools closing. Now would not be a good time to do away with Designated Schools, when some students may need time to catch up on lost learning. They are going to need the extra 30 minutes a day. Also, with all the unknowns about what school is going to look like when we finally reopen, now is the time for stability and extra help, NOT less! Ewing has figured out a good schedule and it works for students and teachers.

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4. Michael Torres

Fresno school districts are behind the rest of the curve in California for making the necessary changes in protecting the future generational residents of color from discrimination, bias and danger. Ethnic studies courses have proven to help students of all backgrounds by supporting the initiative to incorporate them into the academic structure, our town would no longer be trailing behind our entire state but rather ahead and at the forefront of change where it belongs.

5. Samantha Orozco

Why We Need Ethnic Studies

As a mixed American, I can understand the struggles people of color go through today. I decided to take African American Studies to further my knowledge on the parts of history that weren't told. In a regular history class, the basic curriculum doesn't cover how deeply rooted our government and schools have systematically oppressed many ethnic groups throughout history as well as presently. It is important for all students to learn history from all perspectives in order to understand the hardships people of color still undergo. By studying deeply about racism we can eliminate the common assumptions that can cause issues in our community. Having these classes can eradicate the conundrum of ignorance which we still endure. With including ethnic studies classes in all schools in our district we can enlighten the youth and change the trajectory of our future.

6. William E. Skuban, Ph.D.

To Whom It May Concern, My name is Dr. William Skuban, incoming chair (July 1) of the Department of History at Fresno State. I strongly support the initiative to establish Ethnic Studies courses in Fresno Unified School District (FUSD). I have been at Fresno State for over twenty years, and several of my ex-students, now teachers in FUSD, are spearheading this critical effort. By centering the experiences of historically marginalized groups, the proposed courses will examine the systemic racism and oppression that continues to permeate this country's institutions. Included among the many benefits that Ethnic Studies courses would deliver are increased awareness and understanding of the current state of ethnic and race relations in the United States; improved student attendance rates; improved academic performance; and improved preparation for students who will enter Fresno State and Fresno City College, especially those students contemplating majors in the social sciences and humanities.

I sincerely hope that by the next school board meeting a resolution calling for a close examination of the proposals made by the Fresno Ethnic Studies Coalition will be made. I believe that this initiative is not only an important one for FUSD's students, but also for the Fresno community at large. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

7. Mia Roddy

Hello, my name is Mia Roddy, and I'm an advocate for an official Ethnic Studies program to be implemented throughout Fresno Unified School District. As a student of Fresno Unified, I

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feel that it is imperative that we students possess a safe place to have conversations about race and ethnicity. An official curriculum would expose us to diverse people in world history, current events, and politics, enabling us to better understand the system of power locally and globally. It is important for students to know that their stories and contributions to society matter; and that they can overcome adversity such as their ancestors did. A formal curriculum would also help students of a European background to value diversity and teach them to be culturally sensitive. In her work "The Academic and Social Value of Ethnic Studies," Christine E. Sleeter, Ph.D. discusses how having an ethnic studies curriculum makes a positive impact on students and their scholastic outcome. She notes that this impactful curriculum includes the effects of racism, and allows students to "grapple with multiple perspectives," and "produces higher levels of thinking." This helps prepare students to articulate and challenge institutions that are not inclusive of all people. Schools and their curriculums should not be colorblind. The world was built on the backs' of various people of color, therefore it is an injustice to gloss over that fact. An ethnic studies curriculum would help push towards a more culturally aware society, inside and outside of the classroom.

8. Sierra Gomez

My name is Sierra Gomez and I am a concerned community member and teacher. I would like to submit a statement in support of Ethnic Studies in Fresno Unified School District. Within our community we recognize that institutional racism and systemic oppression permeates all of our institutions. Ethnic Studies is explicitly anti-racist. The class centers the experiences of historically racialized groups and provides a safe space for students to examine racism and the institutions that uphold it. I believe Ethnic Studies is necessary because this country is rooted in colonization and has impacted many of our students for generations. By not mandating ethnic studies, we are whitewashing history and lying to our students and community. This curriculum is necessary from every grade from k-12 in order to responsibly educate our children. I expect that by the next school board meeting, there will be a board resolution that discusses the proposals made by the Fresno Ethnic Studies Coalition. Kindly, Sierra Gomez.

9. Erika Ireland

My name is Erika Ireland, a master's prepared, credentialed registered dietitian/nutritionist (RDN), certified diabetes care and education specialist (CDCES), former child nutrition director and parent to a FUSD student, below is my public comment (PC) for Board Meeting 6/17/20 in reference to boarding meeting held 6/10/20 for Agenda item: A-15: APPROVE Award of Bid 20-52, Fresh Juice and Dairy Products - in 249 words

Dear FUSD School Board: Please reconsider the decision made last week to decrease chocolate milk purchases. Let's look at the facts about calcium & 8 ounces of chocolate milk:

- Children need 1000-1300 mg of calcium daily
- 8 oz of chocolate milk provides about 300 mg or nearly 1/3 of the daily requirement
- 12 cups of raw spinach has about 300 mg of calcium

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- Milk is a cost effective source of Vitamin D and Potassium - most children do not get enough of these Calcium and potassium are vital to heart health
- 70% of milk consumed in schools is flavored
- When flavored milk is not offered, milk consumption drops by about 50%
- Most Moms favor flavored milk
- Flavored milk consumption is supported by:
 - The American Academy of Pediatrics
 - The Institute of Medicine
 - The School Nutrition Association

Detroit and Los Angeles school districts reinstated chocolate milk following a prior ban because milk consumption decreased by 50% and as the LA Times noted, "schools were tossing out an " obscene" amount of food, much of which was plain milk."

There are equal, if not more, amounts **(250-word limit reached)**.

10. Jade Chatman – Voice Message (Transcribed)

Hi my name is Jade Chatman, I am a fourth grade teacher at Powers-Ginsburg Elementary and I'm also one of the educators advocating for ethnic studies curriculum in grades k-12. I will be commenting on that. It would be easy to dismiss the need for this curriculum in kindergarten through sixth grade, but we know the student's investment in their schooling begins in elementary. Critical literacy supports Common Core State Standards, improves reading comprehension, critical thinking and student engagement. We know that when this happens student achievement is directly and significantly impacted. The challenges of distance learning can also be an excuse to delay this kind of innovation, but we would argue this reality makes it even more critical to begin this work. The district's GVCs for ELA and SEL learning provides the framework for inclusion and diversity but we are proposing is an integration that gives teachers and students those skills to leverage tools to address social and political issues more directly resulting in more meaningful and authentic discourse and eliminating more superficial or performative displays of illiteracy or victimization or tokenism of black indigenous people of color. This serves the population more identified needs of our district, our homeless. Foster youth and black indigenous students of color the most. The existing structures of cultural literacy within the district has provided a great foundation; however, they are largely top down and have failed PLs and failed to allow staff to engage directly in the work or to be held **(250-word limit reached)**.

11. Alexa Butler

To whom this may concern: My name is Alexa Butler, I am a senior attending Sunnyside High School. Throughout my years in FUSD there has NEVER been a priority to teach students ethnic studies of any kind. Educators have the difficult job to prepare the next generation for the future: provide tips and resources, install hard work and determination, and create connections. Fresno Unified is the third largest school district in California, yet not all schools provide ethnic studies classes, and it is not a requirement for students. In FUSD there have been several racially motivated attacks amongst students. The topic of race is difficult to

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discuss, but it's essential if we want to see positive growth. Fresno Unified needs to pass a resolution making Ethnic Studies a graduation requirement, create Ethnic Studies course offerings at primary and middle grades, organize an Ethnic Studies Leadership Committee by FUSD Ethnic Studies teachers, establish a functional Professional Learning Community, and form an Ethnic Studies Advisory Committee. Enacting this shortlist of demands will produce extreme benefits, according to a study conducted by Stanford University's Graduate School of Education there are multiple benefits to students enrolled in Ethnic studies in both academic achievement and student engagement. Increases include gains in student attendance, academic performance and progress towards graduation. The most dramatic increases were shown by young men of color. This is the time for change to occur, I urge FUSD to take the first step towards innovation. Thank you, Alexa Butler.

12. Tyesha Hendrix

My name is Tyesha Hendrix and I would like to submit a statement in support of Ethnic Studies in the Fresno Unified School District. Within our community we recognize that institutional racism and systemic oppression permeates all of our institutions. Ethnic Studies is explicitly anti-racist. The class centers the experiences of historically racialized groups and provides a safe space for students to examine racism and the institutions that uphold it. I believe Ethnic Studies is necessary because it will help our students feel empowered and learn to value and appreciate diversity. I expect that by the next school board meeting, there will be a board resolution that discusses the proposals made by the Fresno Ethnic Studies Coalition.

13. Lauren Beal

To Whom It May Concern: My name is Lauren Beal and I piloted African American Studies at Edison High School. I have seen the direct impact of African American Studies at Edison and the positive ripple effects throughout the southwest community. In African American studies at Edison High School, students have a safe space to address race & ethnicity. For some students, this is also the first time they have seen themselves reflected with intention in content, curriculum, and pedagogy. I am here to ask that you support board resolutions for the implementation of robust Ethnic Studies programs. As an educator, I am pleading with you to pass a board resolution making Ethnic Studies a graduation requirement. AB 331 is projected to pass legislation in CA, making Ethnic Studies a graduation requirement. Please, pass a board resolution to affirm your support, both structurally and monetarily, for the development, addition, and integration of Ethnic Studies. Several school districts across the state have board resolutions adopting Ethnic Studies as a graduation requirement. As the third largest school district in California we are behind the curve. Establish Ethnic Studies course offerings at the high school and middle school levels and integration of Ethnic Studies principles into primary grades at piloted schools across the district. Create an Ethnic Studies Leadership Committee by FUSD Ethnic Studies teachers so that Ethnic Studies classes can be vertically aligned, have an established scope and sequence, and guiding principles across the district. As educators, we know that learning never **(250-word limit reached)**.

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14. Josefa Vega

My name is Josefa Vega and I am an advocate for youth and students and a FUSD alumna I would like to stand in support of Ethnic Studies in Fresno Unified School District. With the discourse surrounding racism and white supremacy currently under review I think it's important to address the erasure that occurs throughout the public education system. The erasure of oppression experienced by the black community, by the indigenous community, by the asian community and by latinx community. It's important to understand these tainted histories and explore them to assure that generations after us aren't brainwashed into believing that Thomas Jefferson or Christopher Columbus were heroes, they are symbols of white supremacy and capitalist greed. The youth are taking notice and this is no longer acceptable. These biased views don't represent the education our students deserve. The time is now to value the experience and histories of those that aren't white or center capitalist values. Prioritize the education and wellbeing of students always.

15. Dr. Patricia D. López

My name is Dr. Patricia D. López and I am a concerned educator and community member. I would like to submit a statement in support of Ethnic Studies in Fresno Unified School District. Within our community we recognize that institutional racism and systemic oppression permeates all of our institutions. Ethnic Studies is explicitly anti-racist and must be acknowledged as an instrumental method for preparing youth to coexist in a diverse society by centering the experiences of historically racialized groups and providing a safe space for students and educators to examine real-life phenomena such as racism and the institutions that uphold it. As a person who was systematically marginalized by the K12 system and pushed into an alternative high school, I can candidly say that Ethnic Studies saved my life and is what allowed me to find a network of people who would eventually facilitate my journey to a UC, a Ph.D., and a coveted position as an Assistant Professor at Fresno State. I stand with Fresno Unified educators and broader communities across the country who, like me, have been staunch advocates for young people's access to their history, culture, and language by way of Ethnic Studies. The time is now for the school board to support and accept a resolution that responds to the proposal made by the Fresno Ethnic Studies Coalition and set the district on a path for establishing fully funded Ethnic Studies program for all students in the district. I also commit to being a resource to **(250-word limit reached)**.

16. Amy Sepulveda

My name is Amy Sepulveda. I am an educator at Fort Miller Middle School who will be teaching Ethnic Studies during the 2020-2021 school year. I am a piloting member of the Fresno Ethnic Studies Coalition. I lead the Chicax Latinx Student Association on campus and provide our Latinx students with equitable curriculum and have witnessed the power of culturally relevant education. I ask that you support a board resolution to implement Ethnic Studies courses at all middle schools in FUSD, as well as at every other site at the primary and secondary level. Our students deserve a safe space to discuss race, ethnicity, and life experiences while engaging in critical dialogue surrounding these issues. As the third largest

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district with over 90% students of color, FUSD needs to do better. We need to invest in our students and their right to an equitable, anti-racist curriculum that they can see themselves being a part of- a curriculum that does not erase who they are. There is plenty of data that demonstrates the benefits that would uplift the culture of our campuses, the academic performance of our youth, and increase the connection with our community. I ask that you consider adopting the Fresno Ethnic Studies Coalition proposal and integrate Ethnic Studies district wide as well as establish a leadership committee designed to establish curriculum, a functional PLC model, and a qualified ES advisory. The time is now. We must invest in our students and show them that who they are matters.

17. Summer Breault

My name is Summer Breault (pronounced "Bro") and I am a resident of Fresno. I urge you to make Ethnic Studies mandatory throughout Fresno Unified School district. Institutional racism exists precisely BECAUSE it is not discussed. On the Fresno Unified School District's web page, in the "About" section, you state that, "Fresno Unified is a place where diversity is valued." It's time to start living up to this statement. Demonstrate your support of anti-racist values by including Ethnic Studies in required curriculum at Fresno Unified at all grade levels. I expect that by the next school board meeting, there will be a board resolution that discusses the proposals made by the Fresno Ethnic Studies Coalition. Empty statements are not enough. You have the power to take action. Show your support for all students and your rejection of the institutional racism and systemic oppression that exists today. I urge you to do it now. Do not let your students or your community down. Thank you for your time.

18. Kathia Osuna

My name is Kathia Osuna and I am a concerned community member. I would like to submit a statement in support of Ethnic Studies in Fresno Unified School District. Within our community we recognize that institutional racism and systemic oppression permeates all of our institutions. Ethnic Studies is explicitly anti-racist. The class centers the experiences of historically racialized groups and provides a safe space for students to examine racism and the institutions that uphold it. I believe Ethnic Studies is necessary because a failure to teach students about historical trends of racial injustice in this country is erasure of history that feeds into white supremacy. I believe that the district should be doing more to uphold the expectations set by the Safe Haven Resolution and its commitment to students of color and black students. I expect that by the next school board meeting, there will be a board resolution that discusses the proposals made by the Fresno Ethnic Studies Coalition.

19. Fernando Santillan

I am Fernando Santillan. I piloted Chicano Studies at Edison. I have been able to see the direct impact of teaching a curriculum that reflects the population of the students and that gives them the language to speak to and about race. My course has provided a space to think critically about their communities, society and themselves that they, many times, are not able to do elsewhere. I ask that you support and adopt a resolution outlining the adoption and

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implementation of Ethnic Studies in an effective systematic way that ensures that we as a district are addressing the needs of our students and community. We as teachers of Ethnic Studies find it critical that, in addition to a Leadership Committee led by teachers, there also be a separate advisory committee. The purpose of an advisory committee would be to include academics in the field of Ethnic Studies as well as district management and the community to assist in the implementation of Ethnic Studies across the district. This committee would be tasked with ensuring the fidelity of Ethnic Studies as a program including logistical concerns such as the recruitment, training and development of Ethnic Studies teachers and coordination and alignment of the program across the district. In our discussions with other districts we have found the advisory committee to be critical to the sustainability of Ethnic Studies courses. Please stand with Fresno and make this critical investment in our community and our students, they deserve it.

20. Vanna Nauk

Growing up in one of the most impoverished neighborhoods in Fresno, California with limited access to resources, I was unaware of the possibilities outside of the margins of society; subsequently, life in the margins influenced my identity and my academic trajectory. Like most first- and second-generation Cambodian-American children, I worked long hours to support my family while attending school. And as a product of the Fresno Unified School District, most Cambodian, Hmong, and Lao students were pushed through the system without a curriculum that responded to our lived experiences. Self-doubt and self-blame became passively instilled from years of studying under a colonial institution. This became a habit manifested inside of me, and without the tools or support to confront institutional racism, I learned to normalize and, at times, even rationalize discrimination and racism at a very young age. Moreover, marginalization convinced me that I was incapable of excelling in school and that my scope of agency was little to none, so I should just accept and conform to stereotypes about my communities. By the time I graduated from high school, my grade point average was insufficient to apply to college. Therefore, I focused on avenues that seemed more feasible for a queer Cambodian American person from my neighborhood – trade or beauty school. Alternatively, my only option was beauty school and working odd jobs to support my family and me. While making do with the monotony of beauty school, I was yearning to contest the status quo and, I was **(250-word limit reached)**.

21. Mercedes Martinez

My name is Mercedes Martinez. I am a piloting member of the Fresno Ethnic Studies Coalition. I am an Ethnic Studies teacher at Gaston Middle School. I began in this position during the last school year, and I have already witnessed the impact that these courses provide to our students and community. Currently, our textbooks and curriculums are oversaturated with Eurocentric viewpoints that are polarizing for non-white students. As a whole, we are failing to recognize that 90% of our students are persons of color. Ethnic Studies provides all students with a safe space to explore the racial and cultural experiences and differences that are especially relevant in our current social climate. Ethnic Studies opens

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the door for students to see themselves reflected in the curriculum that we teach. I implore the board to adopt a resolution to make Ethnic Studies a graduation requirement. I implore the board to adopt a resolution to affirm Fresno Unified's support, both structurally and monetarily, for the development, addition, and integration of Ethnic Studies. I implore the board to adopt a resolution to mandate Ethnic Studies course offerings at the high school and middle school levels and to integrate Ethnic Studies principles into primary grades. I implore the board to adopt a resolution to establish a functional Ethnic Studies Professional Learning Community in order to provide educators an ongoing and regular opportunity to learn and collaborate. Together, we must work to institute change at home. We must invest in our students and our community.

22. Uziel Jimenez

MY NAME IS UZIEL JIMENEZ. I AM HAVE THE IMMENSE HONOR OF TEACHING ETHNIC STUDIES AND HISTORY IN FRESNO UNIFIED. I AM ALSO A FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE FRESNO ETHNIC STUDIES COALITION. FIND OURSELVES AT A WATERSHED MOMENT IN OUR HISTORY. IN A VERY SHORT TIME CALIFORNIA WILL LIKELY PASS A LAW REQUIRING ETHNIC STUDIES TO GRADUATE HIGH SCHOOL. BUT IF WE CONTINUE CURRENT TRENDS, WHEN THAT HAPPENS, FRESNO UNIFIED WILL BE COMPLETELY UNPREPARED TO RESPOND. WE NEED WE NEED A PLAN AND WE NEED IT NOW.

- WE HUMBLY BUT PASSIONATELY ASK...FOR A BOARD RESOLUTION MAKING ETHNIC STUDIES A GRADUATION REQUIREMENT
- WE HUMBLY BUT PASSIONATELY ASK...FOR A BOARD RESOLUTION AFFIRMING FRESNO UNIFIED'S--SUPPORT BOTH STRUCTURAL AND FINANCIAL--TO EXPAND, TO INTEGRATE AND TO FULLY DEVELOP ETHNIC STUDIES IN OUR DISTRICT
- WE HUMBLY BUT PASSIONATELY ASK...FOR THE CREATION OF AN ETHNIC STUDIES LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE
- WE HUMBLY BUT PASSIONATELY ASK...FOR ETHNIC STUDIES' UNITS IN THE PRIMARY GRADES AND DEDICATED CLASSES AT ALL MIDDLE SCHOOLS AND ALL HIGH SCHOOLS. HOW EMPOWERING WOULD IT BE IF ALL OUR HIGH SCHOOLS OFFERED CLASSES IN CHICANO LATINO STUDIES, AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES, ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES, AND INDIGENOUS STUDIES? IF OUR DISTRICT CAN'T, WE SHOULD AT LEAST HAVE COMPREHENSIVE ETHNIC STUDIES CLASSES OFFERED IN EVERY HIGH SCHOOL.

FINALLY, OUR HOPE IS THAT BY THE NEXT SCHOOL BOARD MEETING WE CAN VOTE ON A RESOLUTION FOR THE CREATION OF A ROBUST ETHNIC STUDIES PROGRAM AT FRESNO UNIFIED. THANK YOU.

23. Janelle Bujulian

Hello, my name is Janelle Bujulian. I am a concerned community member and educator. I would like to submit a statement in support of Ethnic Studies to be taught at Fresno Unified School District. I believe Ethnic Studies is necessary because these students are already experiencing racism in their daily lives, they need support and to feel seen in order for them to become strong, confident citizens and to give them support to rise above the hatred that

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they experience. Within our community we recognize that institutional racism and systemic oppression permeates all of our institutions. Ethnic Studies is explicitly anti-racist. The class centers the experiences of historically racially profiled groups and provides a safe space for students to examine racism and the institutions that uphold it. I believe Ethnic Studies is necessary because these students are already experiencing racism in their daily lives, they need support and to feel seen in order for them to become strong, confident and rise above the hatred that they experience. I expect that by the next school board meeting, there will be a board resolution that discusses the proposals made by the Fresno Ethnic Studies Coalition. Thank you for your time, Janelle Bujulian.

24. John Her

To whom it may concern, attached below is a comment from Hmong Student Association from Fresno State's statement regarding the topic of Ethnic Studies. Thank you.

June 16th, 2020, Dear Fresno Unified School District Board of Trustees, We are the Hmong Student Association of Fresno State, and we are contacting you as concerned students and also as members of the community. We are submitting a statement in support of Ethnic Studies in the Fresno Unified School District. We believe that having Ethnic Studies as a mandatory graduation course will help the young and developing adults of our community to recognize institutional racism and systemic oppression. Fresno is a growing community of a diverse population. Mandating the understanding and study of historically racialized and discriminated groups will promote professional growth and anti-racism within Fresno. Not only will students be able to have a safe space to examine racism, they will be provided with the knowledge and skills to identify institutions that uphold racism. Ethnic Studies is necessary in building a strong diverse and humanizing community. We expect that there will be a board resolution that discusses the proposals made by the Fresno Ethnic Studies Coalition by the next school board meeting. Sincerely, Hmong Student Association of Fresno State, 5241 N Maple Ave, Fresno, CA 93740, hmsafresno@yahoo.com.

25. David Paredes

My name is David Paredes and I am an alumni of Edison High School. I would like to submit a statement in support of Ethnic Studies in Fresno Unified School District. Within our community we recognize that institutional racism and systemic oppression permeates all of our institutions. Ethnic Studies is explicitly anti-racist. The class centers the experiences of historically racialized groups and provides a safe space for students to examine racism and the institutions that uphold it. I believe Ethnic Studies is necessary because I have been to school with FUSD and have seen firsthand how racism exists on campus and affects our education without this much needed requirement. I expect that by the next school board meeting, there will be a board resolution that discusses the proposals made by the Fresno Ethnic Studies Coalition.

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26. Vianey Vazquez

My name is Vianey Vazquez and I am a concerned community member. I would like to submit a statement in support of Ethnic Studies in Fresno Unified School District. Within our community we recognize that institutional racism and systemic oppression permeates all of our institutions. Ethnic Studies is explicitly anti-racist. The class centers the experiences of historically racialized groups and provides a safe space for students to examine racism and the institutions that uphold it. I believe Ethnic Studies is necessary because our students need an understanding and sensitivity of the cultures of others. Our students of all backgrounds are deserving of learning about their history. I expect that by the next school board meeting, there will be a board resolution that discusses the proposals made by the Fresno Ethnic Studies Coalition.

B. CONFERENCE/DISCUSSION AGENDA

B-24, PRESENT and DISCUSS Reopening of Schools High Level Plan

Staff will present to the Board information regarding high level options to reopen schools.

1. DeAuna Marks

To the FUSD Board, we have 3 children in FUSD. They are at two different school sites. Ages 8, 8, & 5. I've read some of the projected protocol regarding Covid-19 regulations at California Public schools. Out of all of the projected implementations, the one that we tested with our 3 is the masks/face coverings. We had our 3 wear the mask for as long as they could with a sweet treat incentive to see who could wear theirs the longest. My five year old could wear hers for 10 minutes before it became unbearable and cumbersome. My twin 8 year olds could hold out a bit longer at 15 minutes, at which point they pulled them off and gasped. Let me be clear in that the masks were the very thin Target masks, said to be the most breathable. Please consider this little experiment with 3 of your FUSD elementary kids when considering your protocol for the upcoming school year. Thank you, DeAuna Marks.

B-25, CONDUCT Public Hearing and ADOPT Resolution 19-41 Authorizing the Increase of Level I School Facility (Development) Fees on Residential and Commercial/Industrial Construction Projects

No comments received for this agenda item.