



## **Ethnic Studies Meeting**

**September 12, 2018**

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Elodia Ortega-Lampkin – Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services  
Christina Lambie – Executive Director of Teaching and Learning  
Carlos Hagedorn – Presenter for Ethnic Studies  
Crystal Grooms – CTE Coordinator  
James Evans – Whitehead Elementary Principal  
Maria Martinez – Sci-Tech Academy Principal  
LeAnn Herigstad – Pioneer High Parent  
Melissa Moreno – WCC  
Dixie Clark – Community Member  
Khalid Saeed – Community Member  
Shannon McClarin – Child Development Coordinator  
Reneé Nebolon – Tafoya Elementary Vice Principal  
Phillip Pinegar – Plainfield Elementary Principal  
Marjory Watkins – Prairie Elementary Teacher  
Teresa Ramirez – Maxwell Elementary Teacher  
Danielle Shifrine – Lee Middle School Teacher  
Marilyn Hays – Community Member  
Alberto Tamayo – Woodland High Teacher  
Yolanda Rodriguez – Administrative Secretary of Teaching and Learning

### **Introductions**

A hand out was given to members to go over the purpose of the committee. It includes the framework and standards as well. The committee had developed a draft of the Ethnic Studies Statement of Purpose last year, which provides the vision for a PreK – 12 Ethnic Studies framework. Staff visited El Rancho High School last February and got much of the information to move WJUSD forward with the Ethnic Studies program.



## **Welcome by Elodia Ortega-Lampkin**

Elodia congratulated administrators for their hard work in implementing this program at their sites. She expressed how much community members, including Cirenio Rodriguez, have worked hard for years to add ethnic studies and help it grow in Woodland.

This program is a huge undertaking and we are further along than other districts. We need to work together to get teacher buy-in so the program can work.

## **Review 2017-18 Accomplishments and Ethnic Studies Summer Institute**

In August, we began our Summer Institute and we had a full boardroom. There were over 50 teachers present. The presenter, Carlos Hagedorn shared some background about himself and what he is working on with the teachers in the trainings. The summer courses consisted of one full day for administrators and two days for teachers.

Some of the topics for the Summer Institute were a 101 on what ethnic studies is and what it is not. The institute had several speakers that presented those days. We want to make sure that staff and community members know that we are not trying to teach about Mexican American studies but about all types of ethnic studies. Many districts are hesitant to teach about ethnic studies. We will be doing trainings for teachers each second Wednesday of the month.

September 12, 2018 was the first training for this school year and we had a group of 44 teachers that went over the Community Cultural Wealth Model.

## **Provide Update on Ethnic Studies Course Enrollment**

A handout was given on how many students we have had enrolled in the current ethnic studies courses at the high schools. In previous years, we have only offered the courses as a semester class but this year we are having them as a yearlong class. The numbers show that the students are interested in the courses.

Crystal Grooms added that she has spoken with the floral design and the culinary arts teachers and they have shown how they can expand their curriculum with ethnic studies.



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## **Setting Goals for 2018-19 Ethnic Studies Work: *What will our focus areas be? What does the group want to accomplish?***

The group would like more clarification of what the committees input will do. Last year the committee worked on the vision and statement of purpose for the group. This is the second year they are meeting and we would like to work on what will be meaningful. A handout was shared for goal setting. In addition, another handout had meeting dates that have been updated for the school year.

Last year staff went to the state capitol to support a bill to make ethnic studies a requirement for A-G. The bill has been revised so that districts can apply for grants to develop ethnic studies programs, starting in 2019-20. Our district web page has an ethnic studies page that you can look over for information. We will update it as we have meetings with all the agendas, minutes from the meetings, and handouts. If you have anything, you would like to share or have included on the page you can send the information to Christina to look over.

### **Questions/Comments**

- Can the course descriptions be shared with the group?
- Who makes and approves the courses?
- How has the ethnic studies been implemented from last year to serve our African American students?
- Who is CCAT?
- What do they look like?
- How can WCC faculty help WJUSD to develop the program?
- Can we look at resources like books that can be shared in the classrooms?
- Mindset is what needs to change in our district before resources can help the teachers, this is why buy in is so important.
- These courses are offered in high school but ethnic studies should start in preschool.
- Can anything be done with Preschool, elementary, and middle school while you are working with the high schools?
- What does the Pre-K to 12<sup>th</sup> program look like with ethnic studies in the classroom?
- Is there a working program at other districts that we can look at as a model?
- How can we do holidays to teach about other cultures?
- There is a 1.7% of African Americans in Woodland and we need to serve them as much as we serve the larger groups.
- We need to work with elementary because it is hard to identify how the program will run with them.
- Elodia and Christina will meet to go over the meeting questions and comments.



## Woodland Joint Unified School District

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- We can bring the course outlines and syllabus to the next meeting.
- Marilyn Hays offered to read to elementary students if anyone is interested to have her. Her home number is 530-662-3614.

### **Handouts**

- The agenda
- The Woodland Joint Unified School District Ethnic Studies Curriculum Alignment
- Ethnic Studies Advisory Committee roles
- Committee dates, links, and updates

**We would like to thank our committee for the great feedback.**

**Our next meeting will be on December 12<sup>th</sup> at Woodland High**

**5:30 pm to 6:30 pm in the school library**