

December 12, 2018

Responses from the Teacher Training

“Ethnic Studies has provided an opportunity to INSPIRE me to help my students be proud of their roots and themselves”

“This training has made it clear that it is important to humanize myself and my students, showing my students about caring about themselves and others is as important as any CA standard.”

“I feel like a part of a community of people who care about the ‘whole student’.”

“Open opportunities and voice”

“Doing what I was meant to do”

“Humanizing experience”

“It has given me confidence that my method of relationship building in the classroom should continue and permission to grow relationships among students”

“Insightful”

“I wish that I had this institute before I left high schoolers. I left because it didn’t feel I was a good fit for that age group. I knew there was something missing in my heart. I didn’t know how to humanize us all. I moved to teach special needs kids now (grades 7-8). They are my gift and I am their gift. Looking back, I wouldn’t have left if I would have been given the tools and direction. We didn’t get to know each other.”

“Valued - after graduation in 2008, I believed that tenure would be difficult having a women’s studies degree and an ethnic studies minor. However, I am working in a district that not only values the work but has a mission statement.” :)

“This series of classes has made me think that my students walk through my doors carrying their collective experiences. I am more keenly aware that what I see may have unknown to me causes. In a, “if A then B” world, I need to tailor learning to each person. Maybe for them, “If A then Q” would be a better fit?”

“This space has provided me with hope and motivation. It inspires me to continue la lucha and to not give up no matter how difficult it may get (or how difficult it has been).”

“A space to reflect on my students’ wealth. Has given me the inspiration to persevere with at-risk students - never give up on them. A space to develop a vision for ethnic studies in WJUSD.”

“Busy, cluttered, distracting, preparing, falling short,

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This ethnic studies institute has provided the luxury of time and space to break away from usual routines, to breathe, to fan through some of the persistent smoke, and reflect on something deeper.

Reminded of my identity,

Reminded of the need for integrity,

Reminded of authenticity,

Reminded of self-love.

Let's go!"

"I have learned to pronounce students' names correctly and to try to put more effort into forging genuine human connections."

"Reaffirming that we all speak from our own experiences. What I bring to the classroom, being a Chicano, a mother, and all my life experiences shapes who I am as an educator. The process continues..."

"Validating and awakening"