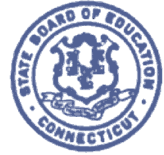




STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION



**TO:** Superintendents of Schools  
Directors of Endowed and Incorporated Academies  
Directors of Regional Educational Service Centers  
Directors of Public Charter and Magnet Schools  
Directors of Approved Private Special Education Facilities  
High School Principals

**FROM:** Dr. Miguel A. Cardona, Commissioner of Education *MAC*  
Ingrid M. Canady, Executive Director, SERC *IMC*

**DATE:** November 2, 2020

**SUBJECT:** African American/Black and Puerto Rican/Latino Curriculum and Course Update

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) and the State Education Resource Center (SERC) are excited to share the following updates regarding the African American/Black and Puerto Rican/Latino course.

- In accordance with [Public Act 19-12: An Act Concerning the Inclusion of Black and Latino Studies in the Public School Curriculum](#), SERC and the CSDE have been developing the mandated one-credit, year-long high school elective course and curriculum in collaboration with: nine advisory committees; an expert review panel, and a 150-member advisory group representing racially and culturally diverse historians, scholars, high school educators, educational organizations, community and museum representatives, parents, students, and advocates.
- SERC has created the [Public Act 19-12: An Act Concerning the Inclusion of Black and Latino Studies in the Public School Curriculum Website](#) to update the educational community on the process and progress of curriculum development, to include [DRAFT course description](#) and [DRAFT learning objectives](#).
- The draft African American/Black and Puerto Rican/Latino curriculum will be presented to the State Board of Education (Board) on December 2, 2020, for review and approval.
- The CSDE and SERC are offering the following informational Webinars to provide schools and districts an overview of the curriculum and opportunity for questions:
  - Monday, November 9, 2020, from 8:00 a.m.–9:00 a.m. [REGISTER HERE](#);
  - Monday, November 9, 2020, from 3:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m. [REGISTER HERE](#);
  - Tuesday, November 10, 2020, from 8:00 a.m.–9:00 a.m. [REGISTER HERE](#); and
  - Tuesday, November 10, 2020, from 3:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m. [REGISTER HERE](#).

Questions regarding sessions can be directed to Michelle LeBrun-Griffin, SERC Consultant, at [griffin@ctserc.org](mailto:griffin@ctserc.org).

For specific questions related to the African American/Black and Puerto Rican/Latino curriculum and course, please contact the Director of Equity and Language, CSDE, Dr. Gladys Labas at [Gladys.Labas@ct.gov](mailto:Gladys.Labas@ct.gov).

MAC:ip

cc: Desi D. Nesmith, Deputy Commissioner of Academics and Innovation, CSDE  
Ingrid M. Canady, Executive Director, SERC  
Irene E. Parisi, Chief Academic Officer, CSDE  
Dr. Gladys Labas, Director of Equity and Language, CSDE  
Dr. Melissa K. Hickey, Reading/Literacy Director, CSDE