

PETITION

To

The Westerly School Committee to incorporate

A RESOLUTION RELATING TO EDUCATION AND CURRICULUM

We the undersigned hereby request the attached Resolution Relating to Education and Curriculum be placed on the School Committee agenda, within the next thirty days, for discussion and approval. We are concerned that despite assurances to the contrary, the Westerly School Curriculum is at risk of becoming structured in a manner that results in the indoctrination of our students with radical social concepts.

We believe in fair and balanced education that presents our youth with all the facts and provides them with the tools to critically evaluate life situations without fear of judgement, retribution, or public scapegoating.

We also believe that codifying the subject resolution will result in reduced distraction for the School Committee and faculty, and allow greater focus on the fundamental curricula necessary for our youth to succeed professionally and socially in the real world.

A RESOLUTION RELATING TO EDUCATION & CURRICULUM

Westerly Public Schools hereby prohibits the teaching of divisive concepts to any of its students, teachers, or other staff, employed in any of its schools or offices, including the following:

- One race or sex is superior to another race or sex,
- The Town of Westerly, The State of Rhode Island, and the United States of America, are fundamentally and systemically racist or sexist,
- An individual, by virtue of his/her race or sex, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or subconsciously,
- An individual should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment based solely or partly on his/her race or sex,
- An individual's moral character is necessarily determined by his/her race or sex,
- An individual, by virtue of his/her race or sex, bears responsibility for actions committed in the past by other members of the same race or sex,
- Meritocracy, or traits such as hard work, work ethic, grit, and accountability are racist or sexist, or were created by a particular race to oppress another race,
- The success or failure of an individual is due to his/her race, and only to race.

In reference to the above, divisive concepts include any form of racial or sexual stereotyping, or any other form of racial or sexual scapegoating:

1. Racial or sexual stereotyping means assigning character traits, values, moral, and ethical codes, privileges, status, or beliefs to a race or sex, or to an individual, because of his/her race or sex.
2. Racial or sexual scapegoating means assigning fault, blame, or bias to a race or sex, or to members of a race or sex, because of one's race or sex, and similarly encompasses any claim that any particular race or sex is responsible for the destiny, success, or failure of another race or sex.

All state and municipal contracts, grants, and training programs, entered into after the effective date of this resolution, shall include provisions banning the teaching of divisive concepts to students, teachers, staff, or anyone else under the district's employ. This resolution also prohibits, in the strongest possible manner, any teacher from imposing his/her political beliefs upon his/her students, and for singling out, shaming, silencing, or disciplining any student for his/her political beliefs, should they differ from those of the teacher, principal, assistant superintendent, or superintendent. Any and all political beliefs in a classroom must be presented with all sides and opinions represented, and no student may be forced or coerced into adopting the viewpoints of another, or those of the teacher.

This resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage.