

MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION

To foster intercultural understanding, communication and respect in an increasingly diverse society, curriculum and instruction at all grade levels shall reflect the perspective and experiences of various cultural, ethnic, racial and social groups. The Governing Board desires that multicultural education be integrated across the curriculum into as many subjects as possible rather than providing isolated lessons on different cultures.

The Board of Education of the Monrovia Unified School District recognizes:

Multicultural education is an interdisciplinary educational process, rather than a single program;

That multicultural education benefits pupils of all racial, ethnic, religious, and cultural groups;

That each pupil needs an opportunity to understand the common humanity underlying all groups, to develop pride in his/her own identity and heritage, and to understand, respect, and accept the identity and heritage of others;

That curriculum materials and teaching procedures should be adapted to the values, behavioral patterns, and learning styles of all pupils; and

That staff development is essential in order to prepare all members of the instructional staff to effectively carry out a program of multicultural education.

The enactment of these statements should provide a coordinated program of multicultural education for all pupils.

The district's comprehensive multicultural education program shall recognize the contributions of different groups of people to the history, life, and culture of the local community, California, the United States, and other nations. It may include but not be limited to instruction about the languages, cultural characteristics, significant events, and individuals, and social, political and economic conditions of various ethnic groups.

While recognizing the unique aspects of different cultures and peoples, multicultural education shall also emphasize commonalities and challenge the stereotypes and biases that inhibit inter-group understanding. Multicultural education also shall be designed to contribute to the personal development of students through greater self-understanding, positive self-concept, and pride in one's ethnic identity.

Revised: September 10, 2008

(Changed Board Policy number from BP 6171.2 Multicultural Education)

Adopted: May 24, 1978