

To: bc_curriculum@bakersfieldcollege.edu

Thu 10/13/2022 11:09 AM

Dear Curriculum Committee,

I oppose the Cesar Chavez Leadership Certificate curriculum that is pending. I also request the entire syllabus be posted online for all to read, review and ask questions. I want to know exactly what information will be taught to our students and by whom. I do not believe that the indoctrination of our students by the United Farmworkers Labor Union or their ideologies should take place in our schools.

Respectfully,

Charlotte Taylor-Badgley

To: bc_curriculum@bakersfieldcollege.edu

Thu 10/13/2022 11:19 AM

To Whom It May Concern,

I am opposed to the plan for the Cesar Chavez Certificate at Bakersfield College.

Mr. Chavez is an historical figure in Central California's history. Therefore, he can be included in history textbooks as are other historical people. There is no need for this certification.

Thank you,

Annette Londquist

To: bc_curriculum@bakersfieldcollege.edu

Cc: Jack Connell

Thu 10/13/2022 11:25 AM

Dear Sir or Madam,

As a concerned citizen and taxpayer, I felt compelled to send an email to the Bakersfield Community College Curriculum Committee. It is my understanding that this committee is entertaining the idea of establishing and offering a certification on how to become an activist; I have included my Kern Community College District representative Mr. Jack Connell in this email. Our tax money should go towards certification programs that will provide actual skills that lead to good paying jobs for our students. Let us stick to offering certification programs in law enforcement, medical field, transportation, hospitality, engineering, the trades, etc. and keep politics where it belongs in political science, history, and government elective courses.

Kind regards,

Ruthellen Martinez

To: bc_curriculum@bakersfieldcollege.edu

Thu 10/13/2022 12:01 PM

I am writing to tell you that I am opposed to having a Cesar Chavez Leadership Certificate awarded thru KCCD. If it is still being considered, please post the syllabus on line so it can be reviewed.

Thank you,

Ann Batchelder

To: bc_curriculum@bakersfieldcollege.edu

Thu 10/13/2022 12:32 PM

To who it may concern,

I opposed any or all social interests group training. As a parent, I am so fed up with political stuff entering the schools. Let's teach the stuff that makes our future smart with Heart. For all!

Please vote no allowing this into our school system.

Sincerely,

Kori Hanners

To: bc_curriculum@bakersfieldcollege.edu

Thu 10/13/2022 7:12 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

It was brought to my attention that the Curriculum Committee at Bakersfield College was meeting on October 17th. On the agenda, some were entertaining the idea of creating a new certificate to train students to be activists for the San Joaquin labor movement and the UFW in particular. As a member of the Bakersfield Community and a tax payer, I am appalled that this would even be considered. That is not the purpose of a community college where students are to learn actual skills to enable them to be eligible for better paying jobs and make them useful contributors to the community. The labor movements can go to the time and expense of training activists for their causes as they have in the past, because it is divisive and not everyone is supportive. I have spoken to several others about this and there was a resounding disapproval of this class and its certification..

Barbara Jones

To: bc_curriculum@bakersfieldcollege.edu

Fri 10/14/2022 3:18 PM

Curriculum Committee,

I do not think it is appropriate to use college funds to teach students about the Delores Huerta Foundation and the United Farm Workers. The Huerta Foundation should be the group that is training activists. That is what they do! A certificate of this kind from an accredited college has no purpose, except to indoctrinate students into the UFW machine.

Dr. Christian should be engaged in the business of curriculum planning. Please reconsider your position on this matter. It is sad to see a college which previously had such an outstanding reputation sink to this new low.

Sincerely,

Jan Lundy

To: bc_curriculum@bakersfieldcollege.edu

Fri 10/14/2022 5:07 PM

As a retired teacher and citizen of Bakersfield, I oppose the creation of the Cesar Chavez Leadership Certificate. Offering this certificate puts Bakersfield College right in the middle of training students for a particular political stance. Our public funds are not to be used for that.

Irene Sinopole

To: bc_curriculum@bakersfieldcollege.edu

Sat 10/15/2022 1:33 PM

From an educated position, colleges help students to choose a path and learn skills to complete their educations and enjoy employability in the workforce.

Please use scarce resources to offer certification that does just that, and please avoid any superfluous certifications that do not contribute to the long term well-being and employability of current and future students.

Dr. Patty Vignolo, Ed.D

To: bc_curriculum@bakersfieldcollege.edu

Sun 10/16/2022 12:40 PM

To Committee

I am very concern over the institution of the Cesar Chavez Leadership Certificate Curriculum. Our tax dollars should NOT be used to train political activists! Over the last couple of years we have seen the devastation activists have caused in our country. It has also brought out a LOT of question on the Delores Huerta Foundation and the evil being done to our children under the veil of equality. Again our tax dollars should NOT be used for this type of training. Get back to the basics of school and teach our kids how to think not what to think

Kimberly Rasmussen

To: bc_curriculum@bakersfieldcollege.edu

Sun 10/16/2022 2:42 PM

Dear Members of the College Curriculum Committee:

I hereby protest the institution of the Cesar Chavez Leadership Certificate Curriculum. One can easily see it as a veiled attempt to function as recruitment for the Delores Huerta Foundation. Our tax dollars should NOT be used to train political activists!

Respectfully,

Terry Armendariz Murray

To: bc_curriculum@bakersfieldcollege.edu

Sun 10/16/2022 4:15 PM

To whom this may concern,

I am a long time resident of Bakersfield Ca. as I write to you today. The administration's not so recent trends at Bakersfield College, in regard to promotion of a Woke, Leftist agenda and curriculum, is disturbing to say the least! Everyone involved in this decision of promoting a leftist training & activist agenda should resign immediately. An investigation should be in order, too. I will work diligently to see that this happens. The national and state downward spiral in our society has a direct causal relationship with exactly what you are promoting!

Our city needs a morally trained and ready workforce of citizens, inspired by an ethically and moral management force. Not one more Marxist and Socialists who are agenda driven, triggered and hate America. You folks are the problem..

Sincerely,

Charles Shinn

To: bc_curriculum@bakersfieldcollege.edu

Fri 10/14/2022 11:24 AM

BC Curriculum Committee,

Thank you for your openness for further feedback on the above proposed curriculum at BC.

Respectfully, I HIGHLY REQUEST YOU OPPOSE this!

As I join thousands of concerned Bakersfield residents/citizens (and as a BC Alumnae as well), my point of view is that this is NOT acceptable to build skills for students to contribute to society in the future through work in the public and private sectors.

Bakersfield College is to be educating everyone for our future and not someone's special interest groups proposal.

Continue to be open to growing and learning and making sure that these sorts of things do not find their way into future curriculums for the very important students you educate. This very upsetting to be even considered.

Thank you for your openness to consider this and OPPOSE.

Julie Smaby

To: bc_curriculum@bakersfieldcollege.edu

Sun 10/16/2022 6:06 PM

I object to using public funds for training students to be leftist activists following in the steps of Dolores Huerta.
Tamela Estill, graduate nurse from BC.

Curriculum Committee Chairs,

I cannot attend the next meeting of curriculum scheduled for Thursday Oct 20 but would like to submit a public comment for the record and consideration of the committee in the public posted documents. I see the email posted on the committee webpage is the only publicly posted avenue to submit a comment, so I am submitting to that address and ask you to include my comment in the publicly posted documents.

Public Comment of Matthew Garrett, PhD, to the Bakersfield College Curriculum Committee, October 16, 2022

I am a professor of history and professor of ethnic studies at Bakersfield College, which makes me particularly qualified to address the proposed Cesar E. Chavez Leadership Certificate and associated courses (Hist B98 and Hist B99). I believe that we all want to help students appreciate local history and public history, however, I have several concerns about the current proposals. In short, they do not meet college level rigor, they are redundant to courses that do meet rigor, the content is nakedly partisan, the department does not support the curriculum, and the proposal's chief defense seems to be a claim to authority that it must be accepted because the chancellor wills it so.

1. It does **not meet college level rigor**.

1. To begin, it is a high school field trip. It is radically unconventional to grant college credit for a field trip. I have taken students on field trips in the past and believe it can be a positive and valuable experience to augment an actual course (I've taken students to the historic Ramona Bowl and pageant), but a field trip alone (even with prefatory discussion) is not a standalone college level course on its own. It is unconventional to make an entire course for a simple field trip, and outrageously radical to create a multi-course certificate for a field trip. We typically give a certificate for job skills like the automotive certificate that was also on the last Curriculum Committee agenda.
2. The assigned readings within the proposed COR are not college level. There is no textbook nor any peer reviewed readings. It does have useful primary sources, but those alone cannot constitute sufficient readings for a course (nor two courses), let alone an entire certificate in history. No other history course exists without a textbook and most or all also include peer reviewed readings listed in the COR. Historians use scholarly (peer reviewed) secondary sources to set context and then dive into primary sources such as those included in this COR. However, this COR is absent those necessary contexts. Furthermore, when we use primary sources we seek diverse voices from diverse perspectives. This COR, however, has no scholarly secondary sources and only includes primary sources from one perspective.

3. Half of the authors of the course do not meet the minimum qualification to teach history. BC's eLumin software now shows authors for the history course include Andrew Bond, Bill Mosley, and Richard McCrow; none of those individuals have the prerequisite skills to write history curriculum. When unqualified non-experts craft what they imagine history to be you have a fair chance of producing bad history, such as this course. It may be technically permissible, but it is bad policy and precedent to allow a group of non-experts to write curriculum for other departments. I ask the committee to remove the non-experts from the course. No curriculum should be created and controlled by non-experts. As a campus, we should not begin the practice of letting non-experts from outside departments write curriculum for which they have no training. If we follow this route, it opens the gates to Chancellor circumventing other departments with non-expert crafted courses that do not meet rigor. Already there are rumblings of certain departments that are "too hard." Where will this practice lead?
2. The **course is redundant**. The same course content is covered in our California History and/or Chicano History courses so I'm unclear why a field trip should require a separate set of two classes and a certificate. We already teach Chicano history courses (and possibly California history) at our dual enrollment sites and there is no reason the high school students cannot take the field trip without creating two college classes and a certificate for a field trip. The classes and certificates offer no value above the currently available courses. This proposed curriculum offers minimal academic value beyond what already exists. Furthermore, the market value of this certificate (according to eLumen) is zero dollars (which is far more honest than the earlier draft that claimed students who complete the course will earn a salary of \$66,000). There is no evidence to support this outlandish claim. In truth, students who complete these courses will enjoy no measurable benefit above and beyond that of students who are already taking Chicano or California history upon which this certificate seems to be piggybacking. Effectively these courses are taking one unit of existing classes and granting additional transcript coursework for completing work that is already covered in the broader class. Will we next offer a non-credit class for each unit of US history survey? Perhaps students can complete a non-credit course for learning about colonial America and another for learning about the revolution and another for learning about early America, and then we can call that a certificate in American history? Are we really going to pretend that each unit of existing classes are somehow now worthy of designation as multiple separate classes and certificates? Is that where we are headed? And for what reason? Is this simply because the California State funding model rewards BC more for more certificates? If that is the motivation, then this class is only the beginning.
3. The course presents as **openly partisan training for children**. Not only are the readings not academic/peer reviewed, but they are also quite openly UFW political manifestos. Students will read "Essays by UFW Volunteers," and "El Plan de Delano" (aka "The Plan for the Liberation of the Farm Workers") with such passages as "We shall pursue the REVOLUTION we have proposed. We are sons of the Mexican Revolution, a

revolution of the poor seeking bread and justice. Our revolution will not be armed, but we want the existing social order to dissolve; we want a new social order.” That is the assigned reading for the course and with no contextual or overarching academic literature and no opposing viewpoints or critique it is simply partisan advocacy. Students will also visit the birthplace of the UFW and according to the course outline on eLumen students will work with unnamed “stakeholders.” Who are the unnamed stakeholders associated with the UFW that students will work with? For those on the committee who may not know, the UFW and Huerta Foundation are the dominant left-of center political advocacy machine in Kern County (opposite the conservative/Republican political machine). To press students into learning the virtues of one side of the political spectrum and assign them to work with that organization would be akin to creating a Kevin McCarthy Leadership certificate where students read only works written by MAGA believers and go visit the Ronald Reagan museum or other one-sided conservative sites, and work with modern day “stakeholders” (presumably the modern Republican party organizations). Such a one-sided course is deeply inappropriate, and to make it worse, it is targeting the youngest and least mature (high school) BC students who are still working through their own political viewpoints. This program is specifically designed for children participating in dual enrollment. This obvious partisan nature is also underscored by the inclusion of authors who have no expertise in history but are associated with strong partisan viewpoints. One-sided history is not history; it is propaganda.

4. The **department does not support the proposed curriculum**. There has been no department conversation and most of the historians I have spoken with are horrified by the course. They share my concern that it does not meet rigor and appears quite partisan. The department would be much more likely to support a broader site-based course that could be used for all sorts of history trips from the Chavez site to the Reagan Museum to Boston or Washington, D.C. (though that would not resolve my position that a field trip does not warrant a course, and certainly not two courses and a certificate).
5. The **administration should not direct curriculum**. The chief argument in favor of the courses (boldly printed on the COR) seem to be that Chancellor Christian wills it so. The authors also include a dean and a non-discipline expert who recently retreated from a Vice President. Do we really want to set a precedent of the chancellor selecting non-discipline experts to impose curriculum on departments? What happens when Chancellor Christian decides Math or Science is too hard so a non-STEM faculty will write a new easier course for the high schools? Or what happens when administration changes and some conservative chancellor wants to infuse their political beliefs into curriculum? Administrators are explicitly prohibited from writing curriculum, and yet the chief argument for this curriculum is that the administration wills it (so much so that it was included in the COR in a naked appeal to authority).

Additionally, I'd like to raise **the question of cost**. How much will it cost for transportation and per diem for students to travel? My understanding is that the campus and perhaps Board Policy

require the institution to pay for all such expenses. Where will these funds come from? I believe athletics draws on GUII for regular season and independent fundraising for post-season play; I have drawn on SGA for such expenses. What source will fund these high school students per diems? Are we prepared to divert funds to subsidize a high school field trip that does not even appear to meet college level rigor?

I ask that this committee send a clear message to Chancellor Christian and any faculty who think they can write curriculum for fields they have no training. BC is not for sale. Academic rigor is not for sale. Run your political machine on your own time; we are busy teaching real skills.

Matthew Garrett, PhD

To: bc_curriculum@bakersfieldcollege.edu

Mon 10/17/2022 10:39 AM

October 17, 2022

To the Chairs of the Curriculum Committee and its members,

I received an elumen-generated email stating my attention is required for the Cesar E. Chavez Leadership Certificate of Completion and Landmarks in California History Site Visits. In short, since it is assigned to the History department of which I am a long-standing faculty member, I'd expect to see more critical reflection and rigor and less potential for bias.

1) Nothing in the course descriptions or goals for HIST B98 or HIST B99 reflect critical thinking of historical landmarks, which are similar to presidential museums. By nature, such sites are hagiographical, meaning historical figures are portrayed as saintly role models who served past political causes. But this raises concerns. In the case of Cesar Chavez, as part of his leadership of California's farmworkers, will students be taught that Chavez was against illegal immigration? That he referred to illegals not as "undocumented workers" or "Latinx" but as "f*** wetbacks" taking American jobs? Or that members of Chavez's America workers first movement would violently attack illegals? Will students learn that allegiance to the movement often involved cult-like public guilt shaming in his compound at what is now the National Chavez Center in Keene? What about the nasty racial rivalries and hostilities between Filipinos and Chicanos in the farm labor movement? Learning about Chavez and others' "lived experiences" outside of raw

historical context is to reduce history to political and racial propaganda and indoctrination.

Learning about Cesar Chavez and others “lived experiences” outside of raw historical context is to reduce history to political and racial propaganda and indoctrination. Although some of the assigned readings are certainly good primary sources, standing alone these documents lack a diversity of perspective by a top scholar at the historical-critical level that students so desperately need in assessing context in a non-biased manner. To provide honest historical-critical context in assessing the leadership of Cesar Chavez, Delano High School students should be exposed to the currently definitive study by Miriam Pawel, *The Crusades of Cesar Chavez: A Biography*, which, although critically narrates his many positive accomplishments, does not make Chavez out to be a saint.

2) Because the content in these courses naturally falls in the dual-enrollment Chicano history course, we need to ask, “what’s really going on?” It is unclear what is the standalone value of these two courses that merits a separate course with a Certificate of Completion.

a. Unlike, for example, an offering for Best Practices in Customer Service course that results in a clearly defined program whereby a student’s skill set could help them obtain a paid job, these courses are a subset of existing coursework that results in a “feel good” certificate to all students who merely tried and participated.

b. In reality, Delano students will have done little more than go on field trips to local historical landmarks and produce narrative reflections in response to such questions as “what did you enjoy most about the site visit?” and “do you think more people in your community should know about and visit these historical landmarks...why or why not?” The problem is that these are not college-level questions, let alone critical-thinking questions, involving historical analysis.

c. More concerning is that the Delano program is to serve as a pilot or model to be expanded throughout the district.

To summarize my concerns: learning about Cesar Chavez and others “lived experiences” outside of raw historical context is to reduce history to political and racial propaganda and indoctrination. Sadly, these two courses and their certificates of participation do just that.

Daymon Johnson, PhD

Public Comment for Bakersfield College Curriculum Committee, October 20, 2022

My name is Andres Chávez, Executive Director for the National Chavez Center, the arm of the Cesar Chavez Foundation tasked with managing Cesar Chavez's legacy. The Chavez Foundation is local non-profit organization based in Keene, California, our organization's mission is "to carry on Cesar's life's work of uplifting the lives of Latinos and working families by inspiring and transforming communities through social enterprises that address essential human, cultural and community needs." Our organization focuses on a variety of programs, including a strong education and curriculum program that works with colleges, universities, and schools to develop learning experiences for students related to the rich history of César Chávez and the farm worker movement.

My grandfather cared deeply about education. He spoke several times at Bakersfield College throughout his career. Although he only had an 8th grade education, he loved to read and surrounded himself with books, soaking up knowledge that sustained him in his life and work.

It's in that capacity, thinking about the importance of education within our region, that I submit to this committee a letter of support for the agenda item you are considering today, specifically the César Chávez Leadership Certificate program and its associated non-credit courses. Learning about the diverse history of California's farm worker movement is important. Having the opportunity to visit historic landmark sites like the National Chavez Center in Keene, the Filipino Hall and Forty Acres in Delano, are unique and important opportunities for students.

The history of the farm workers in California's San Joaquin Valley is one of the most important stories in American labor and civil rights history. Migrant workers from across the globe have labored and toiled in the fields of the San Joaquin since the late nineteenth century, producing the food Americans and folks around the world enjoy. But the stories of farm workers are seldom told in the history books and in our classroom, especially at the elementary and secondary levels. It's not only the story of my grandfather, but the story of countless others; the men and women who sustained "la huelga" and have forever improved the working conditions of *los campesinos* in the United States.

I strongly urge the committee to vote in support of the proposed program. And as a partner with the National Park Service at the National Chavez Center, I formally invite all the committee members to come enjoy the national monument and experience the immersive learning opportunities offered at the site, just up Highway 58.

I hope to see you there.

Andres Chavez, Executive Director, National Chavez Center

To: bc_curriculum@bakersfieldcollege.edu

Mon 10/17/2022 3:27 PM

I am a table grape grower and was present during the Delano Grape strike. I just hope that your proposed class will tell both sides of the story.

Tom Pavich

Delano, CA

To: bc_curriculum@bakersfieldcollege.edu

Mon 10/17/2022 3:39 PM

To Whom It May Concern on the BC Academic Curriculum Committee:

Regarding: Non-credit courses "Landmarks in California History" and "César E. Chávez Leadership Certificate of Completion."

As a resident of Kern County, a champion of higher education, and a college graduate with a master's degree in educational leadership, I support the approval of the two non-credit courses at Bakersfield College designed by Oliver Rosales. These courses highlight the fact that Kern County, my home, was an integral part of our national civil rights and labor rights movement of the 1960's.

To be completely frank, as a college graduate from the University of San Diego, California, I was embarrassed to have to go all the way to San Diego to learn about the rich civil rights and labor rights movement history that occurred in Kern County, my home. This needs to be taught here, where the work of Dolores Huerta and Cesar Chavez began. This is NOT a matter of partisan politics. This is a matter of factual history that cannot and should not be erased as The Renegade Institute for Liberty is suggesting by blocking the approval of these courses.

To: bc_curriculum@bakersfieldcollege.edu

Mon 10/17/2022 6:05 PM

To Whom it May Concern,

As a former Renegade and past Kern resident for 40 years I'm asking that you keep these important classes in your curriculum. It is vital to the diversity of CA and Kern that we teach the true history and not bend to right wing ideologies that wish to erase our culture and people.

Joey Williams

To: bc_curriculum@bakersfieldcollege.edu

Mon 10/17/2022 6:07 PM

Subject: The Necessity of UFW

Urgent! We have heard!

Two non-credit courses at Bakersfield Community College related to farm labor history are at risk of not being approved by the Curriculum Committee. One is called "Landmarks in California History, the other, "Cesar E. Chavez Leadership Certificate of Completion".

Please read this article for more info.

https://www.bakersfield.com/columnists/jose-gaspar/jose-gaspar-proposed-courses-at-bc-draw-scrutiny/article_3b0554cc-4d76-11ed-894b-5399c8b3516c.html

70% of BCC is Latinx and BCC is a 'Hispanic Serving Institution', yet a right-wing non-inclusive group of mostly faculty on campus, The Renegade Institute for Liberty, is not only pushing false propaganda about the UFW, Dolores, and about the curriculum to stop the courses, but members of the group actually sit on the Curriculum Committee! This is a major issue of education, and clearly these humans are operating from totalitarian colonial mindset that restricts access to information!

Many of us are showing up to support Oliver Rosales, the teacher working hard to pass these courses, in person on Thur 10/20. We must continue to stand in solidarity who have sacrificed SO MUCH to achieve basic rights and human(e) recognition.

People across California are paying attention!

Regards With Love (For the Trees),

Mánu

To: bc_curriculum@bakersfieldcollege.edu

Mon 10/17/2022 7:55 PM

Dear BC Academic Curriculum Committee,

I would like to introduce myself. My name is Shirley King and I am a sophomore in High-school. I live in California City which is part of Kern County. I am here covering the topics of the non-credit courses "Landmarks in California History" and "Cesar E. Chavez Leadership Certificate of Completion." As a leader of the future these courses would help other paint a picture into the past to see the struggles and everything we went through to

get where we are today. We shouldn't be blocking the history for others because of our beliefs.

These courses that were introduced weren't part of partisan politics. It was introduced as a part of history. We should be teaching this history, which is part of our county. For us not being provided this history would be wrong and not beneficial for us not to repeat history. We should be learning what took place, why it took place, and how we solved that problem.

In conclusion, you should approve the non-credit courses for providing history to those who would like to learn about Kern history. We should not be revoking the approval of these courses because of the allegations of partisan politics which is not being part of the two courses. Thank you for reading this and I hope you make the right decision.

Sincerely,

--

Shirley King

To: bc_curriculum@bakersfieldcollege.edu

Mon 10/17/2022 8:14 PM

Dear Curriculum Committee,

Thank you for your work on this committee, including in discerning right fit of proposed new classes at BCC. I write as a fellow Californian and colleague in the broader field of education.

The following news came to my attention, about two proposed, non-credit courses:

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=635878061375074&id=100048586580019&ev=AfbC7GnRa-retzEcqqoVjhQH2twjiVHrWpno5kQjgmfltjSDeEv70EpYlK1etyU0VW8I

would like to know if you might be able to share more information about the curricula of the

courses, even the curricula themselves, so others might be able to learn more about these proposals.

With thanks and best wishes,

Christopher

To: bc_curriculum@bakersfieldcollege.edu

Mon 10/17/2022 8:19 PM

Why is there any controversy about facts? Teaching about what Cesar Chavez did and Dolores Huerta continues to do to uplift the lives of millions of Latinos and Latinas ought not be hidden at Bakersfield College. Their inspiration is the reason many Valley families have encouraged their children to pursue higher education.

Use common sense. Vote yes for these courses.

Eddy Laine

To: bc_curriculum@bakersfieldcollege.edu

Mon 10/17/2022 8:52 PM

I am writing to express my interest in the proposed migrant history courses to, hopefully, be taught at Bakersfield College. Such courses are long overdue in California, and this particular course (or courses) will certainly appeal to many, many residents of Kern since so much of California's agricultural history is from this very valley.

Deloras Huerta is (and should be) a respected hero in the Central Valley. In fact, she is well-known nationally for her support of the poorly paid, indigent farmworkers on whose backs California's agricultural economy was built. We owe so much to the migrant farmworkers and to those who struggled for fair wages and decent working conditions for all who work in the fields, including those who emigrated from the Dust Bowl states to work the fields and orchards of the Central Valley. Many of these migrants came to California with very little, and we must acknowledge their heroism and struggles.

So many of these migrants have raised children who have become upstanding citizens, college graduates, professionals and leaders in our communities. Many also sent large amounts of their wages home to families (including parents) still living south of the border.

Those objecting to migrant history courses are simply not well enough informed or generous and thoughtful enough to appreciate the struggles of migrants who have contributed so much to our lives in Kern County and elsewhere. I see no reason not to celebrate the history of the struggles of those people who have built lives here. In fact, the proposed curriculum sounds solid, inspirational, and very informative.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Bell