Project California Regional Ethnic Studies Collaborative (CRESC)  
Quarter 1 Public Report, July–September 2023

The purpose of this public report is to highlight key statewide events during the second year first quarter (July 2023 to September 2023) of Project CRESC. The focus of this quarter has been to continue to build statewide, regional, and local systems of support to implement ethnic studies in schools, design the professional development for the 2023-24 school year (Goal 1) and design the statewide hub (Goal 2). This initiative leverages the current California System of Support, including the following county offices of education (COEs) to lead ethnic studies in their respective geographic lead areas: Far North (Glenn); Bay Area (Alameda); Capital, Central, Foothills (San Joaquin); North Bay/North Coast (Sonoma); Mid-state (Santa Cruz); Valley to Coast (Los Angeles); and Southern CA (San Diego and Riverside).

The leadership team (San Diego and Riverside COEs) met weekly in September to plan the monthly statewide regional collaborative meetings, provide resources, and support the regions to hold their own regional collaborative meetings. Likewise, the regional leads continued to coordinate local workgroup leads to curate, design, and vet regional ethnic studies classroom-ready resources and guides to support program implementation and lesson design for the following areas: (1) Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum: African American Studies, Asian American and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Studies, Chicana/o/x and Latina/o/x American Studies, Native American Studies, Arab American Studies, Armenian American Studies, Jewish American Studies, and Sikh American Studies; (2) high school: history–social science, ethnic literature, world languages, visual and performing arts; (3) design thinking: community-based pedagogies, systems improvement; and (4) TK-8: elementary pathways, dual language, and visual and performing arts.

The leadership team also collaborated with the California Department of Education and project partners to adjust timelines to meet the new contract execution date, met with Kern County Office of Education’s California Educators Together to continue to design the statewide hub to house the curriculum, met with ethnic studies experts who serve on the project advisory to address specific projects, and planned four statewide professional development sessions for the 2023-24 SY. During Year 2 Quarter 2, the first two professional development session will be held: Session 1 (Oct. 12) Contextualize: Empathize and Design; Session 2 (Nov. 16) Design Implementation: Inquire and Imagine; Session 3 (Feb 15) Prototype and Try; and Session 4 (March 14) Sustainability.