

HB 3979: SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM

In light of the recent passage of HB 3979, Critical Race Theory (CRT) has been a topic of conversation, and we want to inform our community that CRT is not taught in Keller ISD.

WHAT IS CRT?

CRT is a discipline and analytical tool that originated in the 1970s. It is primarily used in university-level courses. It was originally used as a tool for law students to think critically about the impact racism has on the legal system.



IS CRT PART OF THE KELLER ISD CURRICULUM?

No. Keller ISD teaches the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) that are adopted by the Texas State Board of Education. CRT is not and has never been part of the Keller ISD curriculum.

HOW DO TEACHERS HANDLE CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES IN CLASS?

Keller ISD board policy EMB(Local) has been in place for almost 20 years. This policy requires teachers to address controversial topics in an impartial and objective manner. It mandates that teachers will not use the classroom to transmit personal beliefs.



DOES HB 3979 ONLY APPLY TO SOCIAL STUDIES CLASSROOMS?

Most of HB 3979 applies to required social studies courses, but there are portions that apply more broadly. Any time controversial issues come up in class, though, policy EMB(Local) applies and teachers should handle those conversations with care.

DOES HB 3979 PREVENT US FROM TALKING ABOUT DIVERSITY?

No. HB 3979 does not prohibit school districts from doing work to support all students. One of Keller ISD's values is that we have respect for the diversity of our school community through a culture of understanding and personalized learning opportunities. That has not changed.

