

K-12 AAPI Curriculum Bill - Public Act No. 22-80

A significant component of this mental health bill that passed during the 2022 legislative session, is the creation of a state-funded K-12 AAPI curriculum as part of the social studies component in school districts. Such Asian American and Pacific Islander studies shall include, but need not be limited to, a focus on (1) the history of Asian American and Pacific Islanders in the state, the region and the United States, and (2) the contributions of (A) Asian American and Pacific Islanders towards advancing civil rights from the nineteenth century to the present day, (B) individual Asian American and Pacific Islanders in government, the arts, humanities and sciences, and (C) Asian American and Pacific Islander communities to the economic, cultural, social and political development of the United States. The bill includes the provision of a paid position dedicated to inclusion and diversity to aid in the implementation of this curriculum and other related endeavors.

2022 Regional Summit on Innovation & Inclusivity, co-hosted with the White House Initiative on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders (WHIAANHPI)

CWCSEO collaborated with WHIAANHPI to host a regional summit to discuss and evaluate what more can be done in the work of inclusion, collaboration, and opportunity. The Summit celebrated the passage of CT's state-funded K-12 AAPI curriculum as a victory in inclusive education and utilized the momentum of a spotlighted moment to shed light on the contributions made by these minority communities to our nation. This event assisted in fostering connection and collaboration locally, regionally, and federally to bolster the foundation of this forthcoming work.

Inclusivity in Education: A Virtual Roundtable on AAPI Curriculum and Other Ethnic Studies

Following the passage of the AAPI curriculum, statewide education leaders, community members, and educators convened to engage in a dialogue surrounding the passage of the AAPI K-12 curriculum - what it means for the trajectory of education in learning spaces across the state, and the overarching importance of ethnic studies.

"Dear Colleague" Letter with CHRO

CWCSEO partnered with the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunity (CHRO) to publish a "Dear Colleague" letter regarding workplace discrimination. The purpose of this letter is to remind you that, in addition to being a Federal Civil Rights violation, harassment and bullying based on race, color, religion or creed, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, age, intellectual, mental or physical disability, perceived disability, sexual orientation or gender identity or expression or status as a veteran constitute a violation of Connecticut laws. Furthermore, CHRO has jurisdiction over complaints of discrimination based on the protected classes listed above, and Connecticut law often provides more protections to individuals than may be available under the Federal law.