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CSU Education Deans' Statement in Support of Culturally Sustaining, Equity Driven and Justice Focused Pedagogies

As leaders of Colleges and Schools of Education in the California State University System (CSU), we directly oppose any theory, practice or action that interferes with the educational process. Our goal is to ensure that we prepare educators who can uplift, inspire and engage students, all students. We will continue to provide educators with the tools that will allow them to embed student culture and lived experiences, including but not limited to, language, race and ethnicity into the curriculum so that each educator can engage each student. We are educators and that is our job. It is our responsibility to prepare educators to value and educate all children. To do so, future educators must recognize children's individual strengths and needs, the community cultural wealth they bring with them to the classroom, and the systemic challenges and opportunities that impact their experiences in TK12 schools. This requires that future educators grapple with the realities of structural racism in our society.

We strongly affirm that educators, not elected officials, should make decisions about teaching and learning. We reject the inappropriate and uninformed political attacks on any pedagogical approaches, including Critical Race Theory, and in doing so, we support academic freedom in its broadest sense.

We continue to stand with educators, faculty, students and alumni who engage culturally sustaining, equity-driven and justice-focused pedagogical practices that improve learning opportunities for all students.

Signed by:

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