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Sample email

I am a _____ of _____ School District and I'm writing to express my support for culturally responsive curricula in our schools.

I am deeply concerned with reports that educators, administrators, parents, and students across the State are facing hostility and intimidation for supporting diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice respecting both school policies and curricula.

(add personal story - optional)

Whether we're Black or White, Latino or Asian, Native or newcomer, we want our kids to have an education that encourages them to dig deeper into who we are, where we came from and what we're capable of being. This requires teaching young people to think critically, to ask questions, and to dive into the complexity of our social fabric and grapple with issues such as racism, sexism, xenophobia, homophobia, and what it means to live in a pluralistic society.

[Research](#) shows that students who see positive representations of themselves in their curriculum have improved educational outcomes. For students of color as well as White students, culturally responsive education decreases dropout rates and suspensions, increases student participation, confidence, academic achievement and graduation rates. (Also see this [factsheet](#))

As a member of our Board of Education, I am counting on you to stand for the implementation of truthful, culturally responsive curricula in our schools, which is consistent with The New York State Board of Regents Policy on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion [NYSED Diversity](#). As parents/community members, we know that our children/communities must have the tools and guidance to honestly face and understand our past and present to create a better future. This must be a comprehensive approach, considering all aspects of the education process and its stakeholders. Therefore, I support establishing a district Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee **(or "framework" if your district has a committee)**, representative of all stakeholders, including students.

A DEI committee **(or "framework" if your district has a committee)** can help create learning opportunities and steps to enhance the level of socioeconomic and racial diversity within district schools even if the district's student population is relatively homogeneous. They can also ensure coursework, programs, and activities are accessible to all students, regardless of their disability status, native language, income level, or any other basis.

I ask that you utilize the NYSED DEI action plan as a framework for implementation. For a DEI strategy to work, leadership must model the behavior, values, and norms that foster an equitable and inclusive community.