

Testimony for Native Studies

I support all students learning about Native American/ Indigenous tribal nations whose lands they currently occupy. Multiple lens allows for the critical development of thinking skills and positive social emotional skills. There is power in gaining access and awareness to knowledge and teachings of indigenous people, and an appreciation for the resilience and tenacity of these living cultural teachings and stories despite systemic attempts to silence the language, ways of being and stories of tribal people, we are still here and we are your neighbors and constituents.

It does not take away anything tangible from students to learn more about and grow to appreciate their indigenous neighbors and fellow students and families lived experiences.

Respectfully,

Tipiziwin Tolman