

SB 3: Curriculum Requirements & Provisions

With the recent passage of SB 3 relating to curriculum in public schools, GCISD is providing information regarding our curriculum, classroom discussion of current controversial issues, and Critical Race Theory.

Does SB 3 only apply to certain classes?

SB 3 applies to all K-12 courses. As such, GCISD will not require or make part of any course the elements listed in the legislation and perceived as components of CRT. Courses will continue to be taught around concepts as they are addressed in the TEKS, incorporating multiple perspectives as appropriate to the standards.

How do teachers discuss controversial issues in class?

GCISD Board Policy EMB(LOCAL) has been in place for almost 20 years. The policy states the District shall address controversial topics in an impartial and objective manner. GCISD administrators and teachers have received training regarding District expectations for teaching about controversial issues, which included discussions of relevant legislation and Board Policy EMB(LOCAL).

What is Critical Race Theory?

Critical Race Theory, or CRT, is a discipline and analytical tool that originated in the 1970's. Primarily used for university-level courses, it was originally used as a tool for law students to think critically about the impact racism has had on the legal system.

Is CRT part of the GCISD curriculum?

No. The curriculum used in GCISD does not include instruction on Critical Race Theory. The **Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills**, or TEKS, are state standards for what students should know and be able to do in each grade level. These are developed by the State Board of Education, in consultation with stakeholders including educators, parents and community partners. Following a public hearing and approval, the standards are then shared with school districts across the state. Should a student choose to enroll in an advanced course such as Advanced Placement or Dual Credit, they will be taught in accordance with the standards and guidelines for those courses - some of which are national standards outside the scope of the TEKS.

