

**VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

MEETING DATE	March 11, 2025
TO	Board of Education
FROM	Mark Thompson, Assistant Superintendent – Learning and Leadership
PRESENTER	Breanne Phillips, Administrator – Teaching and Learning

ITEM TITLE	Adoption of Instructional Materials for Ethnic Studies - Second Read
RECOMMENDED ACTION	Approve
AGENDA SECTION	Consent Agenda

BACKGROUND SUMMARY

In accordance with Education Code 60002 & 60400 and Board Policy 6161.1 & 6142.95, Visalia Unified School District convened teacher committees in Grades 9-12 for the review and selection of materials for use in Ethnic Studies. Parents and the community have been provided the opportunity to comment and provide feedback on materials under consideration. The adoption of standards-aligned instructional materials meets district and state mandates, ensuring standards-aligned instruction.

The Ethnic Studies Committee recommends the Board of Education approve Gibbs Smith Education (GSE) publisher, *Voices: An Ethnic Studies Survey*. The cost of the materials for implementation for the 2025-2026 school year includes student digital licenses, student print edition, teacher spiral bound guide, and teacher digital licenses. Implementation training and support will be available for the life of the 8-year adoption.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

\$77,244.61 from Supplemental and Concentration Funds.

ALIGNS TO DISTRICT BELIEFS AND COMMITMENTS

All students can achieve at high levels and demonstrate continuous growth

- Providing high-quality learning experiences that allow all students to reach their fullest potential
- Equipping students and staff with the educational tools necessary for achievement and growth

Learning environments should be safe, supportive, and innovative

- Providing all students the academic and social supports needed to be successful
- Designing learning environments that drive innovative practices to improve student outcomes