



STATE OF GEORGIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
ATLANTA 30334-0090

Brian P. Kemp
GOVERNOR

July 24, 2024

Superintendent Richard Woods
205 Jesse Hill Jr. Dr SE
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Superintendent Woods,

Following the announcement that your office declined to recommend the Advanced Placement (AP) African American Studies course for approval by the State School Board for this upcoming academic year, my staff has received multiple questions from various stakeholders regarding the decision and how it was reached. Though my office does not have any role in these recommendation decisions or approval of curricula, I along with others within my administration would like to learn more about what went into the decision not to recommend this course for approval.

Specifically, I have the following questions:

- Did the state fund the pilot of the AP African American Studies course?
- If so, how much did the pilot cost the state?
- Was the curriculum for this course reviewed before the pilot?
- If so, why has your opinion changed since this initial review?
- What specific parts of the curriculum do you cite for the concerns leading to your decision not to recommend the course for approval?
- Over the past 10 years, how many pilot AP courses have been recommended by the state and how many have not been recommended?
- How many students participated in the pilot of the AP African American Studies course?
- Which districts participated in the pilot of the course?

- What specific reasons went into the decision not to recommend the AP African American Studies course for approval by the Board?
- Are there any district-level concerns with using the existing African American Studies course as opposed to the AP course?

As you know, the wellbeing of Georgia's children and their educational opportunities is one of my top priorities. As a long-time believer that families should ultimately make the decisions which best meet their child's academic needs and futures, I would appreciate your attention to the above questions and any answers you and your staff can provide in a timely manner.

Sincerely,



Brian P. Kemp

cc:

Members of the Georgia State Board of Education