

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) is determined to “redefine” mathematics education, and the pathways to actual knowledge and skill within this field of study. VDOE has partnered with the State Council of Higher Education of Virginia, and the Virginia Community College System, and together they are collaborating to introduce “Social Justice Mathematics” to Virginia public schools. Their vehicle to achieve this is the Virginia Mathematics Pathways Initiative (VMPI).

Ethnomathematics will be the cornerstone of the VMPI’s standard for mathematics education, if the joint task force is successful in implementing their radical concepts of mathematics education. Ethnomathematics has become the standard in liberal states such as Oregon, Seattle, Hawaii, New York, and many others. Seattle was so bold as to stand-up an *Ethnic Studies Advisory Committee* in 2019. Their entire focus was to “redesign the district’s core subject curricula based on identity politics”. If there is any doubt about VDOE’s intent here, one only has to review their Mathematics Pathways Initiative resource list on their website. It includes such articles as “Mathematics Education through the Lens of Social Justice: Acknowledgement, Actions, and Accountability”.

This is the sole, indisputable, purpose of ethnomathematics, and the intent of the VDOE. All 132 Virginia public school divisions receive their marching orders from VDOE and the state legislature. We need members of this community to engage with VDOE and their Mathematics Pathways Initiative now, while they are still at the informational/community response stage of planning. Take a moment to submit a comment to the VDOE, expressing our disapproval of this radical change in time-tested and responsible education in mathematics. Share news of this impending attack with those in your circle and ask them to post comments as well.

The VDOE has a Google Form that can be used to submit questions/comments. An email can be sent to the VMPI via vdoe.mathematics@doe.virginia.gov

References:

<https://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/mathematics/vmpi/index.shtml#time>
<https://www.brookings.edu/opinions/ethnomathematics/>
<https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2019/12/06/ethn-d06.html>