

My name is Karen Starchvick, and I am a member of the Medford School Board, speaking for myself.

Please support SB683.

People are not born racist, they are indoctrinated. One need only look at the rise of membership in hate groups in Oregon and this nation to understand the need to educate our youth on the racist roots of Oregon's statehood and the founding of this country. If we do not teach the mistakes of the past, we risk repeating them. Education is the great equalizer. If we empower our youth today (future leaders of tomorrow) with the history of systemic racism and existence today, then and only then, can we hope to eradicate it.

Thank you.