

Resolution Regarding the MTA's Curricular Materials on the Israel-Gaza Conflict

WHEREAS, the Massachusetts Teachers Association (MTA) has developed and disseminated resources related to the Israel-Gaza conflict and its history, which are deeply one-sided and contain unambiguous antisemitic elements; and

WHEREAS, these particular materials present an extreme and biased ideology that is harmful to the Jewish community and offensive to all those seeking a balanced and fair understanding of this international issue; and

WHEREAS, the MTA's agenda in releasing these materials has been critically and publicly exposed by the Massachusetts Governor's Special Commission on Combating Antisemitism; and

WHEREAS, the use of these materials in any school district could create an environment that undermines the values of impartial education and mutual respect among students and staff of diverse backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, Massachusetts public schools strive to foster an educational setting that is respectful, historically accurate, and free from discrimination;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the undersigned school committee, strongly cautions school districts across the state of Massachusetts from utilizing the MTA's materials related to the Israel-Gaza conflict; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we, the undersigned school committee, calls for school districts to follow Instructional Materials policy to prevent the dissemination of antisemitic discriminatory content in our public schools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we, the undersigned, calls for school districts to follow the guidelines reiterated by the United States Department of Education Office of Civil Rights in a letter dated May 25, 2023 of "schools' legal obligation under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI) to provide all students, including Jewish students, a school environment free from discrimination based on race, color, or national origin, including shared ancestry or ethnic characteristics".

SIGNED:

Resources:

1. U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights, Letter of May 25, 2023 (<https://www.ed.gov/sites/ed/files/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/antisemitism-dcl.pdf>)
2. U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights, Fact Sheet: <https://www.ed.gov/sites/ed/files/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/ocr-factsheet-shared-ancestry-202301.pdf> (January 2023).
3. [Curriculum Guidelines](#) (Policy Manual - File: IJ - Instructional Materials; MA School Districts including Arlington, Bedford, Framingham, Lexington, Lynn, Malden, Newton, Plymouth, Swampscott, Watertown, Westborough, Worcester)
4. Appendix of AJC Report of Politicization of K-12 Classrooms and the MTA Curricular Resources - <https://url.us.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/xlDvCM851gcyABAVhwf5c89UNZ?domain=ajc.org>