



Written by [Selwyn Duke](#) on March 23, 2026

Failing Calif. School District Spends \$610K for Black Kids to Learn Rap

The Merced City School District isn't exactly killing it — unless, that is, what it's killing are its students' academic fortunes. Only about 22 percent of its pupils are proficient at math, just 35 percent at reading. Black kids in the majority Hispanic California district are doing considerably worse still, too. So in response, you might expect its education officials to emphasize discipline and the three R's.

Instead, they've spent \$610,000 teaching black students how to rap.

Moreover, while the program is supposedly designed to eradicate "hate and ignorance," its rap "take[s] direct aim at white patriarchy."



Schoolyard Rap/Facebook

Read It (If You're Not a Merced Student You May Be Able to) and Weep

The *New York Post* reported on the current story Saturday, [writing](#):

In January, the Merced City School District in the Central Valley — one of the state's lower-performing school districts based on test performances — signed a \$270,000 agreement with Fresno-based School Yard Rap [SYR], which describes its approach to learning as "edutainment."

The contracts include a summer "Rap Camp" and an "African American Affinity Group", which is capped for 100 African American students, raising questions about whether the programming complies with federal law.

... In a little over a year, Merced has handed out three contracts worth a total of \$610,000 to School Yard Rap, which operates across 28 states, including New York, New Jersey and Texas.

Programming includes history lessons, songwriting, DJing and performances.

The camp focuses "on African American history and the diaspora," adds its founder, ex-schoolteacher Brandon Brown.

Now, as indicated, some believe the program runs afoul of federal anti-discrimination law. The camp is on Washington's radar, too, though no investigation has yet been launched.

Responding to this, Brown calls the allegations "politically driven." He claims his camp "is open to every



Written by [Selwyn Duke](#) on March 23, 2026

single student grades 3rd to 8th.” But whether or not all children will have equal opportunity to be degraded by the program is not the point.

Degradation is, too, many would say, what’s being delivered. While Brown claims that “more information about the culture of others ‘helps eradicate a lot of hate and ignorance in the country,’” [related](#) The College Fix, just consider some of the program’s content. As the Fix reported:

According to its website, School Yard Rap’s “vision” is “Equity all year, Diversity every day.”

One of its “signature programs” called “Moor than a Month” features Brown (as “Griot B”) in the style of the hip hop group Migos and “take[s] direct aim at white patriarchy.”

“History books have a white male skew, but believe me I ain’t blaming you,” the lyrics state. “That’s who wrote it on paper — it’s a cycle by nature. We give what we got, but I’m here to break it and bring education on what is not taught, trust it’s a lot.”

A related tweet follows.



Written by [Selwyn Duke](#) on March 23, 2026



Owen Gregorian 

@OwenGregorian · [Follow](#)



Poor-performing California school district shells out \$600,000 for 'rap' curriculum | Dave Huber, The College Fix

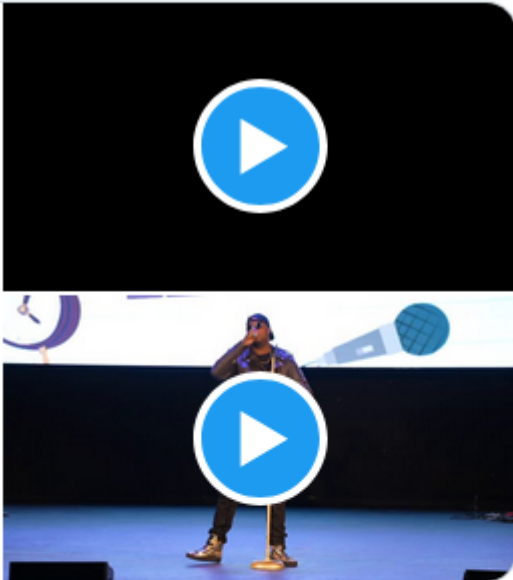
33 percent of students are proficient in reading, 20 percent in math

A central California K-8 school district is under scrutiny for spending hundreds of thousands [Show more](#)

SCHOOL YARD RAP'S PROPOSAL
MERCED CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

African American Affinity (AAA) Camp: School Yard engage select students in a powerful affinity experience community. Each day includes two group sessions for providing a supportive and culturally affirming space, songs, create those songs and selected topics, record perform the songs in front of their parents and community. During the program, students will:

- **Explore Identity and Community:** Reflect on the African American culture in shaping resilience and
- **Learn Artistic Skills:** Receive hands-on training in songwriting.
- **Create Original Works:** Develop songs on meaningful their voices and perspectives.
- **Record in a Studio Environment:** Experience the reinforcing pride and accomplishment.
- **Perform for Families & Community:** Share their celebrating achievement and cultural pride with parents



5:43 AM · Mar 23, 2026 

 16
  Reply
  [Copy link to post](#)

[Read 5 replies](#)

Note one line from the song above:

I'mma be black every day that I'm here, no cap, for more than a month, just like every black kid in class.

Also consider that in the second video above, Brown is seen demagogically teaching the children left-wing, activism-oriented slogans. Now, question:

Is this what black kids really need?

Realize here that a philosophy of bitterness, racialism, anger, and "victimology" already often plagues



Written by [Selwyn Duke](#) on March 23, 2026

these youngsters. Programs such as this — which essentially claim that sound education is “white” and thus illegitimate — only exacerbate the problem.

Worse still is that SYR is but one example of school districts wasting taxpayer dollars on bizarre, destructive teaching models. Just consider another: the offerings of the Pacific Educational Group (PEG). It has collected millions of dollars for [teaching “white privilege” peppered with Marxist dogma to America’s schoolteachers](#).

And how much does the United States spend on corruptive new pedagogies provided by SYR- and PEG-like groups overall? That’s hard to ascertain. But the total over recent years is likely more than \$100 million — and perhaps far higher.

The Real Issue

Now, animating this, of course, is the underlying and persistent cultural devolutionary effort to destroy Western civilization. But there’s also a more innocuous-sounding rationale: the idea that blacks, and other groups, need curricula specially tailored for *them*. (This notion was expressed in Louis Farrakhan’s [claim](#), “A White Man’s Heaven Is a Black Man’s Hell.”) So it’s feminism for girls, Latino pride for Hispanics, afro-centrism for blacks, etc. The issue?

Different races, ethnicities, and sexes are not different species. While there are differences among groups, everyone needs certain basic things. We all require, for example, survival needs satisfied, such as food, water, and shelter. All humans also need love to develop properly and flourish. Commonalities exist with educational requirements as well.

That is, all students must be taught what is *objectively true and important*.

For instance, history is supposed to present significant events and people from the past, especially, in our case, those relating to Western civilization. And what if this means the vast majority of our historical figures will be white men? This is then for the same reason why 75 percent of NBA players are black men. It reflects achievement in the given realm.

With English teaching, too, standards must be non-negotiable, with our common tongue taught in its proper form. Oh, sure, language norms *are* often relative. What’s not so, however, is the truth that people need a common language spoken in a common way to bind them together. And, of course, it should be even more apparent that math and science concern what’s objectively true.

Academic Asininity

Despite this, consider what we’ve heard from the educational establishment. Mathematics “[operates as Whiteness](#),” [punctuality and industriousness are “white norms](#),” and [Standard American English “privileges white communities](#).” Going back even further is the notion of “white male linear logic.” Such theories attack sound education’s credibility and are thus destructive; *they harm kids*. These ideas deserve no tolerance — and those spreading them should be removed from education.

And why is this happening? Money is a factor, of course. SYR, PEG, and other such entities get rich peddling their educational snake oil. As for the school districts, they’re not just failing — but flailing in vain. Awash in relativism, their officials don’t believe in the objective. They don’t know or understand the virtues and that all children need them. They don’t grasp that attempting education is a waste of time without first securing discipline and obedience among the students. (Why? Well, how can someone learn from you without first *listening* to you? Listening is a prerequisite for learning.)



Written by [Selwyn Duke](#) on March 23, 2026

So, instead, they buttress the illusion they're accomplishing legitimate goals via lavish spending on the latest shiny thing. Then they can, too, tell the parents about all the resources they've devoted to "cutting-edge pedagogies."

Oh, and after this, Tyrone may still not be able to read — but he'll sure know that "I'mma be black every day."



Subscribe to the New American

Get exclusive digital access to the most informative,
non-partisan truthful news source for patriotic Americans!

Discover a refreshing blend of time-honored values, principles and insightful perspectives within the pages of "The New American" magazine. Delve into a world where tradition is the foundation, and exploration knows no bounds.

From politics and finance to foreign affairs, environment, culture, and technology, we bring you an unparalleled array of topics that matter most.



Subscribe

What's Included?

- 24 Issues Per Year
- Optional Print Edition
- Digital Edition Access
- Exclusive Subscriber Content
- Audio provided for all articles
- Unlimited access to past issues
- Coming Soon! Ad FREE
- 60-Day money back guarantee!
- Cancel anytime.