

**TO: DR. CAROL KELLY, SUPERINTENDENT, OAK PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
DISTRICT 97**

FROM: DAVID J. SELEB, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OAK PARK PUBLIC LIBRARY

RE: THE MULTICULTURAL CENTER COLLECTION

DATE: APRIL 21, 2016

School District 97 has provided years of important educational opportunities for its students and families through its Multicultural Center Collection. Encouraging diversity and inclusion, achieving greater equity, and teaching tolerance are Oak Park values. We know this because the community has told us these values are important as it strives to live them everyday. Those values are part of the library's strategic priorities and inform the decisions we make regarding our services, our programs, and our materials.

The school district has stated that it must find a new location for this essential collection, and the library thinks that it is positioned to be your partner in that objective. As I have discussed with you over the past few months, the library thinks that our branch library space at the Dole Learning Center, 255 Augusta Street, would be an excellent place for the collection's new home. The library's Board of Trustees has discussed this and is excited by the possibilities this partnership presents.

Of course, other conversations must take place and a good deal of work would be required to accomplish this. But the library thinks it is a worthy objective. Under the care of library staff, the collection would continue to be a resource not only for the students and teachers of District 97 but would be more accessible to the entire community than ever. With resources committed to the care and development of all library collections, the multicultural collection would receive the same personal, professional care it has always received with the potential for greater growth and development.

The library is most interested to learn what the board members of District 97 think of this proposal, and we look forward to continuing the conversation with you.

Yours,



David