

HUENEME ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Resolution B16-17-08

Board of Education Commitment to the Education of All Children and Making All Campuses a Safe Zone for Students and Families

WHEREAS: The vision of the Hueneme Elementary School District is “Inspiring and empowering every student to thrive every day”; and

WHEREAS: The mission of the Hueneme Elementary School District states that “We will Inspire our students to explore, dream big, and develop social and civic responsibility through a balanced learning program. They will Thrive as we foster perseverance and resiliency in a safe, culturally responsive, and inclusive community. We will Empower our students by teaching them critical thinking skills through a rigorous academic experience in a digitally-rich environment;” and

WHEREAS: Our City and County, just like many major cities in the United States, is the home and workplace of many immigrant communities, including persons with both documented and undocumented immigration status; and

WHEREAS: Our City and County, is home to and our HESD student body and staff consist of people of many different faiths and no faith; and

WHEREAS: Our City and County, is home to and our HESD student body and staff consist of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people; and

WHEREAS: All students have a right to attend school regardless of their immigration status. The United States Supreme Court in 1982 ruled in *Plyler v. Doe* that public schools were prohibited from denying students access to elementary and secondary public education based on their immigration status, citing that children have little control over their immigration status, the life-long harm it would inflict on the child and society itself, and constitutional equal protection rights; and

WHEREAS: The Board of Education embraces the diversity of our students and families and the rich language and cultural assets they bring to our District and strongly supports and encourages the participation of all parents and families in our schools;

WHEREAS: On November 8, 2016, California voters passed Proposition 58, which recognizes the value and importance of students graduating from our schools proficient in both English and one or more other languages and a diverse student population greatly helps in accomplishing this goal; and

WHEREAS: In the last few months, federal, state and local government officials throughout the country have proposed or passed laws and ordinances that propose stemming the tide of undocumented immigrants by cutting off opportunities for jobs, government benefits, housing, and imposing fines on companies employing undocumented immigrants, thereby increasing tensions in immigrant communities; and

WHEREAS: Reports of potential raids by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office (ICE) have caused immigrant communities to fear sending and/or accompanying their children to schools and leaving their homes, even for needed medical services; and

WHEREAS: ICE activities in and around school facilities would be a severe disruption to the learning environment and educational setting for students; and

WHEREAS: HESD prides itself on being a beacon of diversity, understanding and acceptance; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education, in solidarity with our diverse population, including immigrant community organizations, in light of the increasing tensions in immigrant communities, and the possible chilling effect on the educational rights of immigrant students and families by reports about ICE raids and proposals like some of the foregoing, the Board of Education hereby restates its position that all students have the right to attend school regardless of the immigration status of the child or of the child's family members; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education states that all District students, who register for the following services and meet the federal and state criteria, are entitled to receive all school services, including free lunch, free breakfast, transportation, and educational services, even if they or their family are undocumented and do not have a social security number and that no school district staff shall take any steps that would deny students access to education based on their immigration status or any steps that would "chill" the *Plyler* rights of these students to public education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Board declares that every District site is a safe place for all students and their families and encourages the Superintendent to increase and enhance partnerships with community-based organizations;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: In order to provide a public education, regardless of a child's or family's immigration status, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, race, gender or any other protected class under California law, including but not limited to disability, absent any applicable federal, state, local law or regulation or local ordinance or court decision, the District shall abide by the following conduct:

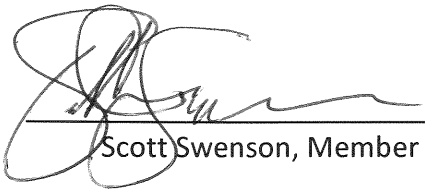
1. District personnel shall not treat students differently for residency determination purposes on the basis of their actual or perceived immigration status and shall treat all students equitably in the receipt of all school services, including but, not limited to, the free and reduced lunch program, transportation and educational instruction.
2. District personnel shall treat all students equitably regardless of immigration status, religion, gender, disability or sexual orientation.
3. District personnel shall review the list of documents that are currently used to establish residency and shall ensure that any required documents would not unlawfully bar or discourage a student who is undocumented or whose parents are undocumented from enrolling in or attending school.

4. District personnel shall not inquire about immigration status, including requiring documentation of a student's legal status, such as asking for a green card or citizenship papers, at initial registration or at any other time.
5. District personnel shall not make unreasonable inquiries from a student or his/her parents for the purpose of exposing the immigration status of the child or his/her family.
6. District personnel shall not require students to apply for Social Security numbers nor should the District require students to supply a Social Security number.
7. Because it is the general policy of the District not to allow any individual or organization to enter a school site if the educational setting would be disrupted by that visit, any request by ICE to visit a school site must be forwarded to the Superintendent's Office for review before a decision is made to allow access to the site.
8. All requests for information or documents related to immigration should be forwarded to the Superintendent, who in consultation with District legal counsel, shall determine if the information and/or documents can be released.

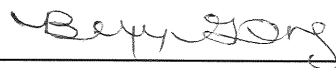
FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED: That the Superintendent shall ensure that all teachers, school administrators and school and District office and other staff will be appropriately and adequately trained on how to implement this policy; and

RESOLVED: That the Board instructs the Superintendent to post copies of this Resolution, translated into appropriate languages, on all district school web sites, and send copies to every school office and members of the District's DELAC – District English Learner Advisory Committee, and the Cities of Oxnard and Port Hueneme Mayors' Offices.

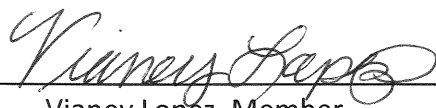
Approved and adopted by the Governing Board of the Hueneme Elementary School District on December 12, 2016.




Scott Swenson, Member




Bexy I. Gomez, Member



Vianey Lopez, Member



Charles Weis, Ph.D., Member



Darlene A. Bruno, Member