

RESOLUTION FOR SAFE SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, all children in the United States have the right to a free and appropriate public elementary and secondary education, regardless of their or their parents' actual or perceived national origin, citizenship or immigration status; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Mundelein Consolidated High School District No. 120, Lake County, Illinois, embraces its responsibility to welcome and educate all students and uphold its mission to provide an excellent and equitable education in every classroom, to every student, every day; and

WHEREAS, the Board is committed to ensuring that District schools and facilities are safe and welcoming places for all students and their families; where students are able to focus on their education, and be secure in knowing that the District will support their safety and emotional well-being regardless of immigration status, ethnicity, national origin, race, or religion; and

WHEREAS, families have expressed their concerns about sending their children to school out of fear that deportation will occur while their children are in school, or that immigration officials may involve our schools; and

WHEREAS, the District cannot and does not inquire regarding the immigration status of a student or the student's parents and/or guardians as part of the admissions process; and

WHEREAS, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) policy characterizes public schools as "sensitive locations" where immigration enforcement actions (such as detentions, arrests, interviews, searches, or surveillance) typically should not occur unless a situation involves exigent circumstances (such as matters concerning national security or terrorism, an imminent risk of death or violence or physical harm to any person or property, the immediate arrest or pursuit of a dangerous felon, or an imminent risk of destruction of evidence material to an ongoing criminal case) and, to date, the District has not had any contact by federal immigration authorities; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that it is in the best interests of its students, staff, families, and community to assure all students and families that the District will take lawful action to guard against disruptions to the educational environment that immigration enforcement actions may create.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF MUNDELEIN CONSOLIDATED HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 120, LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, as follows:

1. The Board reaffirms its commitment to provide an equal opportunity for all District students to attend and enjoy opportunities and benefits available in our schools, regardless of ethnicity, race, religion, national origin, or immigration status, and to be free from harassment and intimidation.

2. In its continued commitment to the protection of student privacy, the District will continue to refrain from inquiring about our students' immigration status.

3. The District shall do everything in its lawful power to protect our students' confidential information and ensure that our students' learning environments are not disrupted by immigration enforcement actions, including the following:

a. All District employees shall immediately contact the Superintendent (or designee) upon receipt of any request by a federal, state, or local agent or officer attempting to enforce federal immigration laws (a) for entry into any District school or other District property, (b) to communicate with any student while that student is under the supervision of the District during any school activity or while using District transportation, or (c) for any information about our students. No request shall be granted until it has been reviewed by the Superintendent (or designee).

b. In reviewing and responding to such requests, the Superintendent (or designee) will not allow access to our students unless required to do so by law. For example, access to any

student typically will be denied unless the official presents a valid search warrant issued by a federal or state judge or magistrate, or the official specifies that exigent circumstances are present.

c. In responding to requests for student information, the Superintendent (or designee) will ensure compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the Illinois School Student Records Act (ISSRA), and any other applicable limitation on disclosure.

4. The District shall provide training, and additional resources if needed, for its existing crisis and emergency response teams in order to help support the safety and well-being of our students who may be impacted by immigration enforcement actions.

5. The District shall post this Resolution at its school sites and distribute it to District staff and parents in the predominantly-used languages of the District.


6. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect upon its adoption.

Adopted this 17th day of October, 2017 by the following roll call vote:

A YE: Davalos, Mellon, Siegal, Quimet, Vogt

NAY: NONE

ABSENT: Anderson, Hitzke


Protem (Pro-Tem)
President, Board of Education
Mundelein Consolidated High School District No. 120

ATTEST:


Jane Siegel (pro-tem)
Secretary, Board of Education
Mundelein Consolidated High School District No. 120