

Dr. Rivas - Upholding Our Constitutional Rights and Standing with Immigrant Communities
(Res-086-24/25) (Waiver of Rule 72)

Whereas, The Los Angeles Unified School District (District) is home to one of the largest immigrant populations in the country, including millions of undocumented, mixed-status, and refugee families who contribute to the cultural, economic, and civic fabric of our communities;

Whereas, The District has both a legal duty and a moral responsibility to safeguard our schools against any policy, mandate, or directive that violates civil or human rights, endangers the dignity and safety of our students, educators, or families or undermines our constitutional protections such as due process, equal protection under the law, freedom of speech, and freedom from unreasonable searches and seizures;

Whereas, The District has reaffirmed its role as a sanctuary school district, committed to protecting the safety, rights, and educational access of all students and families, regardless of immigration status;

Whereas, Across the United States, including in Los Angeles, immigrant communities are under renewed attack through increased criminalization, dehumanizing rhetoric, and the rise of militarized responses to peaceful demonstrations, labor organizing, and community gatherings;

Whereas, Authoritarian and fascist movements, past and present, have sought to distort truth, stoke fear and division, target marginalized communities, blur the separation of powers, and seize control of public institutions – especially schools – to silence opposition and concentrate power;

Whereas, The deployment of militarized federal agents, armed forces, and National Guard personnel, into Los Angeles neighborhoods, without invitation from state and local officials or consultation with community stakeholders, undermines public trust, disrupts community well-being, and threatens our democratic principles;

Whereas, The presence of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) or any federal immigration enforcement agents on or near school campuses, or in connection with school operations, has a chilling effect on student attendance, family engagement, and school climate, particularly for undocumented and mixed-status communities;

Whereas, Immigrant residents are vital members of our communities – raising families, contributing to our schools and economy, building civic life, and advancing social justice – and deserve to live and work with dignity, safety, and respect;

Whereas, Immigration raids, racial profiling, surveillance, and the detaining of individuals in workplaces, courthouses, or our neighborhoods without warrants or regard for due process violates our fundamental rights and contradicts the values of equity and justice that LAUSD upholds; ~~and~~

Whereas, We have now witnessed multiple disturbing incidents in which children have been forcibly separated from their parents in their communities, ripped from their families' arms, left outside federal facilities and other locations without adult supervision, alone, scared, and traumatized exposing them to serious emotional harm and violating basic standards of human decency and child welfare, and

Whereas, Community members, advocates, and union members have shown courageous leadership in standing with immigrant families, and must be protected from criminalization or retaliation for exercising their fundamental rights and advocating for justice; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Governing Board of Education of the Los Angeles Unified School District reaffirms that all schools in the Los Angeles Unified School District are sanctuary spaces that protect the rights of every student, educator, staff, and family member – free from harassment, political intimidation, and cooperation with agencies engaged in unconstitutional or unethical actions, including immigration enforcement;

Resolved further, That the Board condemns the militarization of immigrant communities, including any uninvited deployment of federal agents, National Guard personnel, in our schools and communities without local request and transparent civilian oversight;

Resolved further, That the Board calls for the immediate rescission of the order to federalize the California National Guard, and the withdrawal of any National Guard, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), or armed forces presence related to federal immigration actions in or near schools, communities, or the general vicinity of school campuses, school-related activities, and District partnerships or operations, related to federal immigration actions;

Resolved further, That the Board calls for the immediate access of all detainees to their families and to legal counsel;

Resolved further, That the Board affirms the lawful and constitutionally protected actions of all individuals who have peacefully assembled to oppose federal overreach, the erosion of constitutional principles, and recent immigration raids in Los Angeles. The Board condemns the criminalization of such actions and calls for the full exoneration of all individuals unjustly targeted for peacefully exercising their rights;

Resolved further, That the Board calls on all levels of government to uphold the constitutional rights of immigrants and citizens alike, including the right to due process, freedom from racial profiling, and the right to work, live, and advocate without fear of intimidation or criminalization;

Resolved further, That the board vehemently denounces the detainment and deportation efforts of parents and their children while in the process of attending legally required immigration court proceedings, which have directly affected several LAUSD students and their families;

Resolved further, That the District commits to continue the measures it has taken in the wake of the recent immigration raids throughout the Summer of Learning to ensure that our students, families and school communities are directly informed when ICE presence is confirmed, to protect student safety, reduce fear and confusion, and uphold the District's sanctuary commitments;

Resolved further, That the Board urges all relevant federal, state, and local agencies to immediately prohibit the separation of children from their families during immigration enforcement and deportation proceedings, and to ensure that no child is placed in isolated or inhumane detention conditions, including cages or facilities lacking proper oversight, support services, or family contact. The District calls for full transparency and independent monitoring of any facility where children may be held to safeguard their rights, dignity, and well-being;

Resolved further, That the Superintendent shall ensure all relevant District divisions including the Office of Government Relations and Division of School of Operations in collaboration with the Office of Student, Family and Community Engagement, will work with community-based partners to inform immigrant students, families, and staff of their rights and to protect them from harm and to establish a streamlined, multilingual communication system in partnership with the City of Los Angeles, local cities, County agencies, and trusted community-based organizations to coordinate and respond to confirmed Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) sightings near schools or within District boundaries, in order to notify and prepare school sites, families, and students while prioritizing safety, legal rights, and trauma-informed support;

Resolved further, That the District is directed to establish clear and standardized protocols, including methods to verify immigration enforcement actions and the breadth of the radius of required school notifications within impacted neighborhoods and communities;

Resolved further, That the Superintendent shall ensure all relevant District divisions will work with community-based partners to inform immigrant students, families, and staff of their rights and to uphold the constitutional rights of our students ~~protect them from harm~~; and, be it finally

Resolved, That the Board affirms its unwavering commitment to building a community rooted in dignity, equity, and justice for all, and urges public leaders to reject the criminalization of immigrant communities and instead stand with them in solidarity and action.