

GLENDALE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

February 21, 2017

ACTION REPORT NO. 3

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Winfred B. Roberson, Jr., Superintendent

PREPARED IN: Office of the Superintendent

SUBJECT: Resolution No. 17 – Reaffirming all GUSD Campuses as Safe Havens for Students

The Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education adopts Resolution No. 17 – Reaffirming all GUSD Campuses as Safe Havens for Students

At its meeting on February 7, 2017, the Board of Education discussed adopting a resolution reaffirming that Glendale Unified School District will remain a safe place for learning and teaching of all students, regardless of immigration status. The accompanying resolution is now being presented to the Board of Education for adoption.

Glendale Unified School District's mission is to provide a high-quality education that addresses the unique potential of each student in a safe, engaging environment. Our District's nondiscrimination policy affirms that all district programs, activities, and practices shall be free from discrimination. The district will continue to provide a safe and engaging environment where all students are treated equally regardless of race, color, ancestry, national origin, nationality, ethnicity, ethnic group identification, age, religion, marital or parental status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or gender expression. This means that all students are embraced as full members of our school community, and that all students have a right to an education, regardless of any differences, including immigration status.

GLENDALE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Resolution No. 17

Reaffirming all GUSD Campuses as Safe Havens for Students

WHEREAS, the Board of Education recognizes that providing a high-quality education that addresses the unique potential of each student and maintaining a safe, engaging learning environment are critical to student success; and

WHEREAS, the District's nondiscrimination policy commits to providing a safe environment where all students are treated equally regardless of race, color, ancestry, national origin, nationality, ethnicity, ethnic group identification, age, religion, marital or parental status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or gender expression; and

WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court held in *Plyler v. Doe* (1982) that no public school district has a basis to deny children access to education based on their immigration status, citing that children have little control over their immigration status, the harm it would inflict on the child and society itself, and equal protection rights of the 14th Amendment; and

WHEREAS, migration to this country is often propelled by social, economic, and political factors and thus immigrants and their families are entitled to compassionate and humane treatment in this county; and

WHEREAS, Glendale Unified School District has an ethnically diverse student body where more than 49 different languages are spoken. The District is dedicated to cultivating an environment of acceptance, support, and kindness for all; and

WHEREAS, in order to provide students a supportive and non-threatening environment in which their learning flourishes, the physical safety and emotional well-being of all Glendale Unified School District students must be supported by assuring that our schools are safe and inviting for all students. The Glendale Unified School District has taken many steps to achieve these goals, including the adoption of policies that it will not tolerate any form of discrimination, harassment or bullying; and

WHEREAS, Glendale Unified School Districts welcomes all parents and guardians to participate in their school communities as engaged parents play a key role in helping our student succeed. The mission of Glendale Unified School District is harmed when parental participation is discouraged by fear that such involvement may expose parents or their children to adverse actions because of their immigration status.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Board of the Glendale Unified School District reaffirms that every District site is a safe place for its students and families, that all students are embraced as full members of our school community, and that all students have a right to an education, regardless of their immigration status.

RESOLVED FURTHER, in order to provide a public education, regardless of a child or family's immigration status, absent any applicable federal, state, or local law, regulation, ordinance or court decision, the District shall abide by the following conduct:

1. District personnel 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 not inquire about a student's immigration status, including that of family members;
3. Any request by Federal immigration officials for information or to access a school site shall be immediately forwarded to the Superintendent and General Counsel for review to ensure the safety of all students, as well as compliance with applicable state and federal laws.

ADOPTED this 21st day of February 2017 by the Glendale Unified School District Board of Education in Glendale, California by the following roll-call vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

Gregory S. Krikorian, Clerk
Glendale Unified School District Board of Education

Date