

**EL MONTE UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 21-24/25**

**SUPPORTING STUDENTS AND FAMILIES THREATENED BY IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT
December 2024**

WHEREAS, the vision of the El Monte Union High School District is to empower and motivate our students to be resilient, college and career-ready, lifelong learners and contributing members of our global society

WHEREAS, the El Monte Union High School District Board of Trustees is committed to the success of all students and believes that every school site should be a safe and welcoming place for all students and their families irrespective of their citizenship or immigration status; and

WHEREAS, the diversity of our student body, which includes immigrant students and families, enriches our schools, strengthens our community, and reflects the core values of equality and opportunity; and

WHEREAS, recent social and political developments may have heightened fear and anxiety among immigrant students and their families, potentially impacting their ability to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally; and

WHEREAS, students deserve to feel safe and honored for who they are;

WHEREAS, all students, regardless of their immigration status, are entitled to equal access to public education under federal law, as affirmed by the U.S. Supreme Court in *Plyler v. Doe* (1982); and

WHEREAS, federal guidance recognizes that “schools are protected spaces where federal immigration authorities should not conduct immigration activities.” Further, the guidance clearly states the federal agency’s belief that,

We can accomplish our enforcement mission without denying or limiting individuals’ access to needed medical care, children’s access to their schools, the displaced access to food and shelter, people of faith access to their places of worship, and more. Adherence to this principle is one bedrock of our stature as public servants.¹

WHEREAS, the School District values and prioritizes family and community partnerships, including in its strategic plan, knowing that our students need their parents, guardians, and other adults in their lives for their well-being, including their educational success; and,

WHEREAS, statements being made regarding possible actions to be taken at the federal level have caused some of the School District’s families, students, and staff to feel insecure and unsafe;

¹https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/21_1027_opa_guidelines-enforcement-actions-in-near-protected-areas.pdf

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WHEREAS, the Board is committed to policies and practices that support and represent the diverse people and families in our communities and assures that students can access their education as guaranteed by the California Constitution, and both California and federal law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the El Monte Union High School District Board of Trustees reaffirms its commitment to the safety and inclusion of all students, including immigrant students, and pledges to ensure that they are treated with dignity and respect; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the District will not collect information regarding the immigration status of students or their families, nor will it allow such information to be used in a manner that would jeopardize students' access to education or their families' well-being; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the District will continue to provide resources, training, and support to staff to recognize and respond to the needs of immigrant students and to foster an environment of cultural awareness, acceptance, and advocacy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent, with guidance from the District's Legal Counsel, shall respond to any request by federal immigration officials:

- for entry into any School District school or other School District property
- to communicate with any student while that student is under the supervision of the School District during any school activity or while using School District transportation
- for any information about our students or families

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent shall identify for the Board any updates to policies and procedures necessary to implement this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the EMUHSD shall post this Resolution at every school site and distribute it to School District staff and parents in all the predominantly used languages of the School District and shall broadly communicate the commitments of this Resolution.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the EMUHSD Board of Trustees stands united in its commitment to protecting the rights of immigrant students and creating schools where every child can learn, grow, and succeed without fear or discrimination.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the EMUHSD Board of Trustees on December 11, 2024, by the following vote

AYES: 4 NOES: 0 ABSENT: 1 ABSTAIN: 0



Ricardo Padilla, Board President



Edward A. Zuniga, Ed.D., Superintendent