

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
SAN DIEGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Resolution in the Matter of Reaffirming)
Values of Peace, Tolerance, and Respect for) **RESOLUTION**
Multiple Perspectives)

WHEREAS, San Diego Unified is committed to providing each and every child with a world-class education, and this commitment requires removing all social and emotional barriers to instruction; and

WHEREAS, the fears felt by some district students following the recent presidential election—fears that their friends, family, or loved ones are at risk of being harmed—pose significant barriers to their well-being and ability to learn; and

WHEREAS, the ability of San Diego Unified to support students who feel vulnerable will help both those individual students and will help create safer schools for all students we serve; and

WHEREAS, working to protect the rights of all students and their families is consistent with core district values of peace, compassion, tolerance, diversity, and inclusion; and

WHEREAS, support for vulnerable students is consistent with San Diego Unified’s long history of advocating for tolerance and assuring the safety of all students in our care, including most recently the introduction of online reporting mechanisms to stamp out bullying; and

WHEREAS, standing in solidarity with students and their families is unrelated to partisan politics and no single political party or leader has a monopoly on virtue, and the values of peace and tolerance belong equally to all Americans; and

WHEREAS, following the recent presidential election, the School Superintendents Association (AASA), the American School Counselor Association, GLSEN, the National Association of Elementary School Principals, the National Association of Secondary School Principals, the National PTA, the National School Boards Association, and the National Association of School Psychologists have urged all school district across the nation to reaffirm the inclusive values that are the foundation of healthy learning cultures; and

WHEREAS, immediately following the national election last month, the Superintendent and the leader of the district teacher’s union issued a joint letter to more than 17,000 San Diego Unified staff members reaffirming district schools must remain safe places for all students and families with respect and civility the guiding principles on every campus; and

WHEREAS, San Diego Unified students have reacted with grace and compassion and support for their peers following the recent election; and

WHEREAS, the San Diego Unified Family and Community Engagement Office is organizing an event to support the right of all students, regardless of race, color, national origin, immigration status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, or religion to be educated in an environment free from fear, violence, and intimidation; and

WHEREAS, the event to support all students has been named a Celebration of Light and scheduled for Wednesday, December 14, at 4:00 p.m. at the Ballard Parent Center in Old Town, located at 2375 Congress St, San Diego, California 92110.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Members of the Board of Education do hereby declare and affirm that no national election will change the values of peace, tolerance, and respect for multiple perspectives.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, we urge the entire county of San Diego to join the students, staff, and families of San Diego Unified at the Celebration of Light in Old Town on December 14, 2016.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, we urge the San Diego City Council to reaffirm its 2013 resolution supporting the rights of immigrant families to live without fear as full and equal members of a civic community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, we urge those immigrant families who are eligible for citizenship, but have not yet applied, to do so before the pending cost increase on December 23, 2016.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, we urge the Superintendent to continue working collaboratively with all community partners who share the commitment of San Diego Unified to safe and open school communities, including but not limited to the PTA, SDEA, CSEA, POA, AASD, and the United Way, Alliance San Diego, the ACLU and the internal accountability committees like CAC, DAC, and DELAC.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, we direct the Superintendent, teachers, counselors, and staff to take whatever steps necessary to maintain the safety and openness of the school community and to document these steps in an action plan to be presented to the Board within 90 days.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, we direct district General Counsel to issue a legal memorandum to all students and staff affirming the protections afforded immigrant students and their families under the 1982 Supreme Court decision in the matter of *Plyler v. Doe*, affirming the rights of undocumented students to access the same education as all students, and the 2011 memorandum from the Department of Homeland Security classifying schools as sensitive locations where enforcement actions are prohibited.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, we direct the Superintendent to work with district General Counsel to create a staff directive reminding all district personnel of their obligations under the California Trust Act of 2014, and the aforementioned federal case law and administrative procedures.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, we urge the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency to affirm that schools are now and will forever be sensitive locations where they will not seek to detain and deport immigrant families who pose no threat to community safety.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, we call on President-Elect Trump to continue the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program and to clearly articulate the rights of all students to attend school without the fear of detention and deportation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, we urge President Obama to expand the Department of Justice prohibitions against racial profiling to include all agencies within the Department of Homeland Security, including the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agency.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Education of the San Diego Unified School District at a regular meeting held this 6th day of December 2016.

President

Vice President

Member

Member

Member

Superintendent