

RESOLUTION
MORGAN HILL UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION

MORGAN HILL UNIFIED SCHOOL SITES AS SAFE
PLACES FOR ALL

WHEREAS, the Morgan Hill Unified School District Board of Education is committed to the success of all students irrespective of their immigration status, ethnicity, race, religion, primary language, sexual orientation, gender identity, or socio-economic status. We believe that every student has the potential to achieve, and it is the responsibility of our school district to give each student the opportunity and support to meet his or her highest potential;

WHEREAS, the Board believes that the physical safety and emotional well-being of all children in the District, and ensuring that our schools are safe and inviting for all students and their families is paramount to students being able to achieve. MHUSD does not tolerate any form of discrimination, harassment, or bullying;

WHEREAS, this safe and inviting environment would be disrupted by the presence of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) employees who come on to MHUSD property for the purposes of removing students or their family members, or obtaining information about students and their families;

WHEREAS, campus resource officers and campus security personnel have no purpose in enforcing federal civil immigration law and do not act as immigration agents;

WHEREAS, the Board believes that the students' ability to achieve is negatively impacted by the removal of family members which may leave students without supervising adults to care for them;

WHEREAS, the United States of America was built by diverse peoples, both native and immigrant alike, and public education has played a critical role in furthering tolerance and strengthening our society;

WHEREAS, recent public political dialog about deportation of students and families have resulted in students expressing fear, sadness, and concerns for student access to education and a secure educational and home environment; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson released a letter on December 21, 2016, encouraging all California public schools to be declared "safe havens" for students and their parents and to remind families about existing laws that protect students' records from questions about immigration status,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the governing Board of Morgan Hill Unified School District hereby declares that every school site is a safe place for students and their families to seek help, assistance, and information if faced with fear and anxiety about immigration enforcement efforts; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Morgan Hill Unified School District Board work closely with the City, County and other state and local municipalities and community organizations to ensure our students and families are offered a protected space; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Superintendent shall provide information and resources for immigrant students and families at all District locations; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board encourages appropriate professional development for staff necessary to implement the provisions of this resolution including how to respond to immigration control personnel; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board encourages the Superintendent to enhance partnerships with community-based organizations and legal services organizations who provide resources for families; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board reaffirms its focus on promoting and elevating tolerance, inclusiveness and kindness of all students, families and staff at all district school sites, facilities and material property; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board reaffirm the authority of the Superintendent to protect the data and identities of any student, family member, or school employee who may be adversely affected by any future policies or executive action that results in the collection of any personally identifiable information to the fullest extent provided by the law; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board shall not allow ICE agents on school sites, facilities or material property without receiving prior written approval from the Superintendent; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board reaffirms Morgan Hill Unified School District's unequivocal commitment to ensuring a safe educational environment for all students, serving as a safe educational community for students and families threatened by immigration enforcement or discrimination, to the fullest extent provided by the law.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Education of the MORGAN HILL UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT at a regular meeting held on January 17, 2017 by the following vote:

- AYES:
- NOES:
- ABSENT:
- ABSTAIN:

DATED January 17, 2017 SIGNED: _____
Donna Ruebusch, President
Board of Education

I, Steve Betando, Secretary of the Board of Education, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Education of the MORGAN HILL UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT at the regular meeting on January 17, 2017, which resolution is on file in the office of said Board.

DATED: January 17, 2017

SIGNED: _____
Steve Betando, Secretary
Board of Education