

## HAYS CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### RESOLUTION

#### TO REAFFIRM THE BOARD'S COMMITMENT TO STUDENTS, PARENTS AND GUARDIANS THAT THE DISTRICT ENSURES THE ENROLLMENT AND SAFETY OF STUDENTS AND SAFEGUARDS THE PRIVACY OF STUDENT INFORMATION

**WHEREAS**, the Board recognizes the local concerns for public education raised by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's recent rescission of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP) enforcement guidance designating schools as "protected areas," and seeks to address these concerns while also carrying out its duties under law and Board Policy;

**WHEREAS**, the mission of the Texas public education system is to ensure that all Texas children have access to a quality education that enables them to achieve their full potential and fully participate now and in the future in the social, economic, and educational opportunities in our state and nation, and this mission is grounded on the conviction that a general diffusion of knowledge is essential for the welfare of Texas and for the preservation of the liberties and rights of Texas citizens; *see* Board Policy AE (Legal);

**WHEREAS**, the District is not authorized to collect information related to a student's immigration status and is otherwise committed to preserving the privacy of education records maintained by the District, including education records, if any, relating to a student's immigration status; *see* Board Policy FD (Legal), FL (Legal) FJ (Local);

**WHEREAS**, the District must, as required by law, provide equal educational opportunities to all individuals residing within its jurisdiction or geographic boundaries, and denying enrollment based upon immigration status to children who are not legally admitted into the United States has been held by the United States Supreme Court to violate the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution; *see* Board Policy FB (Legal), FD (Legal);

**WHEREAS**, through multiple provisions in Board Policy, the District seeks to provide for the safety of students under District policy within the context of its mission, goals, and objectives for public education, *see, e.g.*, Board Policies CK, CKB, CKC, CKD, CKE, FFA, FFAA, FFAB, FFAC, FFAD, FFAE, FFAF, FFB, FFBA, FFC, FFEA, FFEB, FFF, FFG, FFH, FFI, DBAA, DH, GKA, GKC, GRA (covering such topics as safety programs/risk management and emergency operations plans; student welfare, including but not limited to crisis intervention, mental health resources, and protection from bullying and harassment; employee standards of conduct; required criminal history checks on employees; procedures regarding visitors to campus; and relations with other governmental entities, including law enforcement);

**WHEREAS**, the District has designated a specific person or persons in the central office(s) as initial points of contact for ICE or CBP, and all other personnel should be instructed to direct ICE and CBP to those representatives;

**WHEREAS**, if law enforcement arrives on campus for purposes of immigration enforcement, authorized District staff are expected to consult legal counsel for immediate and specific guidance; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to multiple provisions in Board Policy, the Board is committed to ensuring a safe learning and working environment for all students and employees, *see, e.g.* Board Policies CK, CKB, CKC, CKD, CKE, DBAA, DH, DI, DIA, FFA, FFAA, FFAB, FFAC, FFAD, FFAE, FFAF, FFB, FFBA, FFC, FFEA, FFEB, FFF, GKA, GKC, GRA (covering such topics as safety programs/risk management and emergency operations

plans; student welfare, including but not limited to crisis intervention, mental health resources, and protection from bullying and harassment; employee welfare; employee standards of conduct; required criminal history checks for employees; procedures regarding visitors to campus; and relations with other governmental entities, including law enforcement);

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees for the Hays Consolidated Independent School District hereby reaffirms its commitment to students, parents and guardians that the District shall fully implement and enforce its Board Policies, as required by law, to ensure the enrollment and safety of students and to safeguard the privacy of student information; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the Superintendent to take further necessary action to ensure students, parents, and guardians are directed to other available resources for assistance in understanding and exercising their rights under applicable laws and policy relating to enrollment, student safety, and privacy of student information.

Approved and executed this \_\_\_\_ day of February 2025.

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Raul Vela, Jr., President

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School Board Trustee

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Byron Severance, Vice-President

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School Board Trustee

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Vanessa Petrea, Board Secretary

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School Board Trustee

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School Board Trustee