

**OAK PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT 97 BOARD OF  
EDUCATION RESOLUTION  
DECLARING DISTRICT 97 A SAFE HAVEN SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**WHEREAS**, the United States Supreme Court has declared that no public school district may deny any child access to a free public education on the basis of that child's immigration status; and

**WHEREAS**, District 97 enthusiastically embraces its responsibility to welcome and educate all students regardless of their immigration status, celebrates their contribution to our diverse learning community, and will not be impeded or intimidated from exercising our responsibility; and

**WHEREAS**, numerous students whose education, safety, emotional well-being, and family relationships are at risk because of their immigration status are, and will in the future be, enrolled in District 97; and

**WHEREAS**, District 97 is committed to ensuring that its schools are a safe and welcoming place for all its students and their families; and

**WHEREAS**, federal immigration law enforcement activities, on or around District 97 property and transportation routes, whether by surveillance, interview, demand for information, arrest, detention, or any other means, have the potential to harmfully disrupt the learning environment to which all students, regardless of immigration status, are entitled; and

**WHEREAS**, no federal or state law obligates a public school district to devote any resources, financial or otherwise, to the enforcement of federal immigration laws; and

**WHEREAS**, educational personnel are often the primary source of support, resources, and information to assist and support students and student learning, which includes their emotional health; and

**WHEREAS**, District 97 believes that it is in the best interests of the students, staff, families, and community of District 97 that it take action to assure all students and families that disruptions to the educational environment that Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) actions, or immigration enforcement actions by other law enforcement personnel, may create, will be opposed by all legal means available.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Education of Oak Park School District No. 97, Cook County, Illinois:

1. The Board declares that all District 97 schools to be safe havens for students and families threatened by immigration enforcement or discrimination, to the fullest extent permitted by law.
2. Unless specifically required by federal, state, or local law, District 97 employees, contractors, volunteers, and representatives will not use District resources for the purpose of detecting or assisting in the apprehension of persons whose only violation of law is or may be being unlawfully present in the United States, or failing to produce documents authorizing stay in the United States.
3. District 97 employees, contractors, volunteers, and representatives shall refrain from inquiring about a student's or parent's immigration status.
4. District 97 employees, contractors, volunteers, and representatives shall refrain from requiring any student or parent to produce documentation regarding immigration status.
5. District 97 employees, contractors, volunteers, and representatives shall not, unless compelled by federal, state or local law, or subsequent to receiving a signed release, disclose to ICE officers or to any other person or entity any information about a student's or family's immigration status.

6. District 97 employees, contractors, volunteers, and representatives shall not, unless compelled by federal, state, or local law, or subsequent to receiving a signed release, disclose to ICE officers or to any other person or entity any information about any District 97 student that is protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act or the Illinois School Student Records Act.
7. District 97 affirms and will advance, to the extent possible, the 2011 ICE Ruling, which notes that law enforcement and ICE officials should enter the campus for law enforcement purposes without the permission of the Superintendent only under the most exigent and compelling circumstances. The Superintendent, prior to granting permission, will take consideration for the emotional and physical safety of students and staff and request law enforcement personnel to provide credentials, the reasons for the requested entry, and written legal authority for any requested entry.
8. District 97 shall continue to provide strictly confidential counseling to all students, including those who fear what might happen to them or family members due to immigration status, and will, without inquiring into the particulars of any student's immigration status, refer each student having such fears to organizations to provide them with accurate information about their rights and responsibilities under immigration law.
9. No District 97 student shall be denied equal access to any services, educational, or otherwise, including access to awards or institutional scholarships, on the basis of the student's immigration status.
10. District 97 shall distribute this Resolution to District 97 students and parents and to all employees, contractors, volunteers, and representatives by effective means of communication and translate it into languages commonly translated by District 97.
11. District 97 shall promptly review its existing policies and procedures and revise them to the extent necessary to comply with this Resolution.
12. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect upon its adoption.

ADOPTED March 13, 2017, by a roll call vote, as follows:

YES: \_\_\_\_\_  
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 NO: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ABSENT: \_\_\_\_\_

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 President, Board of Education

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 Secretary, Board of Education