

Motion by Member Major
Seconded by Member Obaid

WHEREAS: The United States Supreme Court held in *Plyer v. Doe* (1982) that no public school district has a basis to deny children access to education based on their immigration status, citing the harm it would inflict on the child and society itself, and the equal protection rights of the Fourteenth Amendment;

WHEREAS: Migration to this country is often propelled by social, economic, and political factors and native country conditions, which result partly from U.S. government and corporate policies and interests, and thus immigrants and their families are here entitled to compassionate and humane treatment in this country;

WHEREAS: Ensuring that our schools are safe and inviting for all students and their families will facilitate the physical safety and emotional well-being of all children in the District, and is paramount to students' ability to achieve;

WHEREAS: This safe and inviting environment would be disrupted by the presence of immigration agents who come onto District property for the purposes of removing students or their family members, or obtaining information about students and their families;

WHEREAS: Immigration and Customs Enforcement ("ICE") activities in and around schools, early education centers, and adult school facilities would be a severe disruption to the learning environment and educational setting for students;

WHEREAS: Immigration enforcement activities around schools create hardships and barriers to health and educational attainment, and a pervasive climate of fear, conflict and stress that affects all students in our District, regardless of their background or status, such that children who have a status but whose family members, friends, or schoolmates do not, and students who are themselves undocumented, are all affected and at risk;

WHEREAS: Threats of legal action, and particularly of separation and deportation, against students and their families create severe emotional, psychological and physical barriers to learning and education that can and should be allayed or reduced through support systems, including legal representation, provided by the school District;

WHEREAS: Students' ability to achieve is undermined by the removal of their family members during ICE raids and arrests that leave students without adults to supervise or care for them, and the District should have in place policies and procedures to protect and care for such students until a guardian or other designated adult is contacted, and all teachers, administrators and staff should be trained on such procedures;

WHEREAS: Immigration arrests, detentions, and deportations affects families every day, and indications that deportations will increase dramatically has created a climate of heightened fear and anxiety for many students and their families;

WHEREAS: The record number of deportations in recent years tragically has broken apart loving families, devastated communities, and caused widespread fear among immigrants and their family members;

WHEREAS: Involving campus police in enforcing federal civil immigration law will create the perception that they are immigration agents and decrease students' likelihood of cooperating with campus police based on fears that this would lead to their deportation or the deportation of family members;

WHEREAS: Some cities, counties, school districts, and higher education institutions have adopted policies that restrict entanglement with ICE and resist any government action that may lead to the discovery of a person's immigration status;

WHEREAS: ICE's longstanding policy states that it will not conduct immigration enforcement activity at any sensitive location, which includes schools, without special permission by specific federal law enforcement officials, unless exigent circumstances exist;

WHEREAS: No written state or federal law mandates that local districts assist ICE in the enforcement of immigration laws;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Governing Board of the Hamtramck School District hereby declares that every Hamtramck School District site is a safe place for its students and their families to seek help, assistance, and information if faced with fear and anxiety about immigration enforcement efforts;

RESOLVED FURTHER: That the Board encourages the Superintendent to increase and enhance partnerships with community-based organizations and legal services organizations who provide resources for families facing deportation.

Ayes: Members Srodek, Major, Lukas, Hadwan, Khan, Chowdhury and Obaid

Nays: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIED.