



CHULA VISTA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

84 EAST J STREET • CHULA VISTA, CALIFORNIA 91910 • 619 425-9600

EACH CHILD IS AN INDIVIDUAL OF GREAT WORTH

January 13, 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians:

In light of immigration uncertainties raised during the presidential campaign, it has come to our attention that some of you are concerned about how our local schools might be impacted under the new administration's immigration policies. Our Board of Education recently declared that all District schools will serve as Safe Zones and Resource Centers for students and families threatened by immigration enforcement or discrimination. Please be reassured about our core values and that the safety and inclusion of all students is a priority of District personnel. We will uphold our sacred mission, which includes the belief that "Each Child is an Individual of Great Worth."

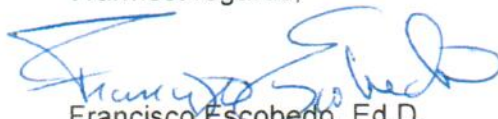
Our goal is to maintain an educational environment that values all students and that is free from discrimination or disparaging treatment. We must ensure our schools remain a welcoming environment for students and parents, regardless of their immigration status. The Supreme Court has previously noted that "education is perhaps the most important function of state and local governments," and that "education prepares individuals to be self-reliant and self-sufficient participants in society." The Court has held that all students, including those who could not prove they had been legally admitted to the United States, could not be denied access to school based on their immigration status.

In addition, in 2014, the California Legislature passed Assembly Bill 4, labeled the California Trust Act, which prohibits city and county law enforcement officers from detaining certain individuals who do not have criminal records based solely on their immigration status. If you or someone you know need assistance in immigration services, please call the Family Resource Center main office at (619) 427-2119.

To improve student success and achievement, we want all students and their families, including those who immigrated to the United States, to know and understand that they are safe, welcomed, respected, and included at all District facilities, school buildings, in school buses, on school grounds, and at all school-sponsored activities. We must preserve our schools as sacred grounds for learning, growth, and exploration without fear of adverse action by any other government agency, including Immigration and Customs Enforcement ("ICE").

Thank you for your consideration and support of our schools. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact my office at (619) 425-9600, Ext. 1300.

Warmest regards,


Francisco Escobedo, Ed.D.
Superintendent

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