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**BOARD OF
EDUCATION**

Resolution Regarding the Immigration Status of Students

Aimee Hemminger
President

WHEREAS, every child, regardless of immigration status, has the right to access a free public education, grades kindergarten through 12 in accordance with Article 11 of the New York State Constitution, and the New Paltz Central School District (hereinafter “the District”) supports that right; and

Michael O’Donnell
Vice President

WHEREAS, the District has a legal responsibility to ensure that all students who reside within its boundaries, regardless of immigration status, and others as required by law, have the opportunity to attend school in the District; and

Brian Cournoyer
Member

WHEREAS, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) agencies maintain policies that avoid enforcement actions at schools and school bus stops; and

Alison Easton
Member

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

Steven Greenfield
Member

Sophia Skiles
Member

WHEREAS, Federal immigration law enforcement activities could potentially interfere with the ability of all students, U.S. citizens and immigrants, alike, to fully access a free public education and feel safe in their school environment; and

Matthew Williams
Member

WHEREAS, through its policies and practices, the District has made a commitment to a quality education for all students, which includes a safe and stable learning environment, means of transportation to and from school sites, the preservation of classroom hours for educational instruction, and the requirement of school attendance; and

SUPERINTENDENT
Maria C. Rice

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

DISTRICT CLERK
Dusti Callo

WHEREAS, the District is committed to complying with existing state and federal law;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that consistent with New York State Education Department (SED) regulations and guidance, the District, when registering students, will not ask questions or request information that may reveal the student’s immigration status; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any staff or faculty member that receives a request from the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office (ICE) or any other federal immigration authority regarding a student or students will take no action, and will immediately forward the request to the Superintendent for review by the Superintendent, school district attorneys, and the Board of Education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District will not allow law enforcement to interview, interrogate, or remove a student from school property without the consent of the student’s parent or guardian, except under limited circumstances (e.g., presentation of a valid arrest warrant or court order); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District, will comply with the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) with regard to the release of student information to any immigration authorities and will consult with the school attorneys with regard to compliance with FERPA; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District is committed to addressing incidents of immigration-related harassment, bullying, and discrimination pursuant to the Dignity for All Students Act (DASA).

Adopted by the Board of Education March 22, 2017