Resolution

Rights of Students and Protocols for the Shawnee Mission School District

Be it resolved

That the Board of Education of the Shawnee Mission School District is committed to the success of each and every student in our school system. The mission of the Shawnee Mission School District is to provide an education which fully prepares each student to compete successfully in society and be fully prepared to make productive life decisions. We believe that each and every student has the potential to achieve and that it is the responsibility of our school district to identify, nurture, and support that potential. In order to do that, we respect and insist on a conducive educational environment.

That the Board believes that the physical safety and emotional well-being of all children in the district depends upon our ensuring that our schools are safe and inviting for all students and their families. The Shawnee Mission School District does not tolerate any form of discrimination, harassment, or bullying (Policies AD, JDDC, and JGECA).

That the Board of Education believes that a safe and inviting environment would be disrupted by the presence of active immigration and naturalization enforcement occurring at a school and during school hours. We also recognize there are other methods of pursuing enforcement that do not include the interrupting of the sanctity of the school environment. The Board calls upon the Department of Homeland Security to honor its directive of October 24, 2011, (Policy #10029.2) prohibiting active enforcement at sensitive locations which includes schools, absent severe exigent circumstances.

That the Board of Education recognizes actions which place a child into a status of child in need of care as defined by state law (K.S.A. 38-2202) may under some circumstances require that the child be placed into the custody of either state, local or district police. Should this occur, all efforts must be taken to minimize any traumatic effects on the child.

Consequently, it is the direction of the Board of Education:

That any immigration and naturalization service (INS) employee whose job responsibilities require that he or she enter any school or district building for the purpose of immigration enforcement must first notify the office of the superintendent with sufficient time so that the superintendent or his/her designee can take the proper steps to provide for the emotional and physical safety of the students and staff.

That the superintendent or his/her designee will require official identification of the agents and a written documentation by an authorized governmental official requiring the removal of any child.

It is the policy of the Shawnee Mission School District not to ask about nor provide information about a student's immigration status or that of family members and, pursuant to FERPA, the District will not disclose student information or records without parent consent or a court order.

In the event that circumstances dictate that a student is subject to the provisions of the child in need of care state statute, parents will be contacted when deemed appropriate by law enforcement. Emergency contacts will be utilized when parents are unavailable.

All care will be given toward the emotional well-being of students.