PRESS RELEASE

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Hayward Unified School District's Commitment to Making all Campuses a Safe Zone for Students and Families Threatened by Immigration Enforcement

HAYWARD, CALIF. – In the last few months and in light of a contentious election season, many in the HUSD community have shared concerns about feeling safe and secure in our schools and at home. In particular, our immigrant families have questioned the potential implications of the proposed laws and regulations to stem the tide of undocumented immigrants that have been discussed by federal, state, and local government officials.

In order to reassure HUSD students and their families that the District is a safe place for them, the HUSD Board has taken important action. On Wednesday, December 14, 2016, the Hayward Unified School District passed Resolution 1617-26 taking the position that all students have the right to attend school regardless of the immigration status of the child or of the child's family members. The Hayward School Board encouraged the Superintendent to increase and enhance partnerships with community-based organizations and legal services organizations who provide resources for families facing deportation and that a rapid response network be created to assist children whose family members have been detained. The Board declared that Immigration and Custom Enforcement (ICE) officials will not be allowed on HUSD campuses as this poses a potential disruption to the educational opportunities of its students.

The Board also declared that every district school site is a safe place for all students and their families. The District is committed to fostering an environment that promotes respect for and curiosity about all cultures, ethnicities, religions, sexual orientation, and political views, affirms the equal humanity of all members of the community and rejects all forms of bullying and discrimination. According to Board President Lisa Brunner, "We want to communicate to all of our students and their families that HUSD is a safe place for them, that bullying of any sort will not be tolerated, and that our staff is working hard to ensure that our schools are welcoming places." The Board resolution is being shared with all schools and will be discussed and reviewed at upcoming staff meetings.

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