

Susan D. Chavez
Acting Superintendent



LLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
Dr. Michelle Osowski, President
Bruce Bennett, Vice President
Justin Talley, Secretary
P. David Vickers, Member
Sonya C'Moya, Member

Dear Los Lunas Schools Families,

We want to address recent developments regarding changes in U.S. Department of Homeland Security federal immigration enforcement policies, as we understand these changes may be raising questions within our community.

Please be assured that we are actively observing these changes, as well as seeking legal guidance on their potential impact on our schools and existing district policies. We are also reviewing the New Mexico Attorney General's recent guidance titled "Ensuring a Safe and Secure Learning Environment for All: Guidance to Assist New Mexico's K-12 Schools in Response to Immigration Issues."

See Attachment

Importantly, we want to emphasize that every child, regardless of their immigration status, is welcome at Los Lunas Schools. According to the landmark 1982 U.S. Supreme Court decision, **Plyler v. Doe**, all children, including those who are undocumented, have the right to attend public primary and secondary schools. In New Mexico, every child is entitled to a free public education, without consideration of their immigration status.

We would like to remind our families that Los Lunas Schools does not collect any data regarding the immigration status of students or their families. Therefore, we do not possess this information to share with law enforcement agencies.

We would like to clarify that Los Lunas Schools is not responsible for enforcing federal immigration law. And we will not initiate contact with federal immigration authorities to share student information.

The district will continue to uphold the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Under FERPA, local school districts and public schools have certain obligations to protect the privacy of our students' educational records. Such records cannot be disclosed without written consent from the student's parent or guardian, or of the individual student if they have reached the age of 18. New Mexico law requires that all students and staff be afforded a safe and secure learning environment pursuant to the Safe Schools for All Students Act.

Los Lunas Schools is committed to providing a safe learning environment for our students. We have counselors and social workers available to all of our students if assistance is needed. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to your school principal.

Respectfully,

Susan D. Chavez
Acting Superintendent of Los Lunas Schools

PO Drawer 1300

Los Lunas, New Mexico 87031

Phone: (505) 865-9636 Fax: (505) 865-7766

Preparing, empowering, and inspiring all students to reach their maximum potential.