

Dear Dallas ISD Families:

Our critical mission – and our obligation under the law – is to ensure that our schools are welcoming and protective spaces where a student’s race, ethnicity, religion and immigration status do not create any barriers to that child’s education. To assist this mission, we want to share answers to the following questions regarding immigration status and our commitment to protect students from discrimination and harassment.

Your Questions Answered:

Q: What impact does undocumented immigration status have on my child’s education?

A: None. Children have a constitutional right to have equal access to education regardless of their immigration status or their parents’ status. That right cannot be taken away.

Q: May Dallas ISD schools ask for a child’s immigration status when he or she enrolls?

A: No. Public school districts like Dallas ISD have an obligation to enroll students regardless of their legal immigration status and without discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age.

Q: Would the school district ever share our students’ immigration status with the federal immigration officials?

A: We do not ask for students’ legal immigration status when they enroll. If we get a request for student information, Dallas ISD’s policies will protect all of our students’ constitutional and legal rights to keep their information private.

Q: Are immigration enforcement actions allowed on school grounds?

A: In February 2017, Dallas ISD Board of Trustees unanimously approved a resolution to designate all Dallas ISD schools as welcoming and protective to the fullest extent of the law. ICE and CBP officials are not able to access non-public areas of a campus—that means areas other than the entrance or lobby until the campus principal receives guidance from Dallas ISD Police and the District’s attorneys.

Q: If I am a parent or guardian, and I am worried about being detained while my child is at school, what should I do?

A: In the event that any parents are detained during school hours, the District will keep students safe until an authorized adult can pick up the child. Please take this opportunity to update your emergency contact information for your students at your school.

Q: What about if I am a DACA recipient?

A: If you are a recipient of DACA, consider reaching out to an immigration attorney now in order to determine if you have access to a better form of immigration status. If you are a District employee under DACA, our attorneys will work closely with you as the federal government makes a decision on DACA.

Q: What should I do if I want to understand my immigration rights?

A: Only immigration attorneys can provide you with accurate advice about immigration status and how you can pursue any legal rights you might have. A list of available resources in Dallas-Fort Worth can be found [here](#). When visiting the page, enter your zip code to get a list of resources close to you.

Q: What do Dallas ISD schools do to ensure that no student or family is discriminated against or harassed because of their race, ethnicity, religion or national origin?

A: The District has adopted policies prohibiting discrimination. See District Board Policies FFH, DIA, and DH. In addition, the Dallas ISD Board of Trustees approved resolution states:

Dallas ISD embraces the diversity of our students and families and the rich language and cultural assets they bring to the district. The district is committed to following the law and providing a high quality education to all students regardless of their immigration status, ethnicity, national origin, language, race, religion, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, disability, or socioeconomic status.

Q: What should I do if I feel like my student or I have been the victim of discrimination or harassment?

A: Please report the behavior immediately to your school's leadership or a district administrator. Additionally, please call the Dallas ISD Parent and Advocacy at 972.025.3905 and/or visit the department website at dallasisd.org/PASS.

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