

# **STANDING IN SOLIDARITY:**

EMPOWERING OUR IMMIGRANT STUDENTS AND FAMILIES





# A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

# STANDING IN SOLIDARITY: EMPOWERING OUR IMMIGRANT STUDENTS AND FAMILIES



Dear Long Beach Unified Family,

At Long Beach Unified, we are guided by <u>Vision 2035</u>, which shapes our efforts to create thriving futures for all students. Our strategic plan, <u>Creating A Better Future Together</u>, stems from this vision and reflects our unwavering commitment to Excellence and Equity—ensuring that every student, family and staff member enriches our community, making it stronger, more inclusive and more resilient. Our collective strength lies in our diversity, and we remain devoted to ensuring that every member of our community feels valued, welcomed, and supported.

Immigrants play a vital role in the story of our district and the state of California. Many of our students and families bring languages, traditions and experiences that add to the rich fabric of our schools. Their perspectives inspire us, their aspirations remind us of our purpose, and their contributions elevate us all. At Long Beach Unified, we understand that when we honor and invest in our immigrant students, we invest in a brighter future for everyone.

<u>Our Standing in Solidarity: Empowering Our Immigrant Students and Families</u> effort underscores this commitment by amplifying our ongoing work to foster inclusive, equitable and welcoming environments. This approach allows immigrant students and families to access the resources, opportunities and support they need to thrive. We provide academic guidance, mental health services and family outreach to ensure every student has the tools to succeed.

Together, as one community, we can break down barriers and build bridges that connect cultures, elevate learning and unlock limitless possibilities. This work lies at the heart of our mission and is essential to fulfilling the promise of education for every Long Beach Unified student.

Thank you for joining us on this shared journey to create a future where every student has the opportunity to belong and excel.

In Partnership,

Jill A. Baker, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools

# **STANDING IN SOLIDARITY:**

# **EMPOWERING OUR IMMIGRANT STUDENTS AND FAMILIES**



#### **CALL TO ACTION**

The <u>Long Beach Unified School District</u> stands in solidarity with our immigrant students and families. We are committed to providing a safe, supportive and inclusive learning environment for all students, regardless of immigration status.

#### LBUSD BOARD OF EDUCATION

<u>The Governing Board</u> is committed to the success of all students and believes that every school site should be a safe and welcoming place for all students and their families irrespective of their citizenship or immigration status. Please refer to our <u>Response to Immigration Enforcement Policy</u>.

#### **DISTRICT RESPONSE**

# If U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (I.C.E.) Appears at an LBUSD School:

- LBUSD employees are directed to not share any information about students, families or staff unless instructed by the Office of General Counsel.
- Staff, teachers, students and parents should Immediately refer I.C.E. agents to a school administrator (or designated responder).

# PROACTIVE MEASURES FOR FAMILIES

# Take these steps now to ensure your family is prepared:

- 1. **Update School Emergency Contacts:** Ensure multiple trusted adults are listed to pick up your child.
- Complete a <u>Family Preparedness Plan</u>: Keep contact sheets and key documents accessible.
- 3. Save Important Numbers:
  - Your child's school office and afterschool provider.
  - Key support organizations listed below.
- 4. Know Your Rights: All people, regardless of immigration status, have rights under the U.S. Constitution.
  - Visit <u>Immigration Legal Resource Center</u> for resources.

#### **KEY DISTRICT CONTACTS**

- 1. LBUSD School Safety | 562-997-8101
- 2. LBUSD List of Schools and Principals
  - If your student attends an after-school program, please have your <u>Family Preparedness Plan</u> readily available.
- 3. LBUSD Student Support Services | 562-986-6870
  - Provides resources and programs, including LBUSD's Family Resource and Wellness Centers to support the academic, social, emotional and behavioral success of students and their families.

#### IF A FAMILY MEMBER IS DETAINED

# Immediately contact these trusted organizations for legal advice and support:

- <u>ÓRALE</u> | 562-276-0267
  - ÓRALE offers:
    - Connection to legal support and the <u>Long Beach Justice Fund</u> (a legal defense fund and program that provides legal help for low-income immigrants at risk of deportation that live or work in Long Beach).
    - Know Your Rights presentations
    - A rapid response network to alert about ICE activity in the area.
- <u>Legal Aid Foundation</u> | 800-399-4529
  - A nonprofit law firm that provides free legal services to vulnerable individuals.

## **RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES**

# Organizations that support and empower immigrant communities:

- LACOE | 562-419-5275
  - Los Angeles County Office of Education supports school districts, students and parents with information and responds to school needs around immigration policies including family preparedness, legal service, mental health and Medi-Cal resoruces.
- Long Beach Residents Empowered | 877-262-4751
  - Organization dedicated to defending and advancing the rights of California tenants to safe, decent and affordable housing.
- Long Beach Forward | 562-436-4800
  - A nonprofit organization dedicated to end racial and income inequality.
- LBUSD Wellness Centers at Secondary Schools
  - Provides access to trusted adults, local community resources and services such as counseling, community
    engagement, empowerment workshops, case management and peer-to-peer support that does not require
    federal documentation.

#### RESOURCES FOR COLLEGE-GOING STUDENTS

# Financial assistance for immigrant students applying to college:

- Financial Assistance for Undocumented Students
  - Understanding the process of college applications and financial aid.
- Financial Aid for Immigrant Families
  - Answers common questions regarding FAFSA and mixed-status families.
- CA Dream Act Application:
  - California Student Aid for immigrant students applying for college.
  - The California Student Aid Commission has strict security and confidentiality policies and procedures in place to
    protect the integrity and confidentiality of student records, which are never shared with the federal government
    or used for immigration enforcement.
- National Association for Student Administration
  - A guide to answering common questions for undocumented students.
- Understanding the FAFSA Risk and how to receive guidance when applying.

### CITY OF LONG BEACH IMMIGRATION RESOURCES

## Access additional resources and contact information:

- City of Long Beach Immigration Resources
  - List of resources from the City of Long Beach including community connectors for Filipino and Cambodian immigrants, and additional legal, health and educational resources.
- Contacts & List of Phone Numbers
  - Directory list of Long Beach City services, departments, elected officials and emergency numbers.

#### **KNOW YOUR RIGHTS!**

- 1. **Know Your Rights:** All people, regardless of immigration status, have rights under the U.S. Constitution. The Immigrant Legal Resource Center's (ILRC) **Red Cards** help people assert their rights and defend themselves in many situations, such as when I.C.E. agents go to a home.
- 2. When interrogated by federal immigration officials, **you have the right to stay silent.** Hand the Red Card to the officer and remember that you do not have to answer any questions.

# **RED CARDS**

#### Usted tiene derechos constitucionales:

- NO ABRA LA PUERTA si un agente de inmigración está tocando la puerta.
- NO CONTESTE NINGUNA PREGUNTA de un agente de inmigración si el trata de hablar con usted. Usted tiene el derecho de mantenerse callado.
- NO FIRME NADA sin antes hablar con un abogado. Usted tiene el derecho de hablar con un abogado.
- Si usted está afuera de su casa, pregunte al agente si es libre para irse y si dice que sí, váyase con tranquilidad.
- ENTREGUE ESTA TARJETA AL AGENTE. Si usted está dentro de su casa, muestre la tarjeta por la ventana o pásela debajo de la puerta

I do not wish to speak with you, answer your questions, or sign or hand you any documents based on my 5th Amendment rights under the United States Constitution.

I do not give you permission to enter my home based on my 4th Amendment rights under the United States Constitution unless you have a warrant to enter, signed by a judge or magistrate with my name on it that you slide under the door.

I do not give you permission to search any of my belongings based on my 4th Amendment rights.

I choose to exercise my constitutional rights.

These cards are available to citizens and noncitizens alike.

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- The ILRC has a <u>printable Red Card</u> available in 15 different languages.
- Click on the <u>ILRC webpage</u> for instructions on how to use your Red Card.