

School board member Richard Zeck introduced the following resolution as Brooklyn Center Community Schools Board of Education Resolution Affirming our Staff and Students' Right to Safety and Belonging in Our Collective and moved its adoption.

Brooklyn Center Community Schools Board of Education Resolution Affirming our Staff and Students' Right to Safety and Belonging in Our Collective

WHEREAS, Brooklyn Center Community Schools is committed to the continued presence of safe, inclusive, and supportive learning spaces for all students and staff; and

WHEREAS, public school districts are required to provide access to a free public education to students regardless of immigration status and may not take actions that interfere with that access; and

WHEREAS, it is not the proper role of public schools to intervene in civil/legal/governmental disputes, inclusive of those involving immigration enforcement,

WHEREAS, federal and state law limits the disclosure of student information, access to non-public school spaces, and federal, state, or local enforcement actions that interfere with students' constitutional and educational rights; and

WHEREAS, these restrictions arise from constitutional protections, federal education law, and privacy statutes, including the Fourth Amendment and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA); and

WHEREAS, Brooklyn Center Community Schools recognizes that fear or uncertainty related to immigration enforcement - whether real or perceived - negatively affect staff and student safety, attendance, engagement, mental health, and well-being; and

WHEREAS, Brooklyn Center Community Schools affirms that belonging, dignity, and trust are foundational to staff and student safety and learning as set forth in School Board Policy 105- School Board Stance on Anti-Oppression and Anti-Racism in Brooklyn Center Community Schools and Policy 531- School Board Policy of Belonging.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Brooklyn Center Community Schools Board of Education affirms the following;

1. Safety and Belonging
Brooklyn Center Community Schools' staff and students deserve to feel valued,

supported, and able to learn free from fear and intimidation from Immigration Enforcement Agencies. Consequently, Brooklyn Center Community Schools remain steadfastly committed to maintaining spaces that love and affirm our collective.

2. Legal Compliance and Restrictions

The district shall comply with all applicable federal and state laws and will limit its cooperation to circumstances where the district is legally required to act.

3. Access to School Property

Immigration enforcement officials shall not be granted access to non-public areas of school buildings, school grounds, or school transportation, unless they have valid legal authority. Any judicial warrant or court order must be reviewed by the Superintendent of Schools and district, and reviewed and determined valid by legal counsel before access to non-public areas will be allowed.

4. Protection of Student Records and Privacy

Brooklyn Center Community Schools will fiercely protect student information in accordance with FERPA. Additionally, we will NEVER inquire into or disclose a student or family's immigration status.

5. Protocols and Oversight

Any request related to immigration enforcement should be immediately referred to the Superintendent who will consult district legal counsel to ensure a lawful, appropriate, and student-centered response.

6. Moral Responsibility

Brooklyn Center Community Schools affirms its moral responsibility to care for students, staff, and families, knowing that our schools must be grounded in justice-centered work so the unique genius of each student can be fueled and nurtured.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent is directed to provide guidance to Brooklyn Center Community Schools staff regarding legal obligations, district protocols and response, as well as the district's continued commitment to justice-centered education that places students' learning, safety, and well-being unequivocally at the center of all our work.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Member Janelle Collier and upon roll call voting being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:

Roll Call Vote: Amy Bailey (Y), Richard Zeck (Y), Ruthie Dallas (Y), Janelle Collier (Y), Mary O'Connor (Y), Cheryl Jechorek (Y)

Date: 1/12/2026

Cheryl Jechorek
ISD 286 School Board Chair

Richard Zeck
ISD 286 School Board Vice Chair

Amy Bailey
ISD 286 School Board Clerk

Janelle Collier
ISD 286 School Board Treasurer

Mary O'Connor
ISD 286 School Board Member

Ruthie Dallas
ISD 286 School Board Member

Carly Baker
ISD 286 Superintendent

Kiel Yang
ISD 286 School Board Student Representative

And the following votes against the same: None

Therefore said resolution was declared to have passed.

Dated: January 12, 2026

