



Office of the Superintendent
Mary Skipper, Superintendent

2300 Washington Street • Roxbury, MA 02119
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bostonpublicschools.org

SUBJECT: Information and Resources About Immigration Enforcement

Tuesday, March 3, 2026

Dear BPS Families,

I know many of our students, staff, families and community members are experiencing feelings of uncertainty and heightened concern regarding the presence of immigration enforcement in our city and neighborhoods.

Every day, you entrust us with the care of our more than 46,000 students and our focus must remain on educating our students inclusive of immigration status, their race or ethnicity, the language they speak, or the area of the city they live. Let me be clear, **all of our students have the right to a free public education in the Boston Public Schools** and we will continue to ensure that all BPS schools remain safe and welcoming spaces.

I'd like to share some important reminders in response to recent questions raised by members of our community. Our longstanding [district visitor policy](#), which remains in effect, does not allow unauthorized adults to enter a school building during the school day without permission. This policy extends to immigration enforcement officers, unless they have a court order or lawfully issued subpoena. Our Office of Legal Advisor is on standby at all times to review any warrant and my leadership team is prepared to support our schools whenever there is immigration enforcement nearby.

Over the last year, BPS has implemented a system to rapidly alert the superintendent's leadership team when issues arise. This protocol ensures that schools are immediately supported from the highest levels of the district, information is quickly shared with the appropriate response teams within BPS, and that schools can remain focused on maintaining their operations.



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BPS also cannot and does not require or ask students or caregivers for information regarding their immigration status or citizenship during enrollment. Under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), records of student information are protected and the district cannot share personally identifiable information with law enforcement or federal immigration enforcement agencies without a court order or lawfully issued subpoena.

Additionally, Mayor Wu recently issued an [Executive Order](#) to protect Bostonians from illegal federal overreach, prioritizing de-escalation, and reaffirming that Boston will hold anyone accountable who commits violence, property damage, or any criminal conduct in the City, including federal officials. This Executive Order includes all BPS schools and buildings.

Please know that we are here to support our students, families and staff in every way possible. We are constantly monitoring and responding to new information and will continue to update our [website](#) with information and family resources. The BPS Helpline is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. and you can contact them at 617-635-8873 or via email at helpline@bostonpublicschools.org.

BPS is committed to ensuring that each of our schools remains a safe and welcoming place where our students learn and thrive in a supportive environment. Thank you for your continued partnership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mary Elizabeth Skipper".

Mary Skipper
Superintendent