RESOLUTION NO. 17/18-3205
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SANTA ANA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Board of Education of the Santa Ana Unified School District in Support of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program; Protecting and Supporting SAUSD Students, Parents, and Staff

Whereas, the Governing Board of the Santa Ana Unified School District (SAUSD) is committed to serving all students in legally protected classes as defined by federal and state laws, and;

Whereas, SAUSD believes that all people should have the opportunity to reach their full educational potential in a climate of respect and inclusion and in an educational environment that protects students from pressures and intrusive actions that would disrupt or impair their education, and;

Whereas, SAUSD is proud to serve its community and is committed to following the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 C.F.R. §§ 99.1 et seq., and the California Education Code, § 49076, that govern the privacy of student records, AB 540 that exempts undocumented students from non-resident tuition, and the California Dream Act which allows undocumented students to apply for and receive state based financial aid and institutional scholarships; and;

Whereas, great uncertainty exists amongst students about what specific immigration policies will be pursued by the federal government, and immigrants and other populations within the SAUSD community are fearful of policies that may result in deportation or forced registration based on immigration status, religion or beliefs, and;

Whereas, the SAUSD desires to reassure students that our campuses will remain safe and welcoming places for students of all backgrounds and inform them that state law grants qualified undocumented students the right to admissions and financial aid; and
Whereas, SAUSD desires to join other K-12 school districts, post-secondary institutions, local and community-based agencies and organizations, including local, state and national elected officials to: 1) reassure its students and families that campuses will remain safe and welcoming places to learn for students of all backgrounds, whether documented or undocumented; 2) call on President Donald Trump and the United States Congress to preserve DACA; and 3) defend the right of all students to obtain a higher education in California, and;

Whereas, SAUSD recognizes that DACA students do not represent a public safety threat but rather represent some of the finest young individuals on whom our country’s future depends, now;

Therefore be it resolved, that the Board of Education of the Santa Ana Unified School District declare that our campuses remain open, safe and welcoming to students of all backgrounds regardless of immigration status and will continue to provide services for documented and undocumented students, including counseling, instructional support, places to study, assistance in applying to our colleges and for financial aid through the California Dream Act and other appropriate support services, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Santa Ana Unified School District, urges President Donald Trump and the United States Congress to continue the DACA program, which grants “Dreamers” - individuals who were brought to this country as children by their parents, to continue to pursue an education - reprieve from deportation because California and the United States are stronger due to their contributions to our economy, to our communities and to our Armed Forces; and;

Be it further resolved that the Santa Ana Unified School District, acting in accordance with the values of the District supports continuation of the following District Practices, absent legal authority, the District will not: (1) allow Federal immigration officials on campus; (2) act on behalf of Federal agencies to enforce immigration laws or aid in deportation; (3) share student records containing
immigration or citizenship status with immigration officials; (4) allow District 
police to detain, question, or arrest anyone on the basis of suspected undocumented 
immigration status or participate in any voluntary program of immigration 
enforcement; and (5) cooperate with any efforts to create a registry of individuals 
based on any legally protected classes as defined by federal and state laws, and;

Be it further resolved that the District will continue to partner with local 
agencies and nonprofit entities, legal services entities, and other entities and 
groups where appropriate to provide support for families with deportation concerns; 
and;

Be it further resolved that the SAUSD Board of Education direct the 
Superintendent to ensure that faculty, staff, and students understand the District’s 
policies and have accurate and timely information on student’s rights to privacy 
and the limitations on the information which can be provided to external governmental 
and other agencies without their consent; and

Resolved further, that the SAUSD Board of Education will vigorously advocate 
at every level of government to protect our students and our system’s values.

Resolved, the Board instructs the Superintendent to forward a copy of this 
resolution to SAUSD’s representatives of the United States Congress, the Governor 
of California and SAUSD’s representatives of the California State Legislature.

Upon motion of Member Alvarez and duly seconded, the foregoing 
Resolution was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: 4

NOES: 1

ABSENT

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF ORANGE
I, Stefanie P. Phillips, Secretary of the Board of Education of the Santa Ana Unified School District of Orange County, California, hereby certify that the above and foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the said Board at a regular meeting thereof held on the 12th day of September, 2017, and passed by a vote of 4-1 of said Board.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 12th day of September, 2017.

Stefanie P. Phillips, Ed.D., Secretary
Board of Education
Santa Ana Unified School District