

RESOLUTION No. 5509

HOLD for Resolution in Support of DACA's "Dreamers"

RECITALS

- A. A RESOLUTION urging Congress and the State of Oregon to protect DACA recipients and affirming support for all students, regardless of citizen status and immigration status.
- B. WHEREAS, the mission of public schools is to educate future generations of informed, engaged citizens and build a common foundation for a robust democratic polity and a vital economy; and
- C. WHEREAS, students living within the boundaries of and attending Portland Public Schools currently come from around the world, all of whom deserve opportunities to thrive and prepare themselves for a prosperous and fulfilling future; and
- D. WHEREAS, the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in Plyler v. Doe (1982) held all resident children are entitled to education in the public schools and it is unconstitutional to deny a free public education to children who are not legally admitted into the United States; and
- E. WHEREAS, Portland Public Schools' policy, state law, and federal law provide that a child's enrollment in public school may not be conditioned on the child's citizen status or immigration status; and
- F. WHEREAS, public schools cannot and should not inquire regarding the immigration status of a student or the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) as part of the admissions process; and
- G. WHEREAS, on June 15, 2012, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced that it would not deport certain undocumented youth who came to the United States as children under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program; and
- H. WHEREAS, over 11,000 Oregonians are enrolled in DACA; and
- I. WHEREAS, studies show that DACA recipients are making significant, positive contributions to their communities and economies by increasing tax revenue for states and localities, starting their own businesses, earning higher wages, participating more fully in the workforce and pursuing educational opportunities that they previously could not access; and
- J. WHEREAS, the Dream Act, a bi-partisan bill that would grant conditional permanent residency status has been introduced in the U.S. Senate and U.S. House; and
- K. WHEREAS, on September 5, 2017, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security issued a Memorandum ending the DACA program;

RESOLVED

That the Board of Directors of the Portland Public Schools:

- 1. Expects District staff to treat all students in a loving, respectful, and equitable manner without regard for race, color, ethnicity, religion, citizenship, immigration status, national origin, ability, gender, or sexual orientation;

2. Pledges to students and families that neither Portland Public Schools nor any of its employees will cooperate with immigration authorities and, in conformance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act, will maintain the confidentiality of student information;
3. Supports the State of Oregon in acting to protect and cherish all resident students and their families without regard for race, ethnicity, citizenship, immigration status, or national origin by joining the lawsuit to prevent the termination of the DACA program; and
4. Respectfully requests that Oregon's Congressional delegation protect young Oregonians by supporting the Dream Act that will create a pathway for conditional permanent residency so that our students' promise is not limited by their immigration status.