RESOLUTION No. 5363

Rights of Undocumented Students and Protocols for INS and ICE Access to Schools

RECITALS

A. The Board of Education for Portland Public Schools is committed to the success of every student in each of our schools. The mission of Portland Public Schools is that by the end of elementary, middle, and high school, every student by name will meet or exceed academic standards and will be fully prepared to make productive life decisions. We believe that every student has the potential to achieve, and it is the responsibility of our school district to give each student the opportunity and support to meet his or her highest potential.

B. The Board believes that the physical safety and emotional well-being of all children in the District, and ensuring that our schools are safe and inviting for all students and their families is paramount to students being able to achieve. PPS does not tolerate any form of discrimination, harassment or bullying (4.30.060-P Anti-Harassment Policy).

C. This safe and inviting environment would be disrupted by the presence of the Immigration and Naturalization Service employees who come on to PPS property for the purposes of removing students or their family members, or obtaining information about students and their families.

D. The Board further believes that students’ ability to achieve is negatively impacted by the removal of their family members during ICE raids that leave students without supervising adults to care for them, and that the District should have in place policies and procedures to protect and care for such students until a guardian or other designated adult is contacted, and that all teachers, administrators and staff should be trained on such procedures.

RESOLUTION

1. Any Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) employee intending to enter any Portland Public Schools property must first notify the Superintendent and the District’s General Counsel, in person, of its intention, with adequate notice so that the Superintendent and General Counsel can take steps to provide for the emotional and physical safety of its students and staff.

2. The Superintendent and/or General Counsel are authorized to ask for the ICE agent’s credentials, ask the agent why he or she is requesting access, and ask the agent what evidence of reasonable suspicion exists.

3. Immigration Control Enforcement (ICE) personnel must provide written authority from the INS instructing them to enter District property and for what purpose.

4. Portland Public Schools staff shall not ask about a student’s immigration status or that of the student’s family members, and pursuant to FERPA shall not disclose, without parental consent, the immigration status of any PPS student or personal information.

5. Within the next 90 days the Superintendent shall develop a plan for training teachers, administrators and other staff on how to respond to ICE personnel who are requesting information about PPS students and families and are attempting to enter PPS property. The plan shall also include procedures for notifying families about INS and ICE efforts to gain information about students and families, and how to support students whose family members have been displaced because of ICE. This plan shall be communicated to all PPS families in all supported languages.