Resolution in Support of Students and Families in the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District Resolution No. 9-2016-2017

WHEREAS, the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District is committed to the success of all students irrespective of their immigration status, ethnicity, race, religion, sexual orientation, ability, sex and gender identity, socio-economic status or beliefs;

WHEREAS, our City, like many cities in the State of California, is the home and workplace of immigrant communities, including persons with both documented and undocumented immigration status;

WHEREAS, students and parents have expressed fear, anxiety, and confusion regarding the ability of the Office of Immigration and Customs Enforcement ("ICE") to enter property of the District for the purpose of determining legal status of students and their families;

WHEREAS, under the law, all students have the right to attend public school and enjoy access to equitable educational and programmatic services regardless of the immigration status of the student or of the student's family members;

WHEREAS, it is the mission of the District to "prepare all learners to become productive citizens and college/career ready by providing challenging learning experiences and establishing high expectations for achievement";

WHEREAS, The Board of Education embraces the diversity of our students and families and the rich language and cultural assets they bring to our District and strongly supports and encourages the participation of all parents and families in our schools; and

WHEREAS, as a Board, we invite parents, neighbors, and all those committed to supporting our community's children to work collaboratively with us as we continue to empower them to reach their full potential as responsible, ethical, and productive citizens in a diverse and changing world;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board declares its commitment that every District site be a safe and welcoming place for all students and their families and encourages the Superintendent to enhance partnerships with community-based organizations who provide resources for families facing immigration issues;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: All requests for documents or entrance to District school sites by any immigration enforcement officer shall be immediately forwarded to the Superintendent for review to ensure the safety of all students, as well as compliance with applicable state and federal laws.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The District will not release information regarding immigration status or related matters contained in pupil records to federal agencies or other authorities enforcing immigration laws without the permission of the student's parent or guardian or pursuant to a judicial warrant, subpoena, court order or as otherwise required by law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we the members of the Board of Education of the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District in Santa Barbara County, California, passed Resolution No. 9-2016-2017 on January 10, 2017, by the following vote:

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 10th day of January 10, 2017, by the following vote:

AYES: Karamitsos, Perez, Palera, Lopez

NOES: N/A

ABSTAIN: N/A

ABSENT: Garvin

President/Clerk/secretary of the Board of Education

Santa Maria Joift Union High School District