

Dear Cornerstone Community,

With the onslaught of executive orders issued by the president over the past two weeks, I want to reaffirm Cornerstone's values and provide you with resources and information about how we intend to respond to these orders if the need arises.

Our Commitments

- We are committed to serving a socioeconomic and racially diverse population. We embrace each and every individual for who they are.
- We are committed to teaching children to be kind, generous, and compassionate human beings who recognize right from wrong.
- We are committed to giving every child what they need.
- We are committed to celebrating the diversity and humanity within our children, families, and staff.

Our Obligations

At this point, expectations and requirements are changing quickly. That said:

- Children will be dismissed only to an individual who is authorized by their parents/guardians to receive them.
- The only individuals permitted in our building are those who have legal reason to be there: staff, children, parents/guardians, contracted service providers, etc.
 - Immigration enforcement must present a properly executed judicial warrant to enter the premises.
- We will continue to educate children to meet the Minnesota Department of Education standards and do so in line with our Montessori pedagogy.
- Every child and every adult in our community will be recognized for who they are.
- Every child and every adult in our community has the right to feel and be safe in our buildings.
- We will stand by our policies of inclusion and equity, including non-discrimination policies that highlight gender identity, sexual orientation, and all other protected classes.
- We will comply with all laws protecting individuals' rights to privacy, including FERPA, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

Resources

- Cornerstone does not collect or hold any data related to the immigration statuses of children or families. All children, regardless of status, have the right to a free, public education.
- "Red cards," outlining the constitutional rights of every individual in the United States, regardless of immigration status, are available at the front desk, the Upper Elementary environments, and in the administrative offices of Cornerstone and Montessori Center of Minnesota staff.
- A detailed list of resources for any individual impacted by recent executive orders, including people who are immigrants and/or transgender/non-binary, can be found [here](#).

Our doors are open to anyone who wishes to discuss further the ways in which we expect to support and protect our staff, children, and families. Please do not hesitate to text me at 651-583-4181 or email me with any questions.

On behalf of the leadership of MCM and the CMES Board of Directors, we support you.

In partnership,
Alyssa