



BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF PALISADES CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ACTIONS TO MAKE PALISADES CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL A SAFE SCHOOL ZONE FOR ALL STUDENTS

January 17, 2017

WHEREAS, Palisades Charter High School, a California nonprofit public benefit corporation, boasts a diverse student body,

WHEREAS, Palisades Charter High School believes that all students, regardless of their demographics or background, will learn and achieve if given the right opportunities and support, and refuses to accept anything less than an excellent college-preparatory education for its students;

WHEREAS, The United States Supreme Court held in *Plyer v. Doe* (1982) that no public school district has a basis to deny children access to education based on their immigration status, citing that children have little control over their immigration status, the harm it would inflict on the child and society itself, and equal protection rights of the 14th Amendment;

WHEREAS, the Office of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (“ICE”) states in its 2011 policy that it will not conduct immigration enforcement activity at any sensitive location, which includes schools, without special permission by specific federal law enforcement officials unless exigent circumstances exist;

WHEREAS, Large-scale ICE operations have not yet been carried out in Southern California, but immigration enforcement affects Palisades Charter High School families every day, and a possible shift in ICE enforcement priority has created a climate of heightened fear and anxiety for many Palisades Charter High School students and their families;

WHEREAS, ICE activities in and around schools would be a severe disruption to the learning environment and educational setting for students;

WHEREAS, Palisades Charter High School prides itself on creating a safe, welcoming, inclusive environment for all its students, regardless of race, religion, or immigration status;

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PCHS will empower our diverse population to make positive contributions to the global community by dedicating our resources to ensure educational excellence, civic responsibility, and personal growth



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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of Palisades Charter High School, (the “Board”) affirms the authority of Palisades Charter High School staff to continue to protect the data and identities of any student, alumnus, family member, or school employee who may be adversely affected by any future policies or executive action that results in the collection of any personally identifiable information to the fullest extent provided by the law;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Board affirms its support for every individual embracing education and that Palisades Charter High School campus will join in the tradition of the Los Angeles Unified School District and other districts across the country, by declaring the Palisades Charter High School campus as a safe place for students and families, and such students and families can visit the Palisades Charter High School campus to seek help, information, and safety if faced with fear and anxiety about immigration enforcement efforts;

RESOLVED FURTHER, in order to provide a public education, regardless of a child’s or family’s immigration status, absent any applicable federal, state, or local law, regulation, ordinance or court decision, Palisades Charter High School shall abide by the following conduct:

- Palisades Charter High School personnel shall treat all students equitably in the receipt of all school services, including but, not limited to, the free and reduced lunch program, transportation, and educational instruction;
- Palisades Charter High School personnel shall not inquire about a student’s immigration status, including that of family members;
- Any request by ICE for information or access to a school site shall be immediately forwarded to appropriate personnel at the SST (to be identified in the implementation plan referred to below) for review and a decision on whether to allow ICE access to the site, and/or the information to ensure Palisades Charter High School compliance with *Plyer* and other applicable laws;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the officers of Palisades Charter High School shall establish all of Palisades Charter High School as resource and information sites for students and their families, and the Board encourages the officers of Palisades Charter High School to enhance partnerships with community-based and legal service organizations and directs the officers of Palisades Charter High School to provide the necessary outlets for expression, learning, communication, and

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information by the Palisades Charter High School family, which may include, among other actions:

- the institution of education fair days to provide Palisades Charter High School families with legal information to inform them of their rights; and
- the creation of a resource guide to provide assistance for families in need of assistance. **RESOLVED FURTHER**, that school leaders shall be directed to ensure all teachers, school administrators, and other staff will be trained on how to implement this policy and notification will be distributed to families to fully inform them of their rights; **RESOLVED FURTHER**, that Palisades Charter High School leadership shall prepare an implementation plan relating to the resolution and report back to the Board at its next regular meeting with respect to such implementation plan; and be it finally

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Board remains focused on teaching the academic skills, fostering the intellectual habits, and cultivating the character traits needed for all of our students to thrive in high school, college, and life.

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