



## RESOLUTION OPPOSING FAMILY SEPARATION

PROVIDING THAT THE LAS CRUCES PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION SUPPORTS THE INTEGRITY OF THE FAMILY UNIT AND OPPOSES ACTIONS TO SEPARATE CHILDREN FROM THEIR FAMILIES

**WHEREAS**, the Las Cruces Public Schools Board of Education embraces the diversity of New Mexico communities and celebrates the rich cultures that are brought to our city by people of all nationalities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Las Cruces Public Schools Board of Education, a committed group of elected officials, believes it is our responsibility to advocate for human rights and help protect all people from injustices and misguided practices involving immigration and other unjust federal and state policies; and

**WHEREAS**, the Las Cruces Public Schools Board of Education further asserts that the separation of children from their families at the U.S. border, in our own community, and any other community in the State of New Mexico is contrary to the rule of law and proper administration of justice; and

**WHEREAS**, the Las Cruces Public Schools is committed to providing safe and welcoming spaces where all students can focus on their education and that the District will support their safety and emotional well-being regardless of immigration status, nation of origin, race, sexual orientation or religion; and

**WHEREAS**, the Las Cruces Public Schools Board of Education is concerned that federal immigration law enforcement activities at our schools, on our transportation routes, on our District property, or during our school activities has the potential to significantly disrupt the learning environment and will significantly interfere with our students' constitutional rights to be free from unreasonable search and seizure and to access a free public education; and

**WHEREAS**, the Las Cruces Public Schools Board of Education denounces the unjust policy of detaining and incarcerating children and their families based on their immigration status; and

**WHEREAS**, the Las Cruces Public Schools Board of Education asserts that the children suffering traumatic events at the border reflect the children and communities that we serve in Las Cruces and, recognizing the fears that these events create in our communities, we wish to reaffirm our commitment to not collect, maintain, or share information about our students' immigration status – a commitment that is rooted in the 1982 Supreme Court decision *Plyler v. Doe*, in which the Supreme Court ruled that all children in this country have the constitutional right to receive a K-12 education, regardless of their immigration status; and

**WHEREAS**, the Las Cruces Public Schools Board of Education recognizes that stresses, tensions, hardships, and barriers to health and educational engagement exist, not only for students who are themselves undocumented, but also for students, whether undocumented or not, who have family members, friends, and schoolmates at risk, creating concerns that pervasively affect students in our schools, whatever their background and status, and

**WHEREAS**, the Las Cruces Public Schools Board of Education recognizes the need for a longer-term solution through the reform of our nation's immigration policies and calls on Congress to act on comprehensive and humane immigration reform.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Las Cruces Public Schools Board of Education, standing together with many school districts across the country, teachers, administrators, and other professional organizations, request that the New Mexico School Boards Association adopt a platform that demands the immediate end to forcible and traumatic separation of children from their families by the federal government in any community in New Mexico.

Adopted in open session on September 4, 2018



---

Mr. Ed Frank  
President, Las Cruces Board of Education