

The Board of Directors of the California School Employees Association

CSEA Supports Public Schools as Safe Zones for all of California's Students

WHEREAS, the California School Employees Association's mission is to improve the lives of our members, students and community;

WHEREAS, the promise of a free, universal and quality public education system is the foundation of our 21st Century democratic society, a civil right and the cornerstone of California's economy;

WHEREAS, the entire education community has a responsibility to ensure that all students who reside within its boundaries, regardless of immigration status, can safely access a free public K-12 education;

WHEREAS, federal immigration law enforcement activities, on or around District property and transportation routes, whether by surveillance, interview, demand for information, arrest, detention, or any other means, harmfully disrupt the learning environment to which all students, regardless of immigration status, are entitled and significantly interfere with the ability of all students, including U.S. citizen students and students who hold other legal grounds for presence in the U.S., to access a free public K-12 education;

WHEREAS, current national events have caused parents and students to express fear and confusion about the continued physical and emotional safety of all students;

WHEREAS, there has been an increase in hate speech and hostile acts in schools;

WHEREAS, classified school employees are often the primary source of support, resources, and information to assist and support students and student learning, which includes their emotional health;

WHEREAS, supporting quality public schools and colleges is about building the future of all of California's children, building stronger local communities and building a better California for all of us;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that CSEA is committed to insuring that every student has a safe and secure learning environment, free from intimidation or fear of racism, sexism, homophobia, discrimination and harassment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that CSEA leaders encourage all school districts to declare their District to be a Safe Zone, and not allow any individual or organization to enter a school site if the educational setting would be disrupted by that visit; and any request by ICE or other agencies to visit a school site should be presented to the Superintendent's Office for review as to whether access to the site is permitted by law, a judicial warrant is required, or any other legal considerations apply; this review should be made expeditiously, and before any immigration law enforcement agent or officer appears at a school site.



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