

**Seattle School District #1
Board Resolution**

Resolution No. 2017/18-5



A RESOLUTION of the Board of Directors of Seattle School District No. 1, King County, Seattle, Washington supporting undocumented students and urging the Federal government to provide them formal protection against deportation.

WHEREAS, as stated in Board Resolution No. 2016/17-12, the School Board recognizes that our nation's and District's diversity is our greatest strength and we celebrate 147 countries of birth and 143 languages and dialects spoken among our 53,000 students; and

WHEREAS, during the past two decades, the growth of the immigrant worker population has led to an increase in the number of undocumented children who, at early ages, were brought here by parents seeking a better life for their families; and

WHEREAS, many undocumented children have known no other home than the United States; and,

WHEREAS, the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) provides employment authorization and protection from deportation for undocumented immigrants who entered the United States as children and has benefitted nearly 800,000 undocumented youth since it began in 2012, giving them an opportunity to achieve the American dream; and

WHEREAS, these undocumented young people and their families are an integral part of the Seattle Public Schools community as students and staff; and,

WHEREAS, the uncertainty of the current situation causes tremendous apprehension amongst students and their families, as well as disruption in our classrooms and schools, which is not conducive to student learning and has a detrimental impact on overall student achievement; and

WHEREAS, Seattle Public Schools has a legal and moral obligation to provide education to all children within the district, regardless of immigration status and the fate of DACA, but that the uncertainty surrounding the DACA program's future has serious implications for our students once they graduate and immediate implications for many family members of our students; and

WHEREAS, Seattle Public Schools has updated Superintendent Procedure 4310SP to protect our immigrant students, requiring any request from Immigration and Customs Enforcement to be referred to the district Office of the General Counsel; and

WHEREAS, Seattle Public Schools is working with community partners to ensure that the children and families of students enrolled in the district are able to access immigration-related legal services; and

WHEREAS, Seattle Public Schools recognizes that promoting identity safety is critical to establishing safe, welcoming classroom environments that foster learning;


NOW THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that Seattle Public Schools will do our utmost to fulfill our constitutional duty to serve every student – including undocumented students – without regard to race, religion, national origin, or immigration status, and that we are committed to fully creating a safe, welcoming learning space for every student within our care; and therefore be it further

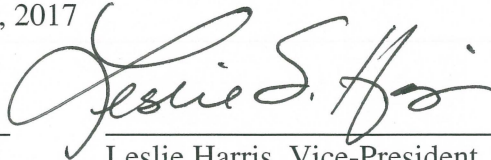
RESOLVED, that the Seattle School Board of Directors urges Congress to act swiftly to find a positive and permanent solution for the young people who are eligible for protections under the DACA program as it has existed; and therefore be it further

RESOLVED, that the Seattle School Board of Directors urges the presidential administration to reinstate DACA should Congress fail to act within the designated timeframe.

ADOPTED this 20th day of Sept., 2017



Sue Peters, President



Leslie Harris, Vice-President



Stephan Blanford, Member



Richard Burke, Member



Jill Geary, Member

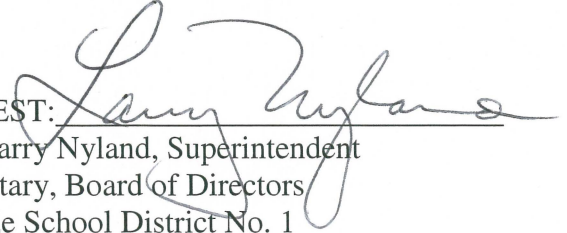


Betty Patu, Member

absent

Scott Pinkham, Member

ATTEST:



Dr. Larry Nyland, Superintendent
Secretary, Board of Directors
Seattle School District No. 1
King County, WA