

**Resolution to Support Immigrant and Refugee Students and Families Resolution No. 1, 2017**

**A Resolution** of the Board of Directors of the Puget Sound Educational Service District, affirming our commitment to the students, educators, administrators and families in our community.

**Whereas,** through its policies and practices, the Agency has made a commitment to success for each child and eliminating the opportunity gap by leading with racial equity;

**Whereas,** the Board recognizes that our nation’s and region’s diversity is our greatest strength and we celebrate 147 countries of birth and 143 languages and dialects spoken among our more than 420,000 students;

**Whereas,** the history of our community includes government actions that were enacted due to discriminatory beliefs that caused great harm to the citizens of this nation and violated basic principles of democracy;

**Whereas,** it is the right of every child, regardless of citizenship, immigration or refugee status, to access a free public education and the Agency welcomes and supports all students;

**Whereas,** parents and students have expressed to districts and the Agency fear and confusion about the continued physical and emotional safety of all students and the right to access a free public education;

**Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved** that the Board of Directors of Puget Sound Educational Service District does hereby affirm its commitment to:

1. Promote a safe, welcoming and inclusive learning environment – regardless of citizenship, immigrant or refugee status, race, religion, national origin, age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, housing status, veteran status, political ideology, ancestry, or any other social identity;
2. Honor and uphold the dignity, equality, civil and human rights of all students, educators, administrators, and families in the region;
3. Support policies, programs and services that benefit all members of the region, foster positive community participation, and allow children and families to live in the United States without fear of deportation;
4. Not deny services or the equal protection of the law to any student based on immigration status;
5. Support actions and efforts to inform all students, educators, administrators and families who identify as immigrants and refugees about their rights and obligations;
6. Not tolerate discrimination, harassment, expressions of hate, or any behavior intended to promote fear, intimidation, or isolation;
7. Use our platform as elected officials to promote fairness, equity, antiracism, and equality;
8. Support school districts with resources on training for teachers, staff and administrators on current policies and practices that support undocumented students, refugee students, and their families;
9. Support spaces where students, staff, and families can learn about their rights and the resources available to them.