

Resolution 1819R-003

By Directors Báez and Falk

WHEREAS, Recent federal immigration policies resulting in separating children from their families and/or detaining children and families for extended periods of time put thousands of children at risk and are an affront to all human rights; and

WHEREAS, Children separated from their families and/or detained for extended period of time lack access to their adult family members as teachers and lack the proper opportunities and resources to engage in educational activities; and

WHEREAS, Research shows that children should be engaged in learning activities and play and that students lacking educational opportunities from a young age have the potential for lifelong, harmful consequences; and

WHEREAS, All children have the right to a free and appropriate education; and

WHEREAS, Children separated from their families and/or detained for extended periods of time lack access to free and appropriate education; and

WHEREAS, Parents separated from their children are denied the opportunity to make informed decisions about their child's education; and

WHEREAS, the equal protection clause of the 14th amendment requires states and public schools Districts to provide free public schooling to children residing in the state and school district boundaries, as affirmed by Plyler v. Doe 1982 Supreme Court Decision; and

WHEREAS, On March 30, 2017, the Milwaukee Board of School Directors unanimously approved Resolution 1617R-007 regarding safe havens for students and families; and

WHEREAS, through adoption of Resolution 1617R-007, the Milwaukee Board of School Directors declared the Milwaukee Public Schools to be a safe haven for its students and families threatened by immigration enforcement or discrimination, to the fullest extent permitted by the law; now, therefore, be it;

RESOLVED, That by adopting this resolution, the Milwaukee Board of School Directors echoes the voices of students and families in Milwaukee Public Schools and across the nation in condemning the separation of families and the long-term detainment of families by the federal government; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Milwaukee Board of School Directors call on legislative leaders at the federal level to immediately cease the practice of separating children from their families and/or detaining families for extended periods of time; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Milwaukee Board of School Directors call on legislative leaders at the state and federal levels to cease providing resources that support any policy that results in the separation of children from their families and/or the detainment of families for an extended period of time;

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Milwaukee Board of School Directors call on nonprofit and private organizations that are partners of MPS or conduct business with MPS to cease providing resources that support any policy that results in the separation of children from their families and/or the detainment of families for an extended period of time, as a function of immigration policy; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board direct the Board Clerk to have an engrossed copy of this document, suitably signed and sealed, prepared, and delivered to the Milwaukee Common Council, the Milwaukee delegation of the Wisconsin State Legislature, and the Wisconsin delegation of the United States Congress.

June 28, 2018