



Standing with Families to Protect the Rights of Immigrants Families

Shaker Heights has a long history of promoting and valuing diversity back to the 1960's. Then, the community intentionally sought to integrate Ludlow School as a student body and community of multiracial members. Our schools value multiple perspectives that add to our understanding, knowledge, and contributions to our community.

Today, we are at a crossroads. The policies of the new presidential administration focusing on the mass deportation of immigrants threaten many contributing diverse members, families, and students in our communities.

The international student population's safety and well-being are vulnerable to the unethical and racial discrimination taking place across the country as a result of the new presidential administration's practices around immigration. I.C.E. agents are now targeting cities and school districts with large populations of Latino and other ethnic minorities, attempting to gain entry into school buildings to investigate and identify children of immigrant families. Federal law ensures all children regardless of immigrant status have the right to free public education. The district has stated, "It is committed to providing a safe, welcoming, and inclusive school environment for all students, regardless of their immigration status. To that end, we will follow school safety protocols, District policy, and state and federal laws, which provide guidance on who is allowed to contact students during the school day."

We have students and families impacted by the president's policies on immigration and mass deportation. The current policies devalue the contributions of our families of immigrants. Each of our students, mothers, and fathers are persons of value. They are living in fear and anxiety about their tenuous ability to provide for their families and live in our community. **Now is the time to stand up for them.**

Please contact your Senate and Congressional representatives using the link below. Cut and paste the crafted opposition message or write your oppositional statement.

Opposition Message:

Dear _____,

The Trump administration authorized the federal authorities to conduct immigration arrests on school campuses. Trump's immigration policy is an attack on our students, families, and communities. This policy is wrong. It undermines the values of our country. We have always welcomed immigrants and valued their contributions.

The threat of mass deportations is already traumatizing students all across America. Many find it difficult—or impossible—to focus on their studies when consumed with fear of what the future holds for them and their families. Schools are places of learning, sensitive locations where immigration enforcement does not occur; that should remain the case.

We urge you to work on behalf of your constituents in our state to repeal these policies. Our community members deserve to work and raise their families in a safe environment, free from the threat of deportation. They have the right to work through their immigration status through the court system.

Respectfully,

(your name)

[Find your Federal House Representative](#)

[Find Your Federal Senate Representative](#)

[Find your Ohio State Senate Member](#)

[Find you Ohio State Congressional Member](#)

Thank you for your attention,

Eileen Sweeney & Jessica O'Brien
SHTA Political Action Committee Chairpersons