



February 21, 2017

Dear CPS Families,

In the days since the Presidential election, many members of our school community have felt concern and anxiety, and we want you to know that we are here to support your children and provide them with a safe and welcoming educational environment. We are resolute in our commitment as a [Welcoming District](#) to embrace and celebrate all members of our diverse school community.

Many of you have inquired about the protections in place to safeguard your children at school. We assure you that CPS will not permit the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to access CPS facilities or use CPS personnel to assist in the enforcement of federal civil immigration law.

We are also providing you with a set of resources that you can reference in regard to potential immigration questions. Attached to this letter you will find:

- Multi-language guidance from the City of Chicago's Office of New Americans on legal assistance, immigrant rights, mental health care, and public safety
- Multi-language palmcards from the National Immigrant Justice Center on immigrant rights that can be carried with you at all times

As we continue to explore new opportunities to better support you and your children, we want you to know that our schools are safe for all students regardless of their race, ethnicity or country of origin. We know that some families are concerned about sending their children to school at this time, but we firmly believe that the safest and most beneficial place for your children is a classroom alongside their fellow students where they can work toward a bright future.

The strength of Chicago Public Schools lies in its diversity, and regardless of which CPS school you attend, your children are supported and loved. We hope that the attached resources will be useful in addressing some of the concerns you may have, and we encourage you to reach out to your school's principal or network office for additional information, resources and guidance.

Sincerely,

Dr. Janice K. Jackson
Chief Education Officer
Chicago Public Schools

