



SAN MATEO  
COUNTY  
OFFICE OF  
EDUCATION

Anne E. Campbell • County Superintendent of Schools

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **San Mateo County Board Commits to Protecting Undocumented Students**

REDWOOD CITY, CALIF. – Earlier this month, the San Mateo County Board of Education and the San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools adopted a joint resolution in support of all students and families in San Mateo County, regardless of immigration status.

The resolution was passed on the heels of November's presidential election—one that has impacted schools and classrooms across the county and made many students and their families fearful about the future. According to Superintendent Anne Campbell, "The County Board and I hope this resolution sends a strong message to families that county leaders and administrators are ready to take all legally permissible actions to protect the rights of our students."

"We are proud to live in a county of immigrants, in a state of immigrants, in a nation of immigrants," said Joe Ross, president of the County Board, which voted unanimously for the joint resolution. "There is no place for discriminatory lists or registries in our schools. Our job is to make sure each student in San Mateo County, regardless of status, is afforded a great education and a safe environment to learn."

The resolution states that information will not be collected regarding students' and families' immigration status when students enroll in San Mateo County Office of Education (SMCOE) programs. SMCOE and its school sites will also resist any federal attempts to develop a registry based on national origin, religion, or any other characteristic protected by the United States and California constitutions. SMCOE's highest priority is ensuring that all students are able to learn in safe and supportive school environments. The adoption of this resolution is a first step toward guaranteeing this principle.

A total of 12 school district boards in San Mateo County have already adopted similar resolutions, with a number of others taking action at upcoming meetings. SMCOE looks forward to working with all our county's school districts, as well as with other local government agencies and community groups, to ensure we are serving all our students equitably and to the best of our ability.

In the words of Governor Jerry Brown, "We will defend everybody—every man, woman, and child—who has come here for a better life and has contributed to the well-being of our state."

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The San Mateo County Office of Education is committed to ensuring excellence and equity in education by inspiring students, investing in teachers, invigorating leaders, and involving communities.