



RESOLUTION
SANTA MONICA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
PROVIDES A SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL STUDENTS AND PERSONNEL

Whereas, the Santa Monica Community College District recognizes the rights of all students and their families, regardless of immigration status, family structure, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, gender identity, or marital status; and

Whereas, the Santa Monica Community College District Board of Trustees acknowledges that civil and human rights are deeply rooted in the fabric of democratic and principled societies; and

Whereas, prominent among Santa Monica College's institutional values are mutual respect, to treat one another with dignity, trust and fairness; to appreciate the diversity of our community, students and workforce in a collegial and cooperative manner; to positively engage the college community in developing a deep appreciation of, and collegiality among all cultures; and

Whereas, Santa Monica College is a leader and innovator in learning and achievement by fostering its core values: knowledge, intellectual inquiry, research-based planning and evaluation, academic integrity, ethical behavior, democratic processes, communication and collegiality, global awareness, and sustainability; and

Whereas, Santa Monica College is and will continue to be a safe environment for all students and personnel; and

Whereas, Santa Monica College will continue to work with the college community, national and state wide education leaders and elected officials to ensure that our students are able to pursue their educational goals.

Therefore Be It Resolved that the Santa Monica Community College District Board of Trustees stands united in continuing to provide a safe environment for all students who choose to better their lives through education and will maintain the following strategies to be consistent with the college's values:

- The SMC Police Department should not detain, question, arrest any individual on the basis of suspected undocumented immigration status;
- The District will not cooperate with any effort to create a registry of individuals based on any protected characteristics such as religion, national origin, race or sexual orientation;
- No confidential student records should be released without a judicial warrant, subpoena or court order, unless authorized by the student or required by law.
- Santa Monica College will continue to advocate for educational opportunities for all students regardless of immigration status.

It is Further Resolved that:

- The Santa Monica Community College District reaffirms its current admission and financial aid policies regarding undocumented students. The College will provide confidential counseling services for undocumented students and DACA recipients regarding their educational goals;
- The Santa Monica Community College District Board of Trustees reaffirms the College's commitment to create a campus atmosphere of respect by denouncing hate speech directed at immigrant, ethnic minority, religious and LGBTQ students and workers, and by informing the campus community of existing resources for reporting and responding to identity-based hate incidents; and
- The Santa Monica Community College District will partner with local agencies including the City of Santa Monica, City of Malibu, the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, Santa Monica Police Department, County of Los Angeles, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department and non-profit agencies and legal services agencies to provide referrals to resources and support for families with deportation concerns; and
- The Board of Trustees joins the University of California, the California State University and the California Community College system to formally request that the United States government preserve the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, which allows children of undocumented immigrants to pursue higher education in the United States.

COMMENT: The resolution incorporates many of the comments made at the December Board meeting and suggestions in the petition signed by SMC students, faculty, staff and alumni which was submitted to the Board. The revised resolution was circulated to the Student Equity Steering Committee and the Associated Students leadership for review and input.

Approved by the Board of Trustees: January 17, 2017