

**WESTLAKE CHARTER SCHOOL
RESOLUTION NO. 0406-2017**

**Resolution in Support of Natomas Unified School District Designating
District Schools as Safe Havens**

WHEREAS, under the law, all students have the right to attend public school and enjoy access to equitable educational and programmatic services regardless of the immigration status of the student; and

WHEREAS, our mission states, “We demonstrate what is possible when school and community collaborate to create inspiring adults with the academic and social-emotional readiness to lead as Global Citizens;” and

WHEREAS, this mission shall apply to all that Westlake Charter School does, irrespective of students immigration status, ethnicity, race, religion, sexual orientation, ability, sex and gender identity, socioeconomic status or beliefs; and

WHEREAS, the Natomas Unified School District (District) is ranked as the second most diverse school district in the nation and first in Sacramento County as reported by The New York Times on December 6, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Westlake Charter School embraces the diversity of our students and families and the rich language and cultural assets they bring to our community and strongly supports and encourages the participation of all parents and families; and

WHEREAS, recently, students and parents have expressed fear, anxiety, and confusion regarding the ability of the Office of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to enter schools for the purpose of determining legal status of students and their families; and

WHEREAS, ICE’s 2011 policy states that it will not conduct immigration enforcement activity at any sensitive location, which includes schools, without special permission by specific federal law enforcement officials; unless exigent circumstances exist; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Board for the Natomas Unified School District led the way by adopting NUSD Resolution No. 17-04 clearly stating the District’s commitment to serve as a Safe Haven for students and families threatened by immigration enforcement, hate crimes or discrimination based upon their immigration status; and

WHEREAS, Westlake Charter School desires to make this same commitment, not only to our own students, but to all students and families in our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors for Westlake Charter School declares its commitment that Westlake Charter School be a safe and welcoming place for all students and their families.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Board of Directors for Westlake Charter School hereby supports and agrees to abide by Natomas Unified School District's commitment to create a safe educational environment for all students, serving as a safe haven for students and families threatened by immigration enforcement or hate crimes and/or discrimination related to immigration status, to the fullest extent provided by the law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, regardless of a student's or family's immigration status, absent any applicable federal, state, local law or regulation or local ordinance or court decision, Westlake Charter School shall abide by the following:

1. Because it is the general policy of Natomas Unified School District and Westlake Charter School not to allow any individual or organization to enter a school site if the educational setting would be disrupted by that visit, any request by ICE or federal agencies/other authorities enforcing immigration laws to visit a school site should be forwarded to the Executive Director or designee for review, who, in consultation with legal counsel, will take action to support students, families, and staff.
2. All requests for information by ICE or other governmental authorities enforcing immigration laws shall be forwarded to the Executive Director or designee for review, who, in consultation with legal counsel, shall determine what information, if any, must be released.
3. Should ICE or other governmental authorities enforcing immigration laws comes to a school site unannounced, administrative staff will immediately notify the Executive Director or designee, who, in consultation with legal counsel, shall take all necessary actions to support our students, families and community.

ON MOTION of Director Kim Hewitt, seconded by Director Allison Chavez the following resolution is hereby passed and adopted on April 6, 2017, by the following vote:

AYES: 6
NOES: 0
ABSENT: 0
ABSTAIN: 0



Hope Gawlick, President

Westlake Charter School Board of Directors