



FAQs on Safe Zone School Board Resolution Sample Language/Guidance

1. What can we do to address student fear about immigration enforcement under the new Administration?

Join with your local NEA association to lobby your local school board for a SAFE ZONE resolution. The board can enact a resolution like the one attached here as part of regular business at its next meeting. It contains reassurances for students, procedures for law enforcement, and information and support for families and staff.

2. What needs to take place in order for our district to become a SAFE ZONE?

Your school board can take up a proposed resolution like the one attached here at its next regularly scheduled meeting. Just be sure the meeting notice requirements are met and that your school board has this sample language. Through its normal governance procedure, the board can approve and sign a SAFE ZONE resolution, including a policy that would then take effect immediately.

3. Does a SAFE ZONE resolution require additional district expenditures, staff responsibilities, school hours, or other resources?

No. It reaffirms and clarifies the constitutional right all students have, regardless of immigration status, to access a free public K-12 education. The district administration will need to take steps to ensure the resolution's requirements are being fulfilled, but it does not add new or different job duties or hours for educators.

4. Can I discuss immigration enforcement and student fears in my classroom?

Yes, so long as the discussion is age-appropriate. The attached resolution underscores your freedom to do this, assuming that mandatory curricular subjects are also covered in a timely way. The productivity of the learning environment improves when pressing concerns of students can be addressed.

5. Can I refuse directives from law enforcement?

No, a SAFE ZONE resolution does not provide immunity should you decline to obey directives from law enforcement. The resolution does provide steps you must request that law enforcement follow. If law enforcement refuses to cooperate, that becomes a matter for the district legal counsel and courts to determine. You are not expected to put yourself or those around you at risk to assert these rights.