

Public Schools of Plainfield

New Jersey

Office of the Acting Superintendent of Schools

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Dear Plainfield Public Schools Community,

I am writing on behalf of all our Plainfield Public School District (PPSD) to express support to our students, families and community, at this time of uncertainty regarding immigration issues. Our mission is to serve our students so they can achieve the highest academic standards and where neither race, religion, ethnicity or immigration status will become an obstacle to their education. In that vein I would like to share with you the following Q&A:

Q: What impact does undocumented immigration status have on my child's education?

A: None! Children have a constitutional right to have equal access to education regardless of their immigration status or their parents' status.

Q: Does Plainfield Public Schools ask for a child's immigration status when he or she enrolls?

A: No. The Plainfield Public School District (PPSD) has an obligation to enroll students regardless of their immigration status and without discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin.

Q: Would the school district ever share our students' immigration status with the federal immigration officials?

A: As mentioned above, we do not ask for students' immigration status when they enroll. However, if we became aware of a student's lack of immigration status, we would not share that information with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

Q: What does Plainfield Public Schools do to ensure that no student or family is discriminated against or harassed because of their race, ethnicity, religion or national origin?

A: PPSD believes deeply in ensuring equity – it is one of our core values. We have policies in place that mandate no discrimination or harassment for our students, families, or employees on the base of race, ethnicity, religion, national origin, and many other protected classes.

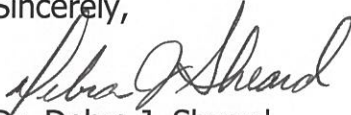
Q: What should I do if I want to understand my immigration rights?

A: Only immigration attorneys can provide you with accurate advice about immigration status and how you can pursue any legal rights you might have. You can seek an immigration attorney for the American Immigration Lawyers Association here:

- <http://www.aialawyer.org> (English)
- <http://www.aialawyer.org/spanish/default.aspx> (Spanish)

Every student deserves an education and we want to let everyone know in our Plainfield Public School District that we will do everything within our power to ensure that your children and families will continue to have access to high-quality education in our Plainfield Public School District.

Sincerely,



Dr. Debra J. Sheard
Acting Superintendent of
Plainfield Public Schools