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Subject: Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in Schools

Dear SPS Teachers, Administrators, and Staff:

As you know, recent changes in federal immigration policy are generating questions about Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in schools. I'd like to take this opportunity to outline information that may be helpful to you as we navigate through these changes.

First, State of Connecticut officials, including Governor Lamont and Attorney General William Tong, have stated that it is the policy of the State of Connecticut to "respect, honor and protect immigrants and immigrant families in full compliance with the law." The Connecticut Board of Education's [Multilingual Learner Bill of Rights](#) states that all children have the right to attend public school, regardless of their or their parents' immigration status, and the [Trust Act](#) limits the authority of local police departments to cooperate with ICE.

Last week, the Department of Homeland Security, which oversees ICE, eliminated the policy that protected schools from immigration enforcement actions. Despite this change, ICE is still prohibited from entering non-public areas of school buildings in most cases unless they present a judicial warrant signed by a federal judge.

On Monday, I met with building administrators and [gave this presentation](#) on how SPS staff should respond to ICE enforcement activities.

Should ICE attempt to enter a school:

1. No building personnel should grant ICE permission to enter or to search a school building.
2. ICE agents should be referred to the building administrator. Agents should remain outside or in the lobby or main office while waiting for the building administrator.
3. The building administrator will contact the Associate Superintendent to initiate an on-site response from SPS compliance, security, or legal staff.
4. While waiting for District personnel to arrive, the building administrator will confirm the agent's identity and ask the reason for the visit.
5. Upon arrival, District personnel will meet with the ICE agents to review the warrant and determine the legality of the agent's request.

It is highly unlikely that anyone other than school security personnel, SROs, office support staff, or school administrators will ever have to interact with ICE inside a school facility. Should ICE agents approach you while outside on school grounds, respectfully direct the agents to the main entrance.

I hope this information has helped to answer your questions. Please feel free to reach out to me directly with any further questions.

Respectfully,

Chris

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