



Central Office
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SPRINGFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS - SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS


Sonia E. Dinnall, Ph.D Superintendent of Schools

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Educating to Empower

MEMORANDUM

TO: Principals

FROM: Dr. Sonia E. Dinnall, Superintendent 

SUBJECT: Responding to Concerns About Immigration Status

DATE: January 21, 2025

Dear Principals,

I want to share important guidance about supporting families and students who may have concerns about their immigration status and their rights within our schools. Springfield Public Schools is committed to ensuring that every child, regardless of immigration status, has access to a safe and welcoming educational environment.

Here are some key points to help guide you. Further information will be shared as it becomes available.

No Questions About Immigration Status

We do not ask families or students for information about their immigration status or any related documentation.

Support for Families and Students

We are dedicated to fostering open communication with immigrant communities and offering compassionate assistance to help them feel safe and supported in our schools. Recognizing that some students and families may experience heightened anxiety or fear, particularly in response to escalating news coverage about federal immigration enforcement, it is essential that we provide both reassurance and support. Please ensure that families and staff are aware of our district's unwavering commitment to their well-being, including the availability of counseling services and other resources through our schools. Let us continue to create a supportive environment that reflects our care and understanding of their experiences.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)

If ICE arrives at your school, do not answer any questions and immediately contact the Central Office at 787-7100 for further guidance.

Enrollment is a Right for All

State and federal law require that all school-aged children who reside in Springfield be enrolled in school, regardless of immigration status. Families should not face any barriers or delays due to their immigration status.