



## **Statement Affirming Charter Schools' Commitment to Ensuring the Safety and Security of All Students Regardless of Immigration Status**

March 28, 2017

On behalf of the Los Angeles charter community, we are profoundly disturbed by the recent escalation of actions aimed squarely at the communities we serve. Each day parents from all walks of life send their children to our campuses, entrusting us with their safety and their learning. For many children, especially those from highly vulnerable communities, our schools are their sanctuaries – their home away from home. So we are outraged when students are robbed of the safe and nurturing environments on which they have come to rely and that every child needs in order to succeed.

The action on February 28<sup>th</sup> here in Los Angeles by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents, who detained a father who has lived in this country for two decades – in front of his children on their way to school – has provoked fear and turmoil among thousands of children and families in communities across the city. This instability has immediate and significant consequences on the education process. It interferes with our teachers' ability to educate students; it discourages some students from even attending school; and it discourages high school seniors from applying for federal financial aid because they fear their personal information might be used to punish their family members. Already, we've found that fewer of our students will be applying to and enrolling in college this year.

For these reasons, several charter schools have joined an amicus brief to support the ACLU's lawsuit challenging President Trump's Executive Order to withhold federal funds from any state or local governments identified as "sanctuary jurisdictions."

We stand with our students and will do everything within our power to protect them from trauma. The path to and from school must be kept sacred.

Respectfully,



Ana Ponce  
Executive Director  
Camino Nuevo Charter  
Academy  
6 schools, 3,400 students



Erin Studer  
Executive Director  
CHIME Institute  
1 school, 750 students



Oliver Sicat  
CEO  
Ednovate/ USC Hybrid High  
2 schools, 580 students

**Our mission is to transform the public school system so that all district and charter students have access to high-quality public schools.**



Michelle Jasso and Ted Morris  
Co-Directors  
Endeavor College Preparatory  
1 school, 600 students



Malka Borrego  
Founder and CEO  
Equitas Academy  
3 schools, 850 students



Irene Sumida  
Executive Director  
Fenton Charter Public Schools  
5 schools, 3,000 students



Cristina de Jesus  
President and CEO  
Green Dot Public Schools California  
19 schools, 11,200 students



Caprice Young, Ed.D.  
CEO & Superintendent  
Magnolia Public Schools  
11 schools, 3,700 students



Jacqueline Elliot, Ed.D.  
Co-founder & CEO  
PUC National  
13 schools, 5,000 students



Emilio Pack, Ed.D.  
Executive Director  
STEM Preparatory Schools  
2 school, 810 students



Yvette King-Berg  
Executive Director  
YPI Charter Schools  
3 schools, 800 students



Marcia Aaron  
Executive Director  
KIPP LA Schools  
13 schools, 5,000 students



Brian Bauer  
Executive Director  
Granada Hills Charter High School  
1 school, 4,500 students



Mark Kleiger-Heine  
Executive Director  
Citizens of the World Charter Schools  
3 schools, 570 students



Pamela Magee  
Executive Director/Principal  
Palisades Charter High School  
1 school, 3,000 students



Parker Hudnut  
CEO  
ICEF Public Schools  
9 schools, 3,300 students



Vanessa Jackson  
Executive Director  
Collegiate Charter  
1 school,

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