



SHOWING UP
FOR OUR
NEIGHBORS

Dear Superintendent Dorland, Board of Education Directors, and JCPS leadership,

The Jefferson County Immigrant Partnership Team, an affiliate of the [Colorado Statewide Immigrant Partnership Team](#) (IPT) works across Jefferson County to support and protect our immigrant neighbors. Public education is one of the areas we've focused closely on, as we – like you – believe all adults should be going to every length possible to protect the children of our community. They always deserve for us to take all possible measures to ensure their safety, but that's especially true at a time when our government has already kidnapped and imprisoned more than [3,800 children under excruciating conditions](#) – children just like our own. We believe that every possible measure includes developing innovative strategies and tactics, thinking beyond business as usual, and enduring disruption and inconvenience. We all hope that the worst case scenario won't knock on our door, but the only path forward that ensures the safety of our community's children is to be truly prepared for it.

We recognize that the work of community safety in such an unprecedented time is an immense amount of work. It requires revisiting previous actions, creating new policies, educating thousands of educators and staff on new protocols, and doing the incredibly difficult work of implementation. We hope to form a partnership with you that lightens, rather than adds to, that load. In that spirit, we've partnered with Engage Jeffco to review district policies from Jeffco and neighboring districts. We strongly urge an immediate review and bolstering of the below policies. Not long ago, these policies may have been enough to keep our children safe, but unfortunately that is no longer the case. We have linked to DPS policies that have been updated with language to clarify district policy around immigration enforcement.

- [Jeffco District Policy JIH](#) (Student Interviews, Interrogations, Searches, and Arrests) This policy should contain clear direction on exactly how school staff should handle ICE or CBP agents who come to a school requesting access to a child. The legally binding Resolution adopted in February 2025 does provide some guidance, but is not District Policy. Staff should be trained on a safety protocol supported by a clear District Policy. One way to do this quickly is by reviewing and amending the Resolution to address the current realities of how ICE and CBP are operating in and around schools, and then make it a District Policy. For example, [DPS policy](#) includes a section at the bottom of their policy specific to immigration interrogations. We are happy to help with drafting and/or researching other policies that can be used as a model.
- [Jeffco District Policy KI](#) (Visitors to Schools) while this policy previously made a lot of sense, it is far too broad for this moment, as it welcomes any and all visitors. Visitors should be limited to only those who have a lawful reason to be there. For example, [DPS Policy KI](#) includes much stronger and limiting language, including the following:

“Visiting a school is a privilege, not a right, which may be limited, denied or revoked by a school administrator or designee based on considerations of student and /or staff safety and health, efficient school operations, maintenance of a proper educational environment, or failure to comply with this policy.”

- [Jeffco District Policy JRA/JRC](#) is in contradiction with the District’s Resolution, which states that requests by ICE or CBP for student information will be sent for review, with no reassurance from the District that a student’s immigration status will not be shared. A good example of strengthened language is the [DPS JRA/JRC policy](#).

In addition to the above policy updates, clear and direct communication on how these policies will be implemented in practice is important. A policy is only as good as the training and confidence of the community to implement it. An example, below, is a series of communications that DPS sent to their entire community to provide clear information, repeatedly. We implore Jeffco to begin a regular communication campaign to provide the desperately needed resources, direction, and training to the entire Jeffco Public Schools community.

DPS’s effective communication campaign model:

[Communication from Superintendent on January 17, 2025](#) - highlights need for families to update emergency contacts and provides links to family toolkits

[DPS weekly newsletter sent on February 28, 2025](#) - links to more extensive family/student toolkits

[DPS newsletter dedicated to immigrant community resources from July 3, 2025](#) - links out to community orgs, discusses ICE and summer programming

[DPS Leader Weekly newsletter from October 2025](#) - encourages schools to resend resources to their communities/staff, including quick access resources for staff

[DPS Leader Weekly newsletter from February 2026](#) - encourages school leaders to check in with their staff, families, and students to ensure resources are accessible, including front office protocol, specific guidance for communicating with families that have members currently detained by ICE, attendance coding, and links to gain access to more KYR cards for their communities.

School- and community-based groups have begun to advocate and plan independently in the absence of clear district communications regarding a response to ICE. It would greatly benefit the entire Jeffco community for the district to lead in ensuring every child across our county is safe. We hope to partner with you in this most important effort. Please let us know how we can be most helpful to get this work moving quickly.

In solidarity,

The Jefferson County Immigration Partnership Team