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January 23, 2025

Dear Fitchburg Public Schools Families,

Fitchburg Public Schools are places of learning, and our primary focus is on the education and well-being of our students. While we are aware of discussions and reports surrounding the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) operations, our district's approach will continue to prioritize the safety and sense of security of our school community.

In light of recent developments concerning ICE activities, I want to reaffirm our district's unwavering commitment to the safety and well-being of all our students and their families.

When it comes to our students and families' immigration status, please know that Fitchburg Public Schools maintains the following protections:

- FPS does not collect or maintain information relating to the immigration status of students or their families.
- FPS does not coordinate with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).
- FPS does not share student records with ICE, except in rare instances when a court order or parental/guardian consent is provided.
- FPS will not allow ICE access to our schools without a criminal judicial warrant signed by a federal judge.
- FPS only dismisses students to people authorized by parents/guardians. We ask that all families make sure their child's information is up to date with your child's school.

Principals and school staff have received information on protecting students' rights, responding to ICE interactions, and supporting students whose parents/guardians may be detained.

The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) is working with the State Office of Refugees and Immigrants to provide districts with further guidance and information. On Monday, January 27th, the DESE will provide school districts with an overview of legal resources for immigrants in the Commonwealth, know your rights resources, and guidance for interaction with immigration officers. I will reach out to all families next week with additional information.

We encourage families to stay informed and reach out with any concerns or questions. Our counselors and support staff are available to provide assistance and resources as needed. Together, we will continue to foster an inclusive and supportive educational environment for all students.

Sincerely,

Jon Thompson
Superintendent
Fitchburg Public Schools

ADAPTABLE - COLLABORATIVE - GROWTH FOCUSED - TRUSTWORTHY - VULNERABLE

The School Committee's policy of nondiscrimination extends to students, employees, and the general public with whom it does business. Fitchburg Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, age or disability in admission to, access to, employment in, or equal treatment in its programs and/or activities in compliance with state and federal law. Questions related to this policy must be addressed to: The Human Resources Director/Grievance Officer, 376 South Street, Fitchburg, MA 01420, (978) 345-3213.

La política de no discriminación del Comité Escolar se extiende a los estudiantes, empleados y el público en general con los cuales hace negocios. Las Escuelas Públicas de Fitchburg no discrimina, por razones de raza, color, religión, credo, origen nacional, género, orientación sexual, identidad de género, edad o discapacidad en la admisión, en el acceso a, empleo en, o en la igualdad de trato en sus programas y/o actividades en cumplimiento de la ley estatal y federal.

Las preguntas relacionadas con esta política deben ser dirigidas a: El Director de Recursos Humanos/Oficial de Querellas, 376 South Street, Fitchburg, MA 01420, (978) 345-3213.

Tsab ntawv ceeb toom ntawm Non Kev Ntxub Ntxaug
Lub tsev kawm ntawv Committee txoj cai ntawm ntxub ntxaug neua mus rau cov tub kawm ntawv, neeg ua hauj lwm, thiab sawv daws nrog rau leej twg nws tsis ua lag luam. Fitchburg Public Schools tsis tau raws haiv neeg, (tos ngaij daim tawv, kev ntseeg, Creed, lub teb chaws, ntxhais, kev sib deev xeeb, ntxhais yog leejtwg, hnub nyooq los sis kev tsis taus nyob rau hauv nkag tau mus kawm rau, nkag rau, kev ua hauj lwm nyob rau hauv, los yog vaj huam sib luag txoj kev kho mob nyob rau hauv nws cov kev pab cuam thiab / los yog kev ua ub no nyob rau hauv raws li lub xeev thiab tsoom fivv teb chaws txoj cai.
Yog muaj lus nug txog txoj cai no yuav tsum tau nyob rau: Lub Human Resources Director / Tsis Txaus Siab Officer, 376 South Street, Fitchburg, MA 01420, (978) 345-3213.

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