



SANTA CRUZ
COUNTY OFFICE OF
EDUCATION
DR. FARIS SABBAAH - SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Santa Cruz County Board of Education • 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 • Tel (831) 466-5900 • www.santacruzcoe.org
Mr. Ed Acosta • Mr. Edward Estrada • Mr. Greg Larson • Ms. Sue Roth
Mr. Abel Sanchez • Mr. Bruce Van Allen • Ms. Rachel Williams

Student Trustees: Natalie Hofkins & Ruben Marcus

RESOLUTION #25-02 IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 48

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 48 (SB 48), introduced by Senate Majority Leader Lena Gonzalez, builds upon existing protections to safeguard the rights and safety of students, families, and school personnel by prohibiting federal immigration authorities from accessing school campuses without a judicial warrant and by limiting the sharing of sensitive information related to immigration enforcement; and

WHEREAS, nearly half of California's 9 million children (and 42% of Santa Cruz County's children) are part of immigrant families, with one in five living in mixed-status families, and the vast majority of these children are United States citizens, underscoring the critical need for school environments free from immigration enforcement threats; and

WHEREAS, research shows that immigration enforcement actions near schools lead to declines in student attendance and academic performance, including increased absenteeism, difficulties with concentration, and heightened dropout rates, disproportionately affecting Latinx students and children from immigrant families; and

WHEREAS, the California Constitution guarantees all students, regardless of immigration status, the inalienable right to access safe, secure, and peaceful campuses, and SB 48 reinforces this guarantee by ensuring that schools remain safe havens where students can learn without fear of deportation or discrimination; and

WHEREAS, SB 48 aligns with California's values and its commitment to upholding the rights of all residents, including immigrant families, by preventing collaboration between local law enforcement and immigration authorities in ways that jeopardize the well-being of students and school communities; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Cruz County Board of Education is committed to fostering equitable and inclusive learning environments for all students, regardless of their or their families' immigration status, to ensure every student can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Cruz County Board of Education and Santa Cruz County Office of Education express strong support for SB 48 and urge its swift passage to protect the educational rights, safety, and dignity of students, families, and school personnel across California.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Santa Cruz County Board of Education, County of Santa Cruz, State of California, this 16th day of January, 2026, by the following vote:

AYES: Estrada, Larson, Sanchez, Van Allen, Williams

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: Acosta, Roth



Abel Sanchez, Board President
Santa Cruz County Board of Education



Dr. Faris M. Sabbah, Secretary
Santa Cruz County Superintendent of Schools