



Contra Costa County Office of Education

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Karen Sakata, Superintendent of Schools

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As Contra Costa County Superintendent of Schools, I strongly oppose the action of the Trump administration to suspend the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program (DACA). According to the Migration Policy Institute, nearly 250,000 young people have received DACA status since 2012. Approximately 8,000 of these young people live, work and attend school in Contra Costa County.

Our office, the Contra Costa County Office of Education, proudly supports 18 school districts, nearly 300 public schools and 176,000+ students in our county. Our agency will continue to convey the strong message to all students and families impacted by this decision that public schools in Contra Costa County will remain open and welcoming places for all students, regardless of immigration status. We will not turn our backs on these students, and will continue to protect and support young people enrolled in our districts.

We are a nation of immigrants, and as superintendent in a county where diversity is embraced and nurtured, I firmly believe this decision is contrary to the very ideals that make our county, state and nation great.

A long list of public agencies and non-profit organizations whose missions center around youth advocacy have condemned the decision. I, along with school district superintendents in our county join these groups in solidarity, and staunchly denounce the end of the Federal Dream Act. We speak as one voice in support of “all” students and oppose any action that would negatively impact Contra Costa County students and their families.

The Contra Costa County Office of Education (CCCOE) has created a toolkit entitled “All Kids are Our Kids; Post-Election Toolkit for Educators.” CCCOE has recently added a section to this toolkit focused on DACA-related issues and resources. The toolkit can be found at www.cocoschools.org.

Additionally, I join the Association of California School Administrators in challenging community members to contact their Congressional representative to implement a legislative solution that supports children who may be impacted. To find out who your representatives are, go to <https://www.acsa.org/Advocacy/advocacy-in-action>.

We will continue to advocate for all students in our communities. Schools in Contra Costa County have always been safe and healthy places for all students to learn, and that will not change. We remain deeply committed to all of our students and will do everything we can to ensure their safety and success.

Sincerely,

Karen Sakata
Contra Costa County Superintendent of Schools