

Board Memo Regarding Safe Haven Resolution

Feb. 6, 2025

From: Kristy Mack-Fett, Executive Director

To: The OCS Board of Trustees

Background:

Due to the fire state of emergency and aftereffects, the January OCS DEIB Committee meeting was cancelled. If that meeting had been held, the committee would have discussed a Safe Haven Resolution and possibly made a recommendation to the Board for adopting such a resolution. Since the next DEIB meeting is not until February 13th, administration is bringing this request to the Board at the February 6th Board meeting in the hopes of avoiding further delay.

From OCS' Board Approved Equity Plan:

"The mission of the Ocean Charter School Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Committee (DEIBC) is to move Ocean Charter School intentionally toward being a more diverse, inclusive, and equity-centered environment where all members of the community feel equally recognized, valued, celebrated, and most importantly, feel a deep sense of belonging."

Request from Administration:

As a school that embraces our commitment to providing a safe, stable, nurturing and welcoming environment for students and staff, administration is requesting the Board pass a Safe Haven resolution intended to make families and students feel safe at school and to communicate to staff, students, and their families that all students have a right to attend school regardless of their immigration status. Furthermore, in line with OCS' anti-discrimination, anti-harassment, and anti-bullying policies, administration requests that the resolution affirms OCS' commitment to recognizing the factors that have shaped our students' and employees' lives, including life experience, family, culture, and identity, including sexual orientation, gender and sex.

Documents to support this request are attached and include:

1. The California Department of Education Reminder of Obligation to Protect Immigrant Families' Rights to Access Public Education
2. The California Department of Justice Quick Reference for School Officials
3. The California Department of Justice "Know Your Education Rights" parent information in English and Spanish
4. Sample Board resolution from San Diego Unified School District