

November 18, 2025

APPROVED: DD:gl

Board Meeting – November 18, 2025

Item VI. Consent Calendar Recommendations

B. Adoption of Board Resolution No. 28: International Migrants Day, December 18, 2025

The Superintendent recommends that the County Board adopt Board Resolution No. 28. The Superintendent further recommends that the County Board declare December 18 as International Migrants Day and encourages districts and communities to observe this day by commemorating the often-difficult journeys of immigrants, honoring the contributions made by migrants worldwide and promoting respect for their human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The Board resolution is shown on the following page.

NEXT STEPS:

- Ensure that LACOE communication reaches all 80 districts with the aim of motivating districts, schools, and community organizations to actively participate in observing this important day. It is crucial to acknowledge the often-difficult journeys that immigrants face, highlighting their resilience and bravery in the pursuit of better opportunities. Additionally, we should celebrate the invaluable contributions of migrants worldwide, appreciating the cultural diversity they add to our communities.
- LACOE's Immigrant Relations Program will share the following list of books with districts:
 - Behold the Dreamers, by Imbolo Mbue – This book offers a contemporary insight into the dynamics of a first-generation West African.
 - Americanah by Chimamanda Ngozi -A novel full of longing for both love and country
 - After the Last Border, by Jessica Goudeau – Two families and the story of refuge in America
 - The Ungrateful Refugee, by Dina Nayeri – What immigrants never tell you
 - Il the Way to America, by Dan Yaccarino – The story of a big Italian family and a little shovel
 - Exit West, by Moshin Hamid – The author conveys the strangeness of displacement
 - Mott Street, by Ava Chin – A Chinese American family's story of exclusion and homecoming

- LACOE's Immigrant Relations Program can support International Migrants Day by promoting cultural recognition, educational engagement and connection to supportive resources throughout Los Angeles County schools and communities.
- Encourage school districts to celebrate International Migrants Day by organizing engaging activities. Some examples of activities could include exploring the origin, meaning and story behind each student's name. This activity honors family heritage and allows students to share a deeply personal aspect of their identity in a positive way. Other ideas include creating a collective visual display, such as a large world map with strings connecting each student to their country or their family's country of origin.
- Use social media platforms to raise awareness about International Migrants Day. Create dedicated hashtags and share informative posts, news articles, stories and testimonials from migrants, students, teachers and community members that highlight their experiences, challenges and contributions.

BOARD RESOLUTION

NO. 28: 2025-26

International Migrants Day (December 18, 2025)

WHEREAS, on December 18, 1990, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a significant resolution concerning the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. This pivotal document was designed to elevate awareness that migrants are more than just laborers; they are human beings with dignity and rights. They contribute substantially to the global economy, often taking on essential roles that support both their host countries and their communities of origin. More than three decades later, the Convention continues to guide global efforts to enhance protections for migrants, as migration flows have reached over 281 million people worldwide, highlighting the critical importance of global solidarity and policy cooperation.

WHEREAS, every year on December 18, the International Organization for Migration commemorates International Migrants Day, a significant occasion dedicated to honoring the invaluable contributions made by migrants around the globe. This day serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of respecting and safeguarding the human rights of migrants, who navigate diverse challenges and opportunities in their pursuit of a better life. The 2025 theme, “Harnessing the Power of Migration,” calls for renewed efforts to ensure that migration is governed by compassion, evidence-based policies and equitable access to opportunity. Migration is not just an individual experience, but a shared global phenomenon intricately woven into the fabric of our societies, economies and cultures.

WHEREAS, the United Nations' declaration of International Migrants Day represents a significant milestone, providing a unified platform for advocates dedicated to safeguarding the rights and well-being of migrants. This observance emphasizes the importance of global collaboration in tackling the myriad challenges and issues migrant populations face. It also serves as an opportunity to celebrate the dynamic energy and rich cultural diversity migrants contribute to their communities. In 2025, as forced displacement and climate-related migration increase, nations around the world, including the United States, continue to reaffirm their commitment to inclusive integration and the protection of migrant rights at all levels.

WHEREAS, in Los Angeles County, an estimated 22% of children grow up in families with mixed immigration status, meaning that at least one parent is an immigrant. Immigrant households contribute significantly to the County's cultural and economic vitality, comprising nearly 35% of the local workforce and generating more than \$150 billion in annual spending power. It is crucial to deeply understand and appreciate these families' realities and challenges, while recognizing their remarkable resilience and their lasting impact on the region's social, educational and economic development.

WHEREAS, LACOE recognizes the deep and unequal impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on immigrant families, many of whom served as essential workers delivering vital services that supported our communities. These families encountered serious challenges, including housing instability and health risks, further complicated by widespread misinformation regarding public charge rules. LACOE remains committed to working with public health agencies, county departments and community partners to eliminate misinformation, build trust and ensure that immigrant families can access healthcare, mental health services and economic support without fear.

WHEREAS, LACOE is firmly dedicated to safeguarding the constitutional right of every child to access a free public education, irrespective of their immigration status, and is committed to legislation, policies and practices that uphold this right. Through board policies and guidance aligned with Plyler v. Doe (1982), LACOE ensures that all children regardless of background have equitable access to educational opportunities. Schools are championed as havens of inclusion, where every student is empowered to thrive academically, socially and emotionally.

WHEREAS, LACOE, through its Immigrant Relations Program, Multilingual Academic Support Unit, Migrant Education Program, Student Support Services Division, and Student Advisory Council Members lead efforts to ensure that immigrant, unaccompanied minors, and refugee students experience belonging and support within educational settings. In partnership with legal and community organizations such as Path2Papers, LACDMH, CARECEN, the Office of Immigrant Affairs, Esperanza Legal Rights Project, Public Counsel, California Newcomers Network (CANN), among others, LACOE provides districts with professional learning, technical assistance and resources to support newcomer, undocumented and refugee students' educational continuity and access to services.

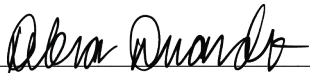
WHEREAS, LACOE continues to fully support Los Angeles County's 80 school districts and local educational agencies (LEAs), charter schools and other County Offices of Education in addressing the needs of immigrant, unaccompanied minors, and refugee students and families. This includes technical assistance, trauma-informed leadership training and digital resources that promote access to mental health, language development and student wellness services. LACOE continues to advocate policies that advance educational equity, social-emotional well-being and the protection of all students regardless of immigration status.

WHEREAS, schools serve as essential and trusted spaces for immigrant children and families within communities. LACOE's Immigrant Relations Program acts as a vital connection between schools, students and families, providing accurate information about immigration laws, 'Know Your Rights' resources, and countywide support services. This program collaborates with civic and nonprofit organizations to offer school-based workshops, legal education and family preparedness planning, ensuring that school districts are informed, protected and responsive to the needs of immigrant youth. The Immigrant Relations Program will continue its bi-weekly webinars titled "Legal Protections for Immigrant Students: A Guide for Educators." These webinars will include new legislation such as AB 49, AB 495 and SB 98 to ensure that students can feel safe in school. Additionally, the program will maintain its collaboration with the Office of Immigrant Affairs and CARECEN to provide 'Know Your Rights' and 'Educational Rights' presentations to parents and students throughout Los Angeles County.

WHEREAS, LACOE celebrates the cultural mosaic that makes up its workforce and recognizes and appreciates the valuable contributions of immigrants among its staff. It strives to lead equity, diversity and inclusion by fostering an environment where differences are valued and inclusivity is championed. We acknowledge that our diverse staff bring unique perspectives, ideas and experiences that enrich the organization and its mission.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Los Angeles County Board of Education hereby declares December 18 as International Migrants Day and encourages districts and communities to observe this day by commemorating the often-difficult journeys of immigrants, honoring the contributions made by migrants worldwide and promoting respect for their human rights and fundamental freedoms.

ADOPTED this 18th day of November 2025, by the Los Angeles County Board of Education in Downey, California.



Debra Duardo, M.S.W., Ed.D.
Superintendent



James Cross
Board President