

Board Meeting – May 19, 2026

Item VI. Consent Calendar Recommendations

B. Adoption of Board Resolution No. 69 to Recognize Immigrant Heritage Month in June 2026

The Superintendent recommends that the County Board adopt Resolution No. 69 as part of the regular County Board meeting on May 19, 2026 and further recommends that the Los Angeles County Board of Education declare June as Immigrant Heritage Month and encourages education communities to observe this month by acknowledging the often difficult journeys of immigrants and understanding the circumstances that have led people throughout history to migrate for family reunification and safety; and to support efforts to protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of migrants and highlight the many contributions and achievements of immigrants that inspire our communities in Los Angeles County.

Resolution No. 69 is attached.

Next Steps:

- In recognition of Immigrant Heritage Month, LACOE will share a curated set of resources with the 80 school districts in Los Angeles County to support immigrant students, including multilingual learners, newcomers and refugee students.
- LACOE will continue to provide school districts and charter schools a range of professional development opportunities designed to provide differentiated supports that meet the needs of immigrant students:
 - Understanding Immigration Policies Affecting Students:
 - Webinar – May 21, 4-5 p.m. ([register here for the May 21st Webinar](#))
 - Webinar – June 4, 4-5 p.m. ([register here for the June 4th Webinar](#))
 - Webinar - June 18, 4-5 p.m. ([register here for the June 18th Webinar](#))
 - Supporting Schools & Newcomers
 - Meeting - May 21, 12-1 p.m. ([register here for the May 21st meeting](#))
 - Meeting - June 18, 12-1 p.m. ([register here for the June 18th meeting](#))

- Child Welfare and Attendance – June 9, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. ([register here for the June 9th event](#))
- LACOE: Managing Immigration Activity and Its Impact on Students & Attendance – May 29, 9-11 a.m. ([register here for the May 29th event](#))
- Quarterly Homeless Education and Foster Youth Services Liaison Meeting
 - Needs Assessment & Program Evaluation - May 20, 2-3:30 p.m. ([register here for the May 20th meeting](#))
 - Community Partnership and Homeless Education Mini-Training – May 28, 9-10:30 a.m. ([register here for the May 28th meeting](#))
- LACOE has also curated the following resources in support of students who are also newcomers and/or refugees:
 - [Newcomer Resources for Distribution](#)
 - [New Arrival Support Resources](#)
 - [AB699 Toolkit - Google Docs](#) – Legal Protections for Immigrant Students
 - [LACOE: Immigrant Relations - Resources](#)
 - [Supporting Schools & Newcomers - Padlet](#)
 - [The Office of Immigrant Affairs - Know Your Rights](#)
- Here are some recommended texts that offer insights into the experiences of immigrant children, youth and families:
 - *“Love, Hate & Other Filters,”* by Samira Ahmed – An Indian American Muslim teen copes with Islamophobia, cultural divides among peers and parents and a reality she can neither explain nor escape.
 - *“Our Stories Carried Us Here, A Graphic Novel Anthology,”* edited by Tea Rozman and Julie Vang — A collection of first-person stories told and illustrated by immigrants and refugees living across the United States.
 - *“Another Appalachia: Coming Up Queer and Indian in a Mountain Place,”* by Neema Avashia – A queer Asian American teacher and writer, Avashia fits few Appalachian stereotypes.
 - *“The Last Cuentista,”* by Donna Barba Higuera – There lived a girl named Petra Peña, who wanted nothing more than to be a storyteller, like her abuelita.
 - *“Boundless: Twenty Voices Celebrating Multicultural and Multiracial Identities,”* edited by Ismee Williams and Rebecca Balcarcel – When identities cross boundaries, with love that knows no bounds.
 - *“Ink Knows No Borders: Poems of the Immigrant and Refugee Experience,”* edited by Alyssa Raymond and Patrice Vecchione – With authenticity, integrity and insight, this collection of poems addresses the many issues confronting first- and second- generation young adult immigrants and refugees, such as cultural and language differences, homesickness, social exclusion, human rights, racism, stereotyping and questions of identity.

BOARD RESOLUTION

No. 69: 2025-26

Immigrant Heritage Month (June 2026)

- WHEREAS,** June is recognized as Immigrant Heritage Month, presenting a vital opportunity for us to honor the incredible strength, resilience and invaluable contributions of immigrants and their children. These individuals have played a pivotal role in shaping the rich history, diverse culture and vibrant civic life of the United States, serving as a reminder of the ideals of hope and opportunity we strive for; and
- WHEREAS,** World Refugee Day, observed on June 20, shines a spotlight on the profound experiences of refugees. This day serves as a crucial reminder of our collective responsibility to protect the dignity, rights and futures of those who have been compelled to leave their homes due to conflict, persecution or other overwhelming pressures: and
- WHEREAS,** the landmark Supreme Court decision in *Plyler v. Doe* reaffirmed the essential principle that every child deserves access to a free public education, regardless of their immigration status. This ruling underscores our ongoing commitment to fostering opportunity and equity for immigrant students and their families, ensuring that every child has a fair chance at success; and
- WHEREAS,** Los Angeles County has been significantly shaped by newcomers from diverse backgrounds around the globe. This region continues to welcome immigrant and refugee communities who not only enrich our cultural landscape but also face the unique challenges of resettlement, including navigating language barriers and accessing essential services that many take for granted; and
- WHEREAS,** immigrant families form an integral part of the fabric of the Los Angeles metro area. Many children in this region live in households with at least one immigrant parent, highlighting the critical need for policies and support systems that acknowledge and respond to their unique challenges and aspirations. and
- WHEREAS,** LACOE is unwavering in its commitment to fostering learning environments where every student is treated with dignity and respect. To achieve this, LACOE provides invaluable support to educators, administrators and school personnel through professional learning opportunities, strategic partnerships and a multitude of resources designed to strengthen inclusive school communities; and

WHEREAS, through its dedicated instructional support, educational resources and the Immigrant Relations program, LACOE actively engages with school districts, different county offices, stakeholders, families and students to ensure they remain informed about essential topics such as English language development, social-emotional learning, immigration-related guidance and their educational rights and entitlements; and

WHEREAS, LACOE is dedicated to dismantling barriers to enrollment and access, ensuring that all children, regardless of their immigration status, have the opportunity to attend public school and receive the support they need to thrive academically and socially. Through its Immigrant Relations program, LACOE promotes compliance among school districts to ensure that all children, regardless of immigration status, have equal access to education and resources; and

WHEREAS, LACOE works diligently to create an environment where immigrant and refugee students feel safe, supported and connected to the comprehensive services available to them. This includes support for enrollment, academic engagement, legal assistance, mental health, public benefits and overall well-being, fostering a sense of belonging within the educational community; and

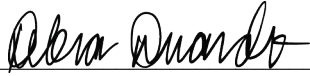
WHEREAS, LACOE's Immigrant Relations program engages in culturally and linguistically responsive outreach efforts, providing presentations and resources in both English and Spanish. These initiatives aim to empower students, parents and educators with a clearer understanding of legal protections and educational rights, promoting awareness across Los Angeles County; and

WHEREAS, LACOE deeply values the diversity of its workforce and fully recognizes the significant contributions that immigrants and refugees make, not only within the organization but also within the broader community we serve. Together, we can continue to build a more inclusive and supportive environment for all.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Los Angeles County Board of Education hereby declares June as Immigrant Heritage Month and encourages education communities to observe this month by acknowledging the often challenging journeys of immigrants and understanding the circumstances that have led people throughout history to migrate for family reunification and safety; and

to support efforts to protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of migrants and highlight the many contributions and achievements of immigrants that inspire our communities in Los Angeles County.

ADOPTED this 19th day of May, 2026, by the Los Angeles County Board of Education in Downey, California.



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



James Cross
Board President