

Ontario-Montclair

School District

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James Q. Hammond, Ed.D.
Superintendent

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

September 6, 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians/Community Members:

As you may have heard, President Trump rescinded the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. DACA is an immigration policy introduced by the Obama Administration in 2012 which allowed certain undocumented immigrants who entered the country before their 16th birthday and before June 2007 to receive deferred action against deportation and renewable two-year work permits. This deferred action did not provide legal status.

While this information is still unfolding, there are many unknown factors as to how these changes will be implemented and the impact they may have on our Ontario-Montclair School District (OMSD) community. We want to assure you that OMSD continues to remain fully committed to providing our world-class education in welcoming and safe school environments for all students, families, and staff members.


We encourage students to talk about their feelings with trusted adults, including principals, counselors, and teachers. ***As a reminder, all children have the right to attend public schools free from discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, citizenship, immigration status, including those in our community who are undocumented.*** The District takes discrimination, harassment, and bullying very seriously. However, any questions pertaining to the unique legal ramifications on your family as a result of DACA being rescinded should be addressed by your private immigration attorney.

Important considerations thus far are:

- With DACA recently being rescinded, employees have the right to work legally until work permit expires.
- An employer does not have the right to ask whether you are a DACA recipient or how a work permit was obtained.
- An employer does not have the right to fire, place on leave, or change an employee's work status until after a work permit has expired.
- OMSD will continue to take every available action to protect students while in school and only release records using established guidelines that apply to governmental agencies.
- In the weeks and months ahead, the United States Congress will be charged with developing new legal standards for Immigration laws. Until these laws are enacted, the impact to students, families, staff and community in our District is unknown.

We will continue to monitor this very important issue. OMSD stands together in doing everything possible to ensure students, families and staff feel safe and secure when they come to school. Please reach out to your local administrator or the District office if you have any questions or concerns pertaining to this matter.

Sincerely,



James Q. Hammond, Ed.D.
Superintendent

"Our Community, Our Children, Our Commitment, Our Future"