



Las Cruces Public Schools
December 16, 2016

A Memorial

**Requesting the City of Las Cruces and the County of Doña Ana to Declare
Sanctuary Status for the City of Las Cruces and County of Doña Ana**

WHEREAS, in 2012 President Obama issued an executive order providing deportation relief to certain undocumented immigrants who entered the U.S. before their 16th birthday, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA); and

WHEREAS, in 2014 President Obama issued an executive order providing deportation relief to certain undocumented immigrants who are parents of U.S. citizens or lawful permanent residents, Deferred Action for Parental Accountability (DAPA); and

WHEREAS, many city and county students and parents potentially qualify for deportation relief under these orders; and

WHEREAS, DACA will enable our qualifying students to attend college, work, and pursue a career and thus encourage them to do well in school and to graduate; and

WHEREAS, DAPA will enable our qualifying parents to obtain better employment and provide more economic security and stability for their children and thus more support for their education; and

WHEREAS, both DACA and DAPA will lessen the anxiety and fear that many of our students experience due to the fact that their parents, siblings, or they themselves, could at any time be deported and thus their family members separated; and

WHEREAS, continuing to educate and assist students and parents on DACA and also educate and assist parents on DAPA will require more resources to be put into this work; and

WHEREAS, public schools are committed to helping support the work needed to educate and assist all families and students regardless of circumstance; and

WHEREAS, when an investigation reveals that harassment has occurred, the school community must take reasonable steps to end the harassment, eliminate the hostile environment, prevent harassment from recurring, and prevent retaliation against the targeted student or anyone who complained; and

WHEREAS, the Doña Ana County Commission in September 2014, by a 5-0 vote, approved a resolution that established the county as a “Safe Community for All Residents”.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Las Cruces Public Schools Board of Education that a task force be formed to include representation from the Las Cruces City Council, the Doña Ana County Commission, the Mayor of Las Cruces, the Doña Ana County Manager, the Las Cruces Public Schools Board of Education, the Gadsden Independent School District, the Hatch Valley School District, Ngage New Mexico, Somos Un Pueblo Unido, CAFé, legislators from Doña Ana County, and two members from the general public; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force study and recommend consistent policy language that can be used by the City, County, and public schools in the creation of “sanctuary status” for residents and students; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force reports its findings in a joint work session of the public schools, the County Commission, and the City Council by May 2017; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Memorial be transmitted to the City of Las Cruces, the Doña Ana County Commission, the Superintendents of the Hatch and Gadsden School Districts, the Executive Directors of Ngage NM and CAFé, and the Doña Ana Legislators.

Signed this 13th day of December 2016.

Sra. Maria Flores, President

Mr. Chuck Davis, Vice President

Ms. Barbara Hall, Secretary

Mr. Maury Castro, Member

Mr. Ed Frank, Member

Discussion Draft