Protecting students and ensuring their safety and security in our schools is central to the district’s mission of providing a safe and welcoming educational experience for all students. Maintaining a policy that affirms students’ security in the school environment is pivotal to this responsibility. This policy affirms the district’s commitment, consistent with the Boston Trust Act, to provide a safe and welcoming learning environment for all students, regardless of their immigration status, and authorizes a Superintendent’s Circular that sets forth protocols to be followed in the event that a law enforcement agent seeks access to a student in school.

**Ensuring that Schools are Safe and Welcoming Learning Environments for All Students**

The Boston Public Schools remains committed to providing safe, healthy, and welcoming spaces for students, so they can focus on learning. Diversity and inclusion are at the core of our values as a school system and as a City. Boston Public Schools continues to hold firm that all children, no matter their country of origin or immigration status, deserve access to a high-quality public education, and that students, their families, and educators should feel safe and secure in the learning environment. These elements are central to providing students with an excellent educational experience.

**Ensuring Safe and Welcoming Learning Environments For Immigrant Students and Families**

BPS does not require and will not ask any student or parent to provide information regarding immigration or citizenship status, including to establish residency for enrollment purposes. The district will continue to provide mandatory training and additional resources, if needed, for its existing crisis and emergency response teams in order to help ensure the safety and well-being of our students who may be impacted by immigration enforcement actions. **BPS does not, and will not, create a mechanism to record or store immigration or citizenship status information that may be inadvertently provided by a family to BPS.**

**Access to School Buildings and Students**

Under rare and exceptional circumstances, such as for an immediate public safety issue or when there is a valid judicial criminal warrant (a warrant signed by a magistrate or judge), subpoena, or court order, BPS may be required to allow properly credentialed law enforcement agents to have access to students. The district will maintain an internal protocol to address situations in which a law enforcement agent presents at school and requests access to a student, in order to assess the validity of the agent’s presence, to advise school leaders on how to legally respond to the request, and to
provide support to impacted students and families. In developing such a protocol, BPS will adhere to the following principles:

- BPS will not cooperate with or assist in immigration enforcement activities, which shall include identifying, arresting, or detaining any person based solely on their immigration status or a suspected violation of federal civil immigration law.

- BPS will not allow law enforcement agents to have access to students in the absence of a validly issued warrant, except with the express consent of the parent. BPS will develop a protocol to ensure Central Office review and guidance when a law enforcement agent presents at a school without a validly issued warrant.

- BPS will comply with validly issued warrants signed by a magistrate or a judge. BPS will develop a protocol to ensure Central Office review and guidance when a law enforcement agent presents at a school with a validly issued warrant. BPS will not allow a law enforcement agent to have access to students with an administratively-issued warrant.

- When called by a school to respond to an emergency, law enforcement agents may enter schools and have access to students in order to perform their emergency functions.