

MESSAGE TO PENNSYLVANIA SCHOOL LEADERS:

SUPPORT ALL OF OUR STUDENTS

Copy this letter or write your own to send to the principal of your child's school, district superintendent, or school board members urging them to affirm their commitment to ALL students and to ensure schools are safe and welcoming.

SUBJECT LINE: Support ALL of our students

Dear Principal/Superintendent/School Board Member,

I am the parent/guardian of a ____ grader at _____ school. I'm writing with deep concern about recent statements from the White House and executive orders that target inclusive learning and diversity and seek to scare schools away from providing the protection and support students need. [I am gravely concerned about this school board's recent action ____.]

Education is a fundamental right under the Pennsylvania constitution and Pennsylvania state law protects all kids' right to education without discrimination. Schools in our community must be a welcoming place for all students, where every child can learn, grow, and thrive in pursuit of their full potential. Recent executive orders, although they cannot change any law, including civil rights laws, are scaring our families and communities. These executive actions do not require any changes to school or district policies or practices.

I am writing to make sure that the schools in our community continue to support ALL of our students, respect ALL of their rights, and continue to work in partnership with families and teachers. Whether we are Black, white, or brown, Native or immigrant, transgender, disabled, or not, we want our kids to have equal access to educational opportunities and the freedom to be themselves and pursue their dreams. All children deserve to learn about our nation's history, the contributions of all communities, and the unfinished work of building a more perfect union. To do that, we need curricula and books that reflect all our students and communities.

I am asking you, as an educator and a leader, to show the children and families in our community that you will support, protect, and respect them. I am asking that you publicly share our school district's commitment to welcoming schools where ALL children are free to learn all that they – and our country – have the potential to be.

Sincerely,