

NEWS RELEASE

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Oregon Department of Education & State Board Joint Statement on DACA

(Salem, Ore.) – The Oregon Department of Education (ODE) and the State Board of Education reaffirmed their commitments today that Oregon schools should be safe and welcoming for all students, regardless of national origin, immigration status or documentation status. Today’s announcement from U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions that the federal Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program will be discontinued unless Congress acts in the next six months does not change ODE’s mission to foster equity and excellence for every learner in the state. We support [the message from Governor Kate Brown](#) asking Congress to act on a thoughtful approach to immigration reform.

“All Oregon families deserve respect and should not have to live under constant worry about their future,” Deputy Superintendent Salam Noor said. “In the meantime, Oregon schools will continue to welcome all students and ODE will continue to support districts, schools and educators in making Oregon’s classrooms more safe, inclusive, welcoming and respectful.”

In November, 2016, State Board Chair Charles Martinez [issued a statement](#) saying the Board stands with all Oregon students, families, educators, staff and communities to ensure that our schools are safe, and free from bullying, discrimination and harassment. In March of this year, the Board [passed a resolution](#) affirming that statement.

“As a Board, we made equity and inclusion part of our mission, vision and goals because of our commitment to making sure every student has access to the best education,” Martinez said. “Today’s action by the federal government will only make us redouble our efforts to send the message that everyone is welcome at Oregon schools.”

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