

Re: House Bill 8 & ICE



Greetings ACPA Families,

I hope that this message finds you well. I am very grateful to be serving with people who care about the wellbeing and safety of all people and particularly our students with the passion that our team here at ACPA has. ACPA was created to provide and has provided a safer and inclusive learning environment for many people over the last few decades and we intend to continue to do so.

I wanted to take a moment to address House Bill 8 that Governor DeWine signed into law on January 8th, 2025 as well as some of the concerns with immigration policy changes.

First, you can find the trajectory of the Bill [here](#). It is known as the "Parents' Bill of Rights". You can find the Bill as enrolled which is the one that the governor signed [here](#).

House Bill 8, along with a number of [other](#) bills, were signed into law late on January 8th and have potential implications on our daily lives and how we at ACPA serve our students.

My intention with this communication is to bring your awareness to a few things:

- 1) We, as Administration and Staff, along with the Board, are aware of House Bill 8.
- 2) We are working to stay informed of any legislation that will impact the wellbeing of our students (this includes House Bill 8 and immigration policy) and are evaluating how this will impact what and how we do things here at ACPA.
- 3) From our understanding, based on the language in the Bill, the Parents' Bill of Rights policy is not required to be effective until July 1st. Thus, we have some time to do a deeper dive into the Bill and how it affects what we do at ACPA. We will continue to do our due diligence to make sure that we are in compliance and stay true to our mission, vision, and values.

Second, I would like to address recent changes with immigration policy. We recognize that recent changes to immigration policy may raise concerns for members of our community. We, as ACPA Administration, Staff, and Board, hear

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those concerns and we remain dedicated to providing a safe and inclusive environment for all people, and that of our students, families, and staff. If you or a loved one may be affected by recent changes to immigration policy, we encourage you to consider doing a few things:

1. **Update Contact Information:** Ensure all contact details, including emergency contacts, are current in PowerSchool.
2. **Develop a Plan:** Establish a plan for your family in the event of an immigration enforcement incident.
3. **Seek Guidance:** Connect with legitimate community organizations for guidance, such as:
  - a. [Community Refugee and Immigration Services \(CRIS\)](#)
  - b. [Us Together](#)

As we move forward together, it's important to reflect on the unique role we play in our community and the special responsibility we hold as members of the ACPA Family. Our commitment to fostering an environment of creativity, inclusivity, and rigorous academic pursuit is what sets us apart and allows us to provide a safe and supportive space for our students and their families.

We recognize that our school is more than just a place of learning; it is a sanctuary where every individual can feel secure, respected, and valued. We ask everyone in our community to embody the ACPA values of awareness, problem solving, kindness, respect for diversity, honesty, participation, and communication. These principles are not just ideals but practical guides that influence how we interact with each other and with the broader world.

With your support, we will continue to build a climate and culture that is based on trailblazing arts and rigorous academics that fosters safety, acceptance, and a commitment to the arts.

In gratitude & excellence,  
*Dr. Diandra R. Gordon, Esq.*

**Interim Superintendent**  
**ACPA**