

**Berkeley Unified School District  
Board of Education**

RESOLUTION NO. 13-044

**WHEREAS**, the Berkeley Unified School District values all of its students and their families; and

**WHEREAS**, some of these students and their families have faced, are facing, and/or may face difficulties with their immigration status because the federal government lacks a compassionate and logical immigration policy; and

**WHEREAS**, this lack of a compassionate and logical immigration policy can have severe consequences, especially for children; and

**WHEREAS**, our community – like many across the county – has experienced the impact of these consequences, with students separated from their classes, friends unable to see each other, and neighbors unable to return to their homes; and

**WHEREAS**, these students and their families are integrated into our community – they are enrolled in Berkeley schools and their parents and guardians serve on school committees and organize local fundraisers; and

**WHEREAS**, at least one Berkeley student – Rodrigo Javier Diaz Guzman, a fourth grader at Jefferson Elementary School and who has attended our schools since Kindergarten – was recently detained along with his family by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and prevented from returning home and to school; and

**WHEREAS**, the Berkeley Unified School District and its community are negatively impacted whenever any student is removed from or prevented from returning to school and his or her families is removed from or prevented from returning to our community; and

**WHEREAS**, a student who is removed from or prevented from returning to school, or who lives in fear of such an occurrence, is less able to progress academically and socially along with their friends and classmates; and

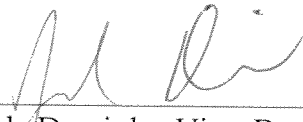
**WHEREAS**, children do not care about political gamesmanship or partisan gridlock – they simply want to sit next to their friends in class and play with their friends at recess.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Berkeley Unified School District urges President Barack Obama and/or members of Congress to take action, including but not necessarily limited to enacting a compassionate and logical federal immigration policy, that would enable all members of our community, including Rodrigo and his family as well as others in similar situations, to return to and/or to remain in our schools and our community.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that copies of this resolution be sent to the family of Rodrigo Guzman, appropriate federal immigration authorities, Representative Barbara Lee, Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer, Secretary Janet Napolitano, and President Barack Obama.

**ADOPTED AND APPROVED** this 13<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2013.

  
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Leah Wilson, President

  
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Josh Daniels, Vice President