

Pennsylvania Immigration & Citizenship Coalition Advocating for immigrants, migrants and refugees

Welcoming Schools Check Up

Is your school district a Welcoming School District?

Use this checklist as a guide in creating more welcoming schools for *every* student and parent, regardless of their immigration status.

LANGUAGE ACCESS
 □ Does your school provide accessible, professional interpretation? □ What does your school do to ensure that parents and students know how to access interpretation? □ Are all school staff trained in how to utilize interpretation services? □ Does your school offer school materials and resources, including the website, in all preferred languages? □ How does your school ensure that families are getting materials in their preferred language? □ How does your school know what languages students and parents prefer? Do you ask at registration? □ How are you supporting English Language Learners (ELL)? □ Are parents and students who do not speak English able to fully participate in programming?
TEACHER AND SCHOOL STAFF DEVELOPMENT
 □ Are all school staff participating in cultural sensitivity and antiracist professional development trainings? □ How are staff members demonstrating an awareness of working with immigrant and POC communities? □ Do teachers and staff receive training to address bullying, particularly if it is based on student identity? □ Does your school pay teachers and staff at a wage where they can excel in their work?
CREATING A SAFE AND WELCOMING SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT
 ☐ Has your school enacted a Welcoming Schools Resolution and trained all staff on the policy? ☐ Does your school hire staff that reflect the community served, including POC and bilingual staff? ☐ Does your school provide information about where families can obtain quality immigration legal services? ☐ Does your school host events offering immigration-specific information, such as Know Your Rights trainings or legal screenings? ☐ Does your school provide information about immigration resources held outside of the school? ☐ Does your school clearly communicated these resources so that families know exactly where to find them?
ACADEMIC SUPPORT
 ☐ How are immigrant and refugee students supported in transitioning to a new school and country, beyond ESL class? ☐ How is your school preparing students of all backgrounds for college or work after graduation? ☐ Can students who are interested in taking AP or honors courses find support in doing so? ☐ How does your school ensure ELL students succeed academically while they are learning English?