



Dear JCPS Educators:

JCPS is committed to the education of all children and making all campuses a safe zone for students and families. The nature of this communication is to emphasize our support and safety for students and families who may feel threatened by immigration enforcement.

We strongly commit to a culture of inclusivity and understanding. We (principals, schools, teachers and staff) embrace diversity and inclusion and all students are welcomed and valued here.

Under federal law, public school districts are required to educate all students regardless of their immigration status or their parents' immigration statuses. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act prohibits school districts from providing third parties, such as the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, information contained in student records.

**To further assist our students, JCPS offers the following services and resources:**

**Language Services** – native language support (interpreters and translations of documents) - if parents have questions / concerns, we can provide native language support

- The JCPS ESL Intake Center is the frontline for welcoming numerous families to JCPS. The ESL Intake assists ELL families with school registration, transportation, address changes, completion of school forms, and language assistance.
- JCPS En Espanol – Facebook page in Spanish for community and JCPS ESL Facebook page
- Twitter handle: JCPS Latino – we retweet positive news stories and ESL resources
- Regular airtime on the Spanish radio station – La Poderosa (call numbers 1570 AM / 1600 AM)
- Regular and committed collaboration with Community Agencies like Kentucky Refugee Ministries, Catholic Charities, Americana Community Center, and La Casita
- JCPS has 2 newcomer centers that provide specialized, intensive English language development in a caring, respectful environment that meets the needs of recently arrived ELLs.
- The ESL Department offers instruction in English language development as well as making content standards accessible to a variety of English language proficiency levels.

#### **Counseling Services**

- Training for counselors on how to support students with high levels of anxiety and fear. Counselors are using this training with students in small group and individual counseling sessions.
- Support materials were distributed to all high school counselors and mental health counselors. The materials focused on teaching students tolerance, how to respond to fears post-election, and creating safe and supporting environments for all students. Counselors have used this information in classroom guidance, small group and individual counseling sessions.

**Diversity, Equity and Poverty has the following resources on their webpage:**

Anti-Defamation League Curriculum Connections is made up of anti-bias lesson plans and resources for K–12 educators.

<http://www.adl.org/education-outreach/lesson-plans/c/cyberbullying-understanding-and-addressing.html#.Vmr4BNjru70>

Bridging Refugee Youth and Children's Services (BRYCS) is the Office of Refugee Resettlement's national technical assistance provider on refugee child welfare. BRYCS assists service providers from refugee resettlement agencies, mainstream service agencies (such as child welfare and schools), and ethnic community-based organizations.

<http://www.brycs.org/clearinghouse/Highlighted-Resources-Bullying.cfm>

Islamic Networks Group

[www.ing.org](http://www.ing.org)

[www.isna.net/uploads/1/5/7/4/15744382/what is the truth about american muslims.pdf](http://www.isna.net/uploads/1/5/7/4/15744382/what_is_the_truth_about_american_muslims.pdf)

<http://www.tolerance.org/publication/american-muslims-united-states>

CAIR California

[\*Mislabeled: The Impact of School Bullying and Discrimination on California Muslim Students\*](#)  
[\*Supporting Muslim American Adolescents: Beginning a dialogue to create standards for youth programs\*](#)

Combating Anti-Muslim Bias

[www.tolerance.org/magazine/number-39-spring-2011/combating-anti-muslim-bias](http://www.tolerance.org/magazine/number-39-spring-2011/combating-anti-muslim-bias)

Sincerely,



Dr. Lisa N. Herring  
Chief Academic Officer  
Academic Services  
Jefferson County Public Schools