



Cease Child Separation Policy

A RESOLUTION by the Seattle Council PTSA

A resolution of the Seattle Council Parent Teacher Student Association (SCPTSA) to **demand** that the United States (US) government CEASE the child separation policy; return children immediately to their caregivers; and provide reparations for the harm that has been created to children and families that have been affected by this cruel and inhumane US policy that is in direct violation of international law.

WHEREAS, SCPTSA represents over 80 PTAs and PTSAs in Seattle Public Schools, with over 55,000 students across the Seattle Public School District;

WHEREAS, SCPTSA's purpose is to make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children, regardless of citizenship status;

WHEREAS, the forced separation of children from caregivers and detention of children is in violation with international law and contrary to recognizing children's basic rights including no unfair detainment, no torture, free from discrimination, and right to education;^[1]

WHEREAS, trauma from being detained under current conditions contributes to long term and irreparable harm to children;

WHEREAS, SCPTSA joins with others, including the City of Seattle (City Resolution No. 31822), in condemning the separation of migrant children from their families at the border as "an egregious violation of human rights and an immoral act of violence and trauma targeting migrants and immigrants seeking safety and asylum";

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the SCPTSA **demand** that the US government CEASE the inhumane child separation policy, dismantle the migrant detention facilities in the United States, recognize the basic human rights of migrants including children, and recognize the rule of international law in our migration policies.

RESOLVED that SCPTSA will work with Seattle Public Schools and stakeholders to provide resources and support to families regarding their rights regardless of citizenship status, to support the City of Seattle as a Sanctuary City, and ensure that Seattle Public Schools does not cooperate with the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in any form.

RESOLVED that SCPTSA calls upon all members, regardless of political affiliation, to write letters, call and email elected officials to denounce the separation of children from caregivers, advocate for needed reparations to support family reunification and address experienced trauma in children and caregivers,

and recognize the inalienable rights of all children and families seeking safety, asylum and opportunities for a better future.

RESOLVED, that the SCPTSA commits to advocating for children and families detained and to holding our government accountable for the current inhumane policies and practices that contribute to the long-term and irreparable harm inflicted on children and families in detention, just as we would if these children were in our schools and communities already.

[1] United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Articles 11 -30.

ADOPTED by Seattle Council PTSA at a regular open general membership meeting thereof,
held **November 7, 2019.**

SCPTSA President: Manuela Slye