



Dear Intrepid Community,

The leadership team and I are deeply concerned about the impact of the executive orders issued by President Donald Trump last week, which, among other things, directs the construction of a wall on the U.S. Mexico border and bans Syrian refugees from entering the United States and imposes a 90-day ban on nationals from Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen.

There is still much to learn, and the situations in flux, but the reach of these Executive Orders affects every one of us. I've spent most of the weekend in deep thought knowing that many of our students and their families have been affected by this executive order. Many of our families come from countries directly affected by this order and they travel intermittently to tend to affairs back home. We must remain dedicated to the safety of all students and families, ensuring that all Intrepid community members can excel on the path to college completion, financial independence and lives defined by ethical leadership.

Several federal courts have issued stays temporarily halting the removal of individuals detained at U.S. airports in compliance with the Executive Order. However, it remains unclear how long the temporary stays will remain in effect as it will take some time before a final legal resolution is reached.

In the meantime, we strongly advise Intrepid students and families, including those who are dual citizens and/or permanent residents, not to travel beyond the borders of the United States. In fact, we suggest that all non-citizens defer travel outside of the United States while we await clarity.

We will convene a working group of faculty, staff, parents, and students to explore further actions we may take in the days ahead to ensure a safe, secure, and uninterrupted learning environment for all of our students. We will also work closely with other schools, local and national agencies, and legal experts to support the needs of our school community going forward.

Below you'll find a short list of organizations in Middle Tennessee that have committed to assisting refugees and immigrants.

- [Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition \(TIRRC\)](#)
- Center for Refugees and Immigrants of Tennessee
- [Catholic Charities of Tennessee](#)
- [American Immigrants Lawyers Association](#)

At Intrepid, we celebrate diversity. As a college preparatory school, we have opened our doors to invite families of all backgrounds because this deepens our humanity, defines our strength and prepares our students to lead across differences in college and careers.

In education,

Mia Howard
Founder and Executive Director