

*Please join the Dignity in Schools Campaign
for a national conference call on*

How Immigrant Students Are Being Pushed Out of School

July 24, 2008

9 am pacific, 10 am mountain, 11 am central, 12 pm eastern
90 minutes

RSVP to lturner@aclu-il.org for call-in information

This conference call discusses the unique barriers immigrant students encounter in school settings that push them out of school. The call will also address how schools can better respond to the needs of immigrant students and their families.

Presenters (bios forthcoming):

- **Arlen Benjamin-Gomez**, *Staff Attorney*, Advocates for Children of New York
- **Len Rieser**, *Co-Director*, Education Law Center, Pennsylvania
- **Mark Gonzales**, *Educator*, High School for Recording Arts; *Director of Community Partnerships*, AIM, California
- **Patricia Nix-Hodes**, *Associate Director of the Law Project*, Chicago Coalition for the Homeless

Key Questions for Discussion:

- What are the main factors leading to the direct and indirect pushout of immigrant youth?
- How does an immigrant youth's status – documented or undocumented – lead to pushout?
- How are schools failing to address the special needs of immigrant students?
- Are immigrant students more likely to be identified as gang-involved?
- Are immigrant students disproportionately impacted by school discipline policies, in part due to fear or misunderstandings of linguistic or cultural differences held by school staff?

Share your experiences!

We ask that everyone bring their experiences with immigration-related issues that impact pushout in schools in your own city to share on the conference call. This call will be action-oriented and we hope to include a variety of perspectives and ideas in the final discussion. Please plan to share your thoughts and experiences during the discussion section.

National Conference Call Sponsored By

*Dignity in Schools Campaign
Working together to ensure that children are treated
with dignity and fairness in schools*