



**Maryland Commission
on LGBTQ Affairs**
Youth & Education Committee Meeting Minutes
April 25, 2023 at 6:30pm - 8:00pm
Zoom

Attendees:

Jabari Lyles, Committee Chair
Kurt Doan, Committee Vice Chair
Joan Bryan
Joe Toolan
Lee Blinder
Jeremy Browning, Administrative Director

Members Absent:

All members present

- I. Meeting called to order by Committee Chair, Jabari Lyles at 6:34pm.
- II. Acknowledgement of meeting guidelines.
- III. Approval of minutes from March 6, 2023: Commissioner Toolan motioned to approve minutes as presented and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Doan. Motion passed with all in favor.
- IV. Old Business:
 - A. Review and make edits to Youth & Education Committee Recommendations for supporting LGBTQIA+ Students:
 1. Introduction - include the following:
 - a) Data reflecting the health impact of LGBTQIA+ students in hostile environments, including impacts on:
 - (1) Academic performance
 - (2) Mental and physical health
 - (3) Anxiety and depression
 - (4) Self harm risk
 - b) Specifically name transgender and nonbinary groups
 - c) Set the stage as to why these recommendations are needed
 - d) Weave in language from administration, "leave no one behind"
 2. Policy section:
 - a) MSDE Guidelines
 - (1) Language is outdated and needs to be updated
 - (2) Updates should include model policies and components

- (3) Baltimore City has used Title IX to support students
- (4) Parental notification is not in Title IX
- b) Title IX violations
 - (1) Taking complaints based on sex-discrimination
 - (2) Is there a statewide Title IX coordinator?
- c) Several Maryland school boards are very hostile towards LGBTQIA+ communities and this might not be the time to introduce new policy
- d) Is there a state that has a statewide LGBTQIA+ policy?
- e) How can FERPA be utilized?
- f) Urgent need for LGBTQIA+ people represented in schools
- g) Should also include new school construction and specify gender neutral restrooms
- h) Should include sports guidance
- i) Require training and education
- j) Look to components of NYC guidelines that are enforced like policy
 - (1) Teaching about gender and sexuality is integral for all students
 - (2) Specifically says teachers can discuss with a student their transition plans
- k) Policy should also apply to staff
- l) Highlight size of LGBTQIA+ youth community
- 3. Professional development
 - a) Limited hours and competing priorities
 - b) Recommendation of at least 3 hours of in-person training
 - c) Asynchronous training can be available, but not part of the 3 hours
 - d) Training should include schools role in a students transition
- 4. Inclusive Curriculum
 - a) Committee Chair Lyles will add resources
- 5. GSA's
 - a) Not enough focus on transgender and nonbinary students
 - b) Also appropriate in elementary schools
 - c) Include resources on how to start a GSA
 - d) Needs to have support from school administration
 - e) Needs to be resourced
 - f) Link students with other GSA's
- 6. Parent/Community Education
 - a) Parents are vital and integral partners
 - b) Information on how to be an affirming parent
 - c) Include Maryland PFLAG Chapters in resources
 - d) Include resources for LGBTQIA+ households
- 7. Add a "Staffing" section
 - a) MSDE should have an LGBTQIA+ training office
 - b) LGBTQIA+ liaisons in each school system
- B. HCPSS Rainbow Conference - Theme: *In This Together: Teaching Inclusivity*
 - 1. Virtual Presentation - Saturday, May 6, 2023 - 11AM Virtual

presentations

2. PM in-person activities and exhibition hall - Commissioner Bryan is interested in helping to table
3. Virtual presentation from Commission:
 - a) Title: Let's Talk
 - b) Description: Overview of the Commission and listening session
 - c) Youth & Education Committee will assist in crafting questions for the listening session - [document created here](#)

V. New Business:

A. Discuss ways to include LGBTQIA+ Youth

1. Administrative director to follow up with appointments office on whether minors can serve on the Commission
2. Commissioners can be guest speakers at GSA's
3. Connect with youth serving organizations
4. Back to School event hosted by the Commission in the fall
5. Partner with local student organizations
6. Find opportunities where youth are already engaged, like the HCPSS Rainbow conference
7. Increase collaboration with other Commissions

- VI. Meeting adjourned at 7:59pm. Commissioner Byran made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Commissioner Doan. All in favor.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Jeremy Browning