



**Maryland Commission  
on LGBTQIA+ Affairs**

Youth & Education Committee Minutes  
February 24, 2025, 7:00pm - 8:00pm  
Zoom Meeting

**Members Present:**

Asher Kennedy, Committee Chair  
Joan Bryan  
Brandon Russell  
Sarah Stern  
Wendy Novak  
Ex-Officio: Lee Blinder

**Members Not Present:**

Kijana West

**Staff Present:**

Director: Jeremy Browning  
Special Assistant: Taylor Harer

- I. Committee Chair Kennedy called the meeting to order at 7:04pm
- II. Committee Chair Kennedy acknowledged housekeeping and meeting guidelines.
- III. Roll call was conducted by Committee Chair Kennedy.
- IV. Approval of the Agenda: The agenda was approved by unanimous consent.
- V. Approval of 8.27.2024 Minutes: The minutes were approved by unanimous consent.
- VI. Discussion: MSDE Updated Guidelines: The Committee discussed the updated guidelines and agreed to revisit at the next meeting once all members of the committee have had time to familiarize themselves with the documents. No objections were raised to revisiting this topic. The discussion on non-discrimination guidelines will be agendized for the next meeting.

- VII. Discussion: Emergent Challenges: The Committee discussed federal changes that will have an impact on the LGBTQIA+ youth in Maryland. Additional discussions followed on potential MSDE updates and recommendations, as well as identifying the top issues impacting youth and education. The committee suggested that MSDE representatives be invited to a future meeting to provide insights. The topic of training within the school systems was also brought up, along with the idea of reaching out to MABE and other school organizations for collaboration.
- VIII. Next Steps: The committee members agreed to familiarize themselves with the documents discussed during this meeting. They will review the policies from MSDE, the Attorney General, and other relevant commissions. Additionally, the committee plans to compile a list of impacts at the federal level, focusing on the challenges and threats these may pose to the community. The next meeting will be scheduled for March 25, 2025, 7:00 - 8:00pm
- IX. Meeting adjourned by Committee Chair Kennedy at 8:17pm.

Minutes submitted by: Special Assistant, Taylor Harer