



Cultivating Respect: Creating Safe Schools for All Students

A Place at the Whiteboard: Diverse Educational Professionals Collaborating to Create Safe Schools for LGBTQ Youths

UWRF professors Caroline Baker and Todd Savage will assist education personnel in addressing school climate issues in general and in regards to LGBTQ populations specifically. An emphasis will be placed on how various school professionals can collaborate in creating safe learning environments for LGBTQ youth.

Creating Safe Spaces Beyond the GSA: How Students Can Create Positive Change in Their Schools

Blake School Spanish teacher and GSA advisor JJ Kahle and students from the Blake School Justice League share their work on the anti-bullying initiative, “Stand Up, Speak Out.” The presentation will introduce 8 steps model for social change and will show how diverse student groups can unite through the common cause of social justice.

How to Create Safe Spaces for Transgender Students: Language and Practices to Ensure a Safe and Nurturing Environment for Students on the Transgender Spectrum

Diversity trainer and trans advocate Rev. Lawrence T. Richardson will provide an introductory framework for working with transgender students. Areas of focus include: current terminology, what is gender, and how to incorporate language and practices to ensure a safe and nurturing environment for students on the transgender spectrum.

HRC Welcoming Schools: A System-Wide Approach to Family Diversity, Gender Stereotyping, and Bullying

HRC consultant Johanna Eager introduces the Welcoming Schools model to address diverse families, bias-based bullying, and name-calling in K-5 learning environments. Attendees will learn how to implement these programs through professional development and community engagement.

New Name, Same Person: The True Story of a Transgendered Man, His Family, and His Church

Sebastian Boynton and his mom, Mindy, tell the story of his childhood feeling boyish but being biologically a girl, then enduring teasing at a small Minnesota high school. Learn about how a feminist studies class, a good counselor, a kick-ass Episcopal priest, and, more than anything, a pair of embracing parents supported Baz in his transition.

Reality and Hope: One Family and One School’s Journey from Assault to Empowerment

After their son was assaulted in September 2010 for his perceived sexual orientation, the Caron family turned tragedy into an opportunity for hope and education. Hear from Kathy Caron, her son, and Augsburg College students and officials to learn from their response to a case of anti-gay bullying.

Impact on Physical and Mental Health: The Chronic and Acute Trauma of Bullying in LGBT Youth

Youth Therapist Janet Bystrom, who specializes on LGBT youth, addresses the cumulative effects of acute and chronic trauma inflicted on LGBT youth. The presentation includes ways to individually and collectively externalize trauma response without being harmful to self or others.



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The Minnesota Marriage Amendment: Is it Government-Sanctioned Bullying?

Hamline law professor Morgan Holcomb explains the proposed Minnesota “Marriage Amendment” as institutionalized bullying and discusses the history, politics, and potential ramifications of the amendment.

They Didn’t Ask, He Didn’t Tell: Remembering Andrew Wilfahrt

Lori and Jeff Wilfahrt, who lost their son, Andrew, to an IED explosion while he was serving in the army, discuss their gay son’s life under Don’t Ask Don’t Tell, the repeal of DADT, and their efforts to defeat the marriage amendment.

Top Ten Ways to Make Schools Safe: PFLAG National Curriculum

PFLAG-National Field and Policy Coordinator Brooke Senter shares concrete ways education professionals can create an atmosphere that is safe for all students. Includes a discussion of ways to stop bad behavior and plans for positive school wide activities.

Trans 101: Best Practices for Schools

JJ Kahle, Blake School GLBTQ Advocate and Advisor; Sandy Saline, teacher at the MN Internship Center Charter School; and Michelle Fournier of OutFront Minnesota present a research-based discussion on the challenges and best practices of meeting the needs of transgender students.

Homophobia: What Do Sexism and the Media Have to Do With It?

Using the film "Killing Us Softly part 3" and work with print ads, Leigh Combs of The Family Partnership deconstructs portrayals of women in the general media and GLBTQ media.

When Push Comes to Shove: Moving Bully Prevention Efforts Forward in Our Schools and Communities

Education consultant Alan Heisterkamp explains the youth socialization that supports bullying and outlines concrete steps and approaches that schools and communities need to take in order to eliminate bullying and abuse.

Why Wait to Stop the Hate?: Practical Strategies for Working with Young Children to Prevent and Take Stands against Bias-Bullying (K-5)

Lyn Mitchell, a founding member of AMAZE, discusses how literature and activities can show K-5 students how to recognize bias and take stands against, with the end result of creating more inclusive and respectful classes.

How Religion Can Help (Since We’ve Mainly Done the Opposite)

Breck chaplain and GSA adviser John Bellaimey moderates this panel which debunks religious myths and shows how people of different religious backgrounds can advocate for LGBT students. The panel features Protestant Mark Osler, head of the Association of Religious Law Schools; Michael Bayly, educator and author of *Creating Safe Schools for LGBT Students: A Catholic Schools Perspective*; Muslim Blake student Asma Haidara; and Rabbi Melissa Simon, Director of Lifelong Learning at Shir Tivkah Synagogue in Minneapolis.