



Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer+ (LGBTQ+) Pride Month in North Clackamas School District

WHEREAS, North Clackamas Schools shares in the belief that diversity is our greatest strength and our lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer+ (LGBTQ+) students and staff have the same rights guaranteed to their peers; and

WHEREAS, each year, the month of June honors the 1969 Stonewall riots in Manhattan and the National Education Association has included LGBTQ+ Pride Month in its list of commemorative months since 1995; and

WHEREAS, we believe, like Jason Collins, the first openly gay major American sports athlete who said, "openness may not completely disarm prejudice, but it's a good place to start"; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ youth are almost five times as likely to have attempted suicide compared to straight cis gender youth and each episode of LGBTQ+ victimization, such as physical or verbal harassment or abuse, increases the likelihood of self-harming behavior by 2.5 times on average; and

WHEREAS, a national study found that 40 percent of transgender adults reported having made a suicide attempt, with 92 percent of these individuals reported having attempted suicide before the age of 25; and

WHEREAS, having a gender sexuality alliance reduces a child's risk of attempting suicide by 50 percent and students at schools with gender sexuality alliances experience less bullying around gender non-conformity; and

WHEREAS, federal law guarantees students the right to form gender sexuality alliance clubs where other non-curricular clubs exist and our community is better because of the diversity of our population; and

WHEREAS, inclusion is a core value of our district and the school board is committed to helping end the crisis of suicide in our community by creating a safe and welcoming school district for all students;

NOW, THEREFORE, the North Clackamas School District Board of Directors proclaims June 2023 to be LGBTQ+ PRIDE MONTH and urges our community to join us in celebrating the diverse gender identity and sexual orientation that exists among our students, staff and community.

Adopted this 11th day of May, 2023.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mitzi Bauer".

Chair, Mitzi Bauer, School District Board of Directors