



Policies and Practices Related to LGBTQ Students

Facilitated by

Maria Lewis, JD, PhD Assistant Professor Education Policy Studies

Wednesday, March 25, 2020 Chambers 118

12:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Session Description

LGBTQ students in schools report hearing biased language, are subject to verbal and physical harassment, and experience anti-LGBTQ discrimination which can create a hostile school environment, poor academic performance, and subsequent increases in drop out rates. School board policies can help to establish clear expectations for faculty, staff, and students regarding LGBTQ student rights. The legal responsibilities of school districts regarding the rights of LGBTQ students continues to evolve as school districts and communities wrestle with how to best support all students.

Dr. Lewis will engage participants in a discussion regarding survey results from Pennsylvania principals about LGBTQ students and discuss the implications for school board policies and practices. She will share how the stories of LGBTQ youth are being told through legal briefs so that courts better understand the experiences of LGBTQ students. Finally, participants will interact and share their experiences and practices developing policies in their districts.

Audience: Assistant Superintendents, Superintendents, Executive Directors of IUs an CTCs, Charter School Executives.

Format: Face to face, interactive discussion

Bio- Maria Lewis, JD, PhD

Dr. Lewis hold both a law degree and Ph.D. in Education Leadership and Policy Analysis from the University of Wisconsin. She is an Assistant Professor in the Education Policy Studies Department at Penn State University and a faculty affiliate at Penn State Law. Her research focuses on the intersection of policy and law particularly as it relates to equity and diversity.

Agenda

12:00-1:00 Lunch and Networking

1:00-2:30 Discussion

2:30-3:00 Wrap up- Next Steps

Related Publications

Lewis, M. M., & Eckes, S. E. (2019). Storytelling, leadership, and the law: Using Amicus Briefs to Understand the Impact of School District Policies and Practices Related to Transgender Student Inclusion. *Educational Administration Quarterly*, 56(1), 46-88

Lewis, M. M., & Kern, S. (2018). Using Education Law as a Tool to Empower Social Justice Leaders to Promote LGBTQ Inclusion. *Educational Administration Quarterly*, 54(5), 723-746.

Resources

Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity-Penn State University

<https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/csgd>

GLSEN

<https://www.glsen.org/>

GLSEN Model School District Policy

<https://www.glsen.org/district-policy>

Teaching Tolerance

<https://www.tolerance.org/magazine/publications/best-practices-for-serving-lgbtq-students>

PSBA Transgender Legal Update 10/11/2019

<https://www.psba.org/2019/11/transgender-legal-update-2/>

PA Education Law Center

Your Right to Be Free based on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity.

Pennsylvania Youth Congress

<https://payouthcongress.org/>

Pennsylvania Department of Education

<https://www.education.pa.gov/Schools/safeschools/equityandinclusion/Pages/LGBTQ.aspx>

Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance Survey Center for Disease Control and Prevention

<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/67/ss/ss6708a1.htm>

Policies and Practices Related to LGBTQ Students
Please complete one registration form per individual

Name: _____

School District/Organization: _____

Position: _____

Street Address: _____

City State/Zip Code: _____

Email address: _____ Phone Number: _____

Individual PSSC Member registration @\$60.00 includes lunch and a parking pass. \$ _____

Group Discount for PSSC Member registration @ \$50.00 includes lunch and a parking pass. \$ _____

Individual Non-member registration @75.00 includes lunch and a parking pass. \$ _____

Please enter the amount due and enclose a check or school district purchase order payable to PSSC

PO# _____ Business office contact: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

Please complete and return by Friday March 20, 2020 to:

**PSSC-Attention Danielle Natterman
200 Rackley Building
University Park, PA 16802
FAX: (814) 865-0070**

****Forms may also be emailed to: dns5077@psu.edu with checks to follow by mail.**