



Addressing School Safety for Sexual Minority Youth in Wisconsin Public Schools

Gay Straight Alliance for Safe Schools

January 8, 2009

8:30 Registration—9:00—3:00 Workshop

CESA 6 Office—Large Conference Room

Wisconsin Pupil Nondiscrimination Law—Statute 118.13: No person may be denied admission to any public school or be denied participation in, be denied the benefits of or be discriminated against in any curricular, extracurricular, pupil services, recreational or other program or activity because of the person's sexual orientation (among other protected classes).

Why Sexual Minority Youth?

Wisconsin 2007 Youth Risk Behavior Survey

In comparison to other youth, sexual minority youth (i.e., lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning youth) are:

- 3.7 times more likely to have been threatened at school;
- 1.9 times more likely to have missed school because they felt unsafe;
- 3.7 times more likely to have attempted suicide.

Positive Results for Support:

- The presence of supportive staff contribute to a range of positive indicators including greater sense of safety, fewer reports of missing days of school, and a higher incidence of planning to attend college.
- Students in schools with a gay-straight alliance (GSA) were less likely to feel unsafe, less likely to miss school, and more likely to feel like they belonged at their school than students in schools with no such clubs.
- Having a comprehensive policy was related to a lower incidence of hearing homophobic remarks and to lower rates of verbal harassment.
- **Learn** the basics about the acronym, LGBTQ;
- Understand the legal protections of sexual minority students;
- Identify and understand factors that place sexual minority youth at greater risk for school failure, mental health and physical health issues;
- Identify barriers that prevent the creation of safe schools for sexual minority youth;
- Develop strategies to address barriers that prevent the creation of safe schools for sexual minority youth.

Free to Consortium Members (Freedom, Green Lake, Herman, Horicon, Dodge, Manawa, Mayville, Neosho, Omro, RBS, Rubicon)

\$50.00 for Non-Consortium Members

Cancellation Policy: Any workshop registration cancellations must be received 48 hours before the workshop scheduled date, for a refund to be issued. Because attendance at most workshops has to be limited, persons registering for a workshop and not in attendance on the day of the workshop will be charged the full registration fee.

Addressing School Safety for Sexual Minority Youth

1-8-09
CESA 6—Large Conf. Room

Participant Name(s) _____

Position(s) _____ District _____

Phone (Work) _____ (Home) _____

Would you like to be notified by email of future CESA 6 training sessions? Yes No

Email Address _____ Special accommodations or dietary needs _____

Please check one:

- Check is enclosed, made payable to CESA 6
- Bill my School District, PO # _____
- Use my Conference Attendance Fund (CESA 6 employed staff ONLY)
- Credit Card Payment

Cardholder Name _____

Cardholder Address (include city, state ZIP) _____

Credit Card Type (VISA, MasterCard, etc.) _____

Credit Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____ 3 Digit Code on Back of Card _____

RETURN TO:

Barb Bohn, Program Assistant, CESA 6, PO Box 2568, Oshkosh, WI 54903-2568