

District Gender & Sexuality Alliance Notes

Tuesday, November 20, 2018
4:00 – 5:00 pm
School Board Office

1. Welcome and Introductions - Name, School, Preferred Pronouns
2. School Updates

George Jay - An update for our school includes a GSA bulletin board with hands and hearts of messages around how "At George Jay, we can be". Students have written words like be friendly, be kind, say hello in different languages etc. We have the SD61 rainbow shirt and some rainbow stickers that say "Choose love" as well as the very cool BCTF posters including the "Just be You" poster

<https://bctf.ca/uploadedFiles/Public/SocialJustice/Issues/LGBTQ/Just%20Be%20You%202016.pdf>

I have shared "This is a Safe Place..." stickers with staff for doors and other prominent places, [SafeSpaceLGBTQ.pdf](#) as well as All Families Welcome - just waiting for the French version

Lansdowne - The bulletin board has been established in the main foyer and contains information on GSA activities as well as posters that include Trans Awareness. The GSA had a very successful Bake Sale and the funds raised may be used to host other middle school GSAs. The GSA is hoping to be in an assembly to describe what they do.

Quadra - The bulletin board is ordered and will be placed in a visible spot. The rainbow club has approximately 10 students attending.

Lambrick Park - A Bake Sale was held on October 31st with a ghoulish theme. As usual, GSA pamphlets were handed out. Another Bake Sale is scheduled for November 21st. The bulletin board is at a main intersection of the school and contains GSA information including meeting dates and times. The school will be celebrating the Day of Remembrance in a couple of weeks. There is an older piece of art work that the GSA would like to remove and replace with a rainbow hand mural that would include hand prints from past GSA leaders.

Esquimalt - The bulletin board is up and it is very large; you can't miss it. The GSA wrote a card to an Ontario school in support of their development of a GSA within their school. Buttons and magnets of support were also produced. They continue to plan the Drag Show as part of the Love is Love Conference in May. See the invitation to participate included in these notes.

Cloverdale - They are hoping that author Robin Stevenson will be able to come to the school in the Spring.

Mt. Doug - The bulletin board is up and the Pride Flag is on it in the main foyer. The GSA will be supporting the YCI Human Rights Day on December 10th in support of Trans Youth.

Willows - The school's main bulletin board does have some group activities displayed.

3. Elementary Group - It is hoped that the elementary schools will be able to meet as a group at our next GSA meeting.
4. Love is Love Planning
 - a. School - Lambrick Park will be hosting Love is Love on May 17th. Eryn will meet with the principal of Lambrick Park to begin organizing.

- b. Matt Treble - Matt has offered to pass along his experience to this year's organizers.
- c. Esquimalt Drag Show - The invitation to collaborate and organize the drag show is included in these notes. If you are interested, the first meeting date is Thursday, December 6th from 4:15 to 5:30 in the Library at Esquimalt High School. This will be shared at the Pride Society's November 29th meeting at the Coast Hotel and there is the potential for their involvement/advice.

Adjourn 5:00 pm

Meeting Dates:

Upcoming Dates

January 22, 2019	School Board Office
February 19, 2019	School Board Office
April 16, 2019	School Board Office
May 21, 2019	School Board Office

On this 9th Trans Day of Remembrance, I invite you to take a moment to reflect on the lives of those lost to and impacted by anti-trans violence at home and abroad. I am grateful for the small steps British Columbia and Canada are making to protect trans lives, but am woefully aware of the miles left to go to ensure that transgender, gender creative, and gender diverse folk are truly safe. This is doubly true for indigenous trans folk and trans people of colour.

There is much work still to do, and, with persistence, we can ensure that we flip the script for trans youth. According to EGALÉ,

- 78% of trans students felt unsafe at school;
- 74% of trans students have been verbally harassed because of their gender expression;
- 49% of trans students have been sexually harassed in school; and

- 37% of trans students have been physically harassed or assaulted because of their gender expression.

Your work as inclusive educators is powerful and important. We know that trans youth who have supportive schools and families have a dramatic reduction in self-harming behaviour, major mental health issues, and addictions. They also report feeling safer at school and have reduced rates of truancy. So, keep up the good fight!

For some timely news stories, please see the articles below which you may want to share with your colleagues.

[The Human Rights Campaign \(HRC\) Foundation's 2018 Report on Fatal Violence Against Trans folk in the US](#)

[Community reacts to news B.C. will offer gender-affirming lower surgeries](#)

['X' marks the spot with new gender-neutral option on government ID in BC](#)

[Current Gender Identity Language from the Canadian Paediatrics Society](#)





Just Be You Lesson Plan

Primary

- Create a storybook or bulletin board display
- photo/drawing of each student per page
 - short writing (1–2 sentences) on what it means to be them.

The best part of me

- students choose best parts: feet, eyes, nose, ears, etc.
- teacher photographs that part
- student creates page
- create a class book or have this be a child's unique ME book.



Curricular connections

English Language Arts

- everyone has a unique story to share (K-2)
- stories and other texts help us to learn about ourselves, our families, and our communities.

Arts Education

- people connect to others and share ideas through the arts (K-1)
- the arts connect our experiences to the experiences of others.

Physical and Health Education

- learning about ourselves and others help us develop a positive attitude and caring behaviours which helps us build healthy relationships (K-1)
- having good communication skills and managing our emotions enables us to develop and maintain healthy relationships (2-3).

Intermediate

Weekly writing prompts:

- To be me, I...
- I like to...
- The best part of me is...
- My favourite toy is...
- An experience where I get to be my true self is...

PowerPoint presentation

- one to three slides per student
- incorporate music and/or embed videos
- display at open house or school assembly, etc.
- subject: "What it means to be me" or "Unique Me."

Thumbprint self-portrait

www.teachkidsart.net/thumbprint-self-portrait/

Curricular connections

English Language Arts

- language and text can be a source of creativity and joy
- exchange ideas and perspectives to build a shared understanding.

Arts Education

- exploring connections to identity, place, culture, and belonging through creative expression
- express, feelings, ideas, and experiences through the arts.

A slice of me lesson (Primary and Intermediate)

With materials, create a pizza large enough that each student has a workable slice to write/draw on.

Example:

- students create their own visual story
- opportunity for focus on specific ideas
 - character attributes
 - my favourite things
 - people I love
 - things I am grateful for.



Book list

Elementary: www.the-best-childrens-books.org/books-about-individuality.html

Class book writing

- create a book or bulletin board display—primary
- photo/drawing for each student per page
- writing prompts.

Resources

Thumbprint self-portrait
www.teachkidsart.net/thumbprint-self-portrait/
BCTF workshops and book online
bctf.ca/SocialJustice.aspx?id=17988
BCTF LGBTQ page
bctf.ca/SocialJustice.aspx?id=6106

Youth Application: Trans Tipping Point

Instructions: Download this application to your computer, or copy and paste it to a blank Word doc.

Send to transtippingpoint@gmail.com by 15 December, 2018

Name:

Pronouns:

Age, Grade, and School:

City:

If you live outside of Victoria: Do you need a billet/host family to stay with during the weekend writing retreat? Yes/No

If you live in or near Victoria: Can your family host or billet an out-of-town youth during the weekend writing retreat? Yes/No

Why would you like to be part of the Trans Tipping Point? (200 words)

What types of art do you like to do (ie. writing, visual, performing, multimedia, etc)?

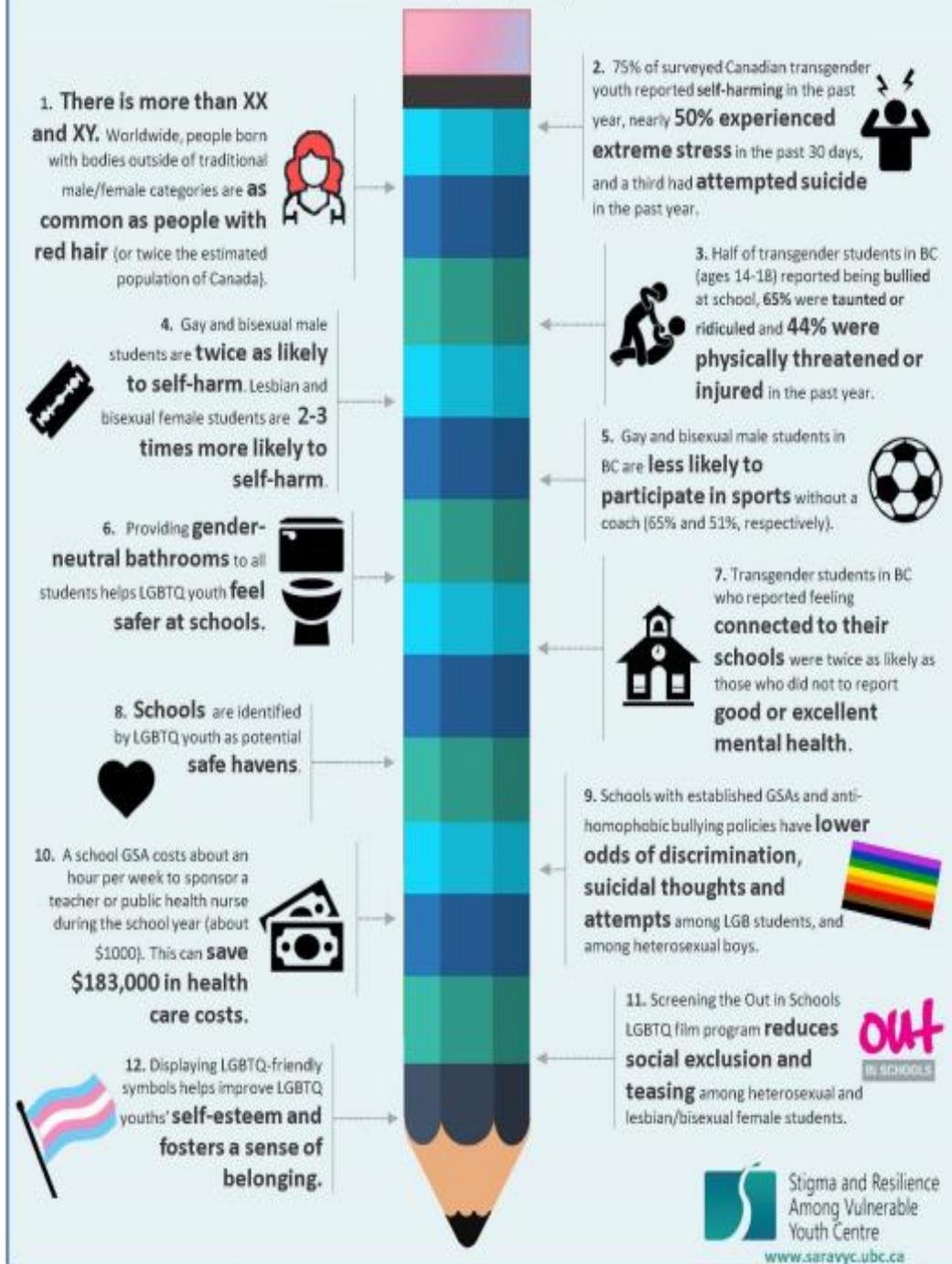
Anything else you'd like to include?

Please attach a sample of your artwork. This could be something you've done for school, done on your own time, or for another purpose. It can be any form (comics, graphics, writing, painting, crafts, multimedia, poetry, makeup, zines, sewing, or some cool medium we don't even know exists!).

LGBTQ+ Students in British Columbia

12 Evidence-Based Facts

This fact-sheet presents research findings about LGBTQ+ youth as well as their cisgender and heterosexual peers in British Columbia, Canada, and beyond.



http://apsc-saravyc.sites.olt.ubc.ca/files/2018/10/SARAVYC_LGBTQ-Students-in-BC_fact-sheet-infographic_FINAL-1.pdf



**Join us to collaborate and organize
our 1st Annual District Drag Show!**

1st Annual SD61 DRAG SHOW Planning Session

WHEN: Thursday Dec 6, 4:15 (ish) - 5:30

WHERE: Esquimalt High School Library, 847 Colville Road

Tentative Show Date:

Thursday May 16th 2019 @ the Esquimalt High School Theatre

****ALL SD 61 SCHOOLS ARE INVITED TO COME AND PLAN****