

## **What Educators Can Do To Support LGBTQ+ Students**

1. Set expectations for your students and explain exactly what behaviors and speech you wish to promote and why, as well as those you will not allow.
2. Let students know by your actions that you are supporting and accepting of all students.
3. Respect students' personal pronoun and chosen name.
4. When organizing groups, or dividing students, use things other than gender.
5. When taking role on the first day of class, call on students by only their last names and then asked them to let you know if they go by a first name other than the official name on the attendance sheet. Make sure seating charts and records left for substitutes reflect their chosen name.
6. Administrators should create a system for changing role sheets, and other student records to reflect students chosen name.
7. Understand that many students experience extremely high levels of anxiety at school so ask students to see you privately if they do not wish to be called on, present, or publically share during class. A students choice should not be used to lower their grade.
8. Use safe space signs, posters, or sticker that promote and support the LGBTQ+ community.
9. Provide meaningful opportunities for students to privately share their concerns on any issues and remind them often of your willingness to listen to and support them.
10. Intervene immediately when inappropriate behavior or speech becomes known to you and be sure to follow up with students to be sure that problems have not recurred.
11. Make LGBTQ+ issues and topics part of the school culture by using school bulletins, newspapers, and school events.
12. Include people with disabilities and LGBTQ+ contributions and issues to the curriculum.
13. Keep confidentiality! The law prevents you from "outing" a child even to their parents and you are under no obligation to tell anyone something a child has shared with you in confidence. However, **the law requires you to personally report** to child protective services when you believe they may harm themselves, someone else, or are being harmed by others.
14. Participate in GSA sponsored events like the Day of Silence and Day of Remembrance.
15. Become a GSA Teacher Adviser and advocate for all students.