

To: _____, Principal/Administrator

Proposal: To create a student run, faculty advised, Gay Straight Alliance (GSA).
With faculty advisor _____.

Dr. King once said, “Now is the time to make justice a reality for all of God's children”, and right now is the time to allow this club to form so that students are no longer discriminated against as a result of their gender identity.

What is it?

The Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) will be a student-run club, which provides a safe space for students to meet, support each other, talk about issues related to gender identity, and work together to end homophobia. Our GSA will primarily function as a support group that will provide safety and confidentiality to students who are struggling with their identity as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, or questioning. In addition to support, our GSA will work on educating themselves and the broader school community about sexual orientation and gender identity issues.

Is it allowed?

The Federal Equal Access Act mandates that if a public school allows any student group whose purpose is not directly related to the curriculum to meet on school grounds during lunch or after school, it may not deny other student groups access to the school because of the content of the groups’ proposed discussions. Schools may not pick and choose among clubs based on their particular preferences for what students discuss. In simple terms, yes it is allowed. All non curricular clubs must be treated equally.

Why do we need it?

Several students here at _____ face discrimination from their peers, teachers and family members as a result of their gender identity. Furthermore statistics show that a gay teenager is three times more likely to have suicidal thoughts than a straight teenager. Students must be allowed a forum to come together and discuss the issues facing them and to gain support from fellow teens whether they are gay or allies. Ultimately we wish to educate fellow students on the importance of equality for all students regardless of any criteria that makes them different from the perceived “norm”.

Approved: Please sign _____

Not approved: Please state reasons for non approval.

Please reply to: _____