

Members of the Administration:

Many students in our school face discrimination on a daily basis as a result of their gender identity. This type of discrimination contributes to a higher rate of suicidal thoughts and suicide attempts in gay teenagers versus straight teenagers. As a result of the discrimination and startling statistics, we wish to start a Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) in our school for the purposes of providing a safe environment for students to gather and share their thoughts, feelings and concerns regarding their gender identity. GSA is a nationally recognized organization with clubs in both high schools and colleges across the United States. It is a student-led club whose purpose is to create an accepting, welcoming environment for all students regardless of gender orientation. During club meetings students will discuss the everyday challenges, bias, and injustices faced by gay students in an effort to end the discrimination within the school. The goal of our GSA is to create an environment in which all students feel safe. GSA is open to any student who feels that discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) people, their friends or family members, is wrong. When considering our proposal please remember that the Federal Equal Access act states that if a school allows any non curriculum based club to meet on it's campus, it cannot discriminate against other non curriculum based clubs.

Our GSA's purpose is to:

- Promote tolerance and equality among students of all sexual orientations and gender identities through educational efforts and awareness building
- Inform members and student body of issues and events affecting the lives of LGBT and straight ally youth
- Create a safer, more respectful learning environment for all students
- Work in coalition with the administration and other on-campus clubs to expose and dismantle oppression and prejudice in all of their expressions
- Create a safe welcoming space for LGBT and straight ally students to socialize and talk together about issues they hold in common. (www.glsen.org)

Please sign for approval: _____

If not approved please provide a detailed written statement with reasons for non approval.

Please reply to: _____