



LGBTQ+ ADVISORY COUNCIL

APRIL 12, 2022



INTRODUCTION

Hi! I'm Megan Goebel and my pronouns are she | her. My husband Kelly (he | him) is a CVUSD alumni, and we have two daughters attending Wildwood Elementary.

My oldest, Hayden is 11 and in 5th grade. My youngest Harper is 7 and in 2nd grade.

Harper is transgender.

She socially transitioned the summer before starting Kindergarten, which prompted me to start asking all kinds of questions, and is where I began my deep dive into advocating for LGBTQ+ youth.

During Covid, I started a community based organization called Unity Conejo which introduced me to many other LGBTQ+ students and families, and that helped define the broader needs and challenges these individuals face.

WHAT IS THE LGBTQ+ AC?

LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, QUEER OR QUESTIONING, AND OTHERS
ADVISORY COUNCIL

The purpose of the LGBTQ+ Advisory Council is to build productive partnerships between CVUSD staff and families by including parent/guardian and community voices and perspectives when addressing the needs of LGBTQ+ students and families. Additionally, the LGBTQ+ AC advises CVUSD on strategies to assist us in becoming more welcoming and inclusive of our LGBTQ+ students, and to further support our LGBTQ+ students by being affirming and inclusive in our actions.

WHY DO WE NEED AN LGBTQ+ AC?

Overall, **10.3%** of California's students in public middle and high schools identified as LGBTQ.

- In rural areas, 10.0% of students surveyed identified as LGBTQ.
- In urban areas, 10.5% of students surveyed identified as LGBTQ.

Across the state, LGBTQ youth reported having less meaningful school participation, lower expectations from adults, fewer caring adult relationships at school, and a lower level of school connection than non-LGBTQ youth.

LGBTQ youth in California reported less connection with school and more frequent victimization than their non-LGBTQ peers.

LGBTQ youth in California reported a more negative school environment than non-LGBTQ youth.

Only 1 in 3 LGBTQ youth found their home to be LGBTQ-affirming.

SUCCESSSES IN OUR FIRST 6 MEETINGS

- Representatives from 19 of 26 school sites
- Nominated and elected our Chairperson, Vice Chair, Secretary and Parliamentarian
- Created and distributed opt-in information to all sites within our first 3 months
- Drafted By Laws, Standing Rules
- Reviewed newly authored School Success Plan
- Reviewed the California Healthy Kids Survey which helped further our scope and discussion on how to better support our LGBTQ+ students
- Previewed the District-wide Gender Diversity training currently being offered by Dr. Lisa Miller, Mr. Kenny Loo, and CVUSD Directors. The Advisory Council engaged on updating some of the language live.
- Began forming subcommittees to identify and take on specific needs at the elementary and secondary levels.
- We worked with Student Support Services to create an LGBTQ+ landing page within the CVUSD website.
- 4 of our Advisory Council members participate in the District's LGBTQ+ Working Group and have partnered with Dr. Dena Sellers to identify LGBTQ+ titles that could be adopted into our CVUSD libraries in the near future.

LOOKING AHEAD

- Currently in the process of nominating and confirming our Executive Board for 2022-2023 school year
- Looking for representatives from all school sites in CVUSD that are interested in being part of the LGBTQ+ AC next year
 - Note: You do **not** need to be the parent/caregiver/guardian of an LGBTQ+ student in order to join the advisory council and represent your school site. You **do** need to be an ally and someone that is looking to provide input on how to make our LGBTQ+ students feel safe and how to help them succeed.
- Looking at current practices that are gendered, and how we can update them to be more inclusive.
- Continue to identify areas of need by school site, and as a District, how this Advisory Council can provide suggestions and input.
- Maintain momentum forward in finding ways to support our LGBTQ+ students and give them a safe space to come to each and every day.

A vibrant rainbow flag is shown waving against a clear blue sky with soft, wispy white clouds. The flag's colors—red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple—are clearly visible and appear to be in motion. The overall scene is bright and positive.

QUESTIONS?