

Dear Committee,

Students of the LGBTQ community matter. Their education and health is equally important to any other students' regardless of who they happen to be. When they are excluded from the conversation- they're hearing time after time that their lives are insignificant. School systems continually close or even slam the doors of education in LGBTQ students' faces. It leaves them feeling lost, outcast, and alone. I was one of those students. The sex education system currently in place does not include LGBTQ students' relationships or health. It leaves us confused, conflicted, and possibly, in danger. It leaves us without options. Students of the LGBTQ community deserve to know what healthy and happy relationships look like for them. They deserve to hear about how to be healthy and safe. All-inclusive LGBTQ sex education in the curriculum is crucial for the protection of LGBTQ kids everywhere. Please consider the thousands of students who just want to feel valued and included.

Sincerely,

Tori Westenberg, 18, 51B