

Regina Public Schools Annual Pride Day

In Regina Public Schools, we demonstrate our Shared Values that include **belonging** and **respect**. As a school division, we are committed to ensuring schools and workplaces are safe and inclusive environments where lesbian, gay, bisexual, pansexual, trans-identified, transsexual, two-spirited and queer staff, students, families, and allies feel included, protected and respected.

Thank you for celebrating Pride Month and demonstrating that ALL, however they are and want to be, are welcome in Regina Public Schools!

Did you know?

June was chosen for Pride Month to commemorate the Stonewall protests that took place in New York in 1969.

The rainbow pride flag was created by Harvey Milk and Glibert Baker in 1978 as a symbol of equality, pride, hope and love. Now there are many other flags and symbols that represent the diversity in the LGBTQ+ community.

There are many ways to identify as gender and sexually diverse (GSD) and terms are continually evolving within the gender and sexually diverse community. This is sometimes referred to as the rainbow alphabet. See the back of this flyer to familiarize yourself with some of these terms and definitions.

Almost two-thirds (64%) of LGBTQ students and 61% of students with LGBTQ parents reported that they feel unsafe at school. For GSD youth, suicide is the number one cause of death (Public Health Agency of Canada, 2010). Homophobic and transphobic remarks represent the most frequently heard derogatory remarks in school, yet are the least responded to. Seventy percent of kids say they hear it every day at school. (EGALE, 2011)

Alliances for Gender and Sexual Diversity (GSA) are student-initiated groups that directly challenge or resist the heteronormative culture and structures that characterize adolescents' lives. GSAs help ALL students feel safe and respected at their schools. Students attending schools with alliances for gender and sexual diversity are less likely to miss school because of safety concerns compared to peers who attend schools without such alliances. (Walls, Wineski & Kane, 2013)

There are many programs in Saskatchewan that support gender and sexually diverse youth and their allies such as Camp fYrefly, Camp Caterpillar, UR Pride, Trans Sask, Trans Umbrella Foundation, AIDS South Sask, OUT Saskatoon. There are now nine communities in Saskatchewan who host Pride parades, including Regina (June 16, 2018).

