



Welcoming Schools



Why Welcoming Schools Professional Development?

30,000 educators in 37 States in the US have participated in the Welcoming Schools Professional Development Program to create a **positive LGBTQ and gender inclusive school climate** where all families and students are welcome and can thrive.

90% of educators know how to actively support transgender and non-binary students after a Welcoming Schools training. Prior to the training only 42% of educators felt they could adequately support students around gender identity.

"In the schools where we have provided Welcoming Schools training and resources, the training has been consistently rated by staff as one of the best and most effective professional development sessions."

STEVEN CHEN

Senior Equity Manager, Boston Public Schools

"Welcoming Schools training is helping our staff to learn to be the school that our LGBTQ+ students and families have been waiting for — from bathrooms to pronouns to how we address students, we are ready. We honor our student's gender identity, and they have the school experience they deserve. In collaboration with Welcoming Schools, this is our promise to students and to families."

MELISSA SONNEK

Principal, Edgerton Elementary School, Maplewood, MN

Schools using the Welcoming Schools approach experience a **50% reduction in bullying behavior within the first two years** of full Welcoming Schools implementation.

"Welcoming Schools provides our staff with the tools to create a more equitable and culturally responsive educational experience for all of our students and families."

JOSH FOREHAND

Principal, Nuestro Mundo Elementary School, Madison, WI

"Knowing that the teachers and staff at my child's school are Welcoming Schools trained gives me the confidence that he will be supported emotionally, socially, and academically. My gender non-conforming son can wear a dress proudly and express his authentic self while I can rest assured that he will be safe to learn and thrive in school. That peace of mind is priceless!"

JENNIFER

Parent