

From: Regina Castro-Brandt
Sent: Tue, 1 Jun 2021 21:49:45 +0000
To: T9PublicHearing
Subject: Written Comment: Title IX Public Hearing (topic of the comment)

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I am on an Equity team for the South Coast ESD in Coos Bay, Oregon which serves 3 counties, 10 school districts and a community college. Unfortunately, there are still some very closed minded and archaic behaviors here on the southern Oregon coast that discriminate against students and families who are part of the LGBTQ + community. We have initiated some movement to educate the schools and communities using GLSEN Safe Space and Ally training, but we have a LONG way to go. Only a few of our high schools have GSA clubs, but we are trying to change that. A few years ago, one of our high schools gained notoriety for a discrimination Lawsuit (view [Southern Oregon North Bend School Lawsuit LGBTQ Discrimination](#)). We need more resources and staff to assist students and community members willing to withdraw from school and society because of harassment and abuse.

Knowing what we know about Trauma Informed School Systems and Social/Emotional Learning – we have miles and miles to go to really make a difference in the life of students and adults in the LGTBQ community. We have anti-discrimination laws and policies, but where is the enforcement? Let's stop being reactive and let's be more proactive!!

Thank you, Gina

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“Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.” ~ Mark Twain



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