Alameda Unified School District
LGBTQ Round Table Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes
January 26th, 2017

Present:
Adult representatives/members: Anne Faria-Poynter, Olivia Higgins, Susan Davis, Terri Elkin, Gene Kahane, Audrey Hyman, Kale Jenks, Henry Villareal
Youth representatives/members: Katie Ly, Jessica Collins, Ella Burke, Kaitlin Alcontin, and Charlie Kleinman
Guest(s): Elliot Mcohen

A) Old Business
- **GSA Announcements**
  - Alameda High School
    - Recently did Current Life presentations on the concepts of sex and gender (same as the presentation of 2015-2016 school year) and received no negative reactions.
    - Members of the committee expressed concerns on whether the presentations go under health lessons and whether or not there should be parent notification
    - Does not have a huge social justice assembly this year since it has been passed to the Black Student Union, but they are hoping to get a little theater two-day block schedule assembly that incorporates other clubs to focus on intersectionality
    - They are communicating with the school-based health center to do more “same sex, safe sex” presentations during second semester
  - Encinal High School
    - Olivia went over the district trans policy
    - Went to the Women’s March together, which was “fun and empowering”
    - Student named Angel is a trans female who is an Encinal High graduate, who is in search of female hormones. EHS has started a gofundme and shared it on facebook and instagram with the goal of $1200. They aim to have this as a surprise birthday gift in February. Ella will forward the link to everyone
    - Wants to encourage more club bonding (possibly work with AHS to do a party)

B) New Business
- **Introduction of Elliot from Santa Cruz**
○ Came to do more research on the LGBTQ+ community and school environments
○ Wants to work more with school’s GSA to find more information for his research

Communication Updates
○ Board of Education passed a safe haven resolution in which a safe haven is against all forms of discrimination. The city also passed a resolution to declare Alameda as a sanctuary city and the school district sent out a joint press release about it on January 20th (around 9 am) as a step towards safety for all in our city.
○ Superintendent asked for the “Everyone Belongs Here” posters to become banners and it happened! The banners should be hung at all school sites and also, there will be one given to the city to hang in the lobby. There are extras to give to other community partners as well.
  ■ Concerns over whether we should give posters/banners to charter schools
  ■ City council speaker debated about the loss of federal funding

NSSHRB Liaison
○ There is a member who is a part of SSHRB who wants to participate in this Round Table. Audrey emailed Olivia if he can start coming, but wanted to bring it to the discussion. Olivia believes there is not a hierarchy over who fills out the application, especially if the individual wants to be a part of this committee beyond one meeting. (They should name why they’re interested, their role, the amount of hours they can commit, along with any additional skills)
  ■ Concerns about when to accept and discuss applicants after receiving applications. Olivia believes we should have one meeting to discuss among the table on whether we should accept applicants. Others believe we can have that conversation online.
  ■ Regardless of connections and status, EVERYONE should fill out an application.
  ■ Mark (from SSHRB) is pending approval.
  ■ Audrey believes the applications are just for community members.

RT Activities
○ Each bucket item needs to have a point person and if there’s no point person or not enough people to sign up for an activity, the activity is long gone!
○ There will be an update at EVERY meeting of the activity people are helping lead to ensure that we are doing work between the monthly meetings. (Work with your teammates, not at the LGBTQ meeting. And follow through!)
Activities and leaders:
- City wide events and collaboration: Susan, Jessica, Katie
- Everyone Belongs Here Merch: Terri, Anne, Katie, Gene
- LGBTQ Youth Public Forum: Ella, Kale, Charlie, Kaitlin
- Walkathon - under citywide events (?), activity for next year (?)
- Harvey Milk Day: Gene, Henry, Olivia (poster contest), Kaitlin
- Monthly awareness events (banners): will go under different activities rather than being its own
- School-based health centers: Jessica, Kale, Ella, Katie
- Student justice center: Anne and Ella (take off activities)
- LGBTQ Book Club: Ella and Gene (not a RT activity, take off activities)
- Presentations at schools: Same thing as banners, consider this under the activities you are in charge of
- Increase social presence: Susan, Olivia
- Staff meeting presentations/teacher trainings (student fish bowl): Olivia
- GSA Leads: Not a RT activity
- July 4th Pride Float: Ella and Kaitlin

Biographies and roles
- Share your title, what role you want on the round table, add titles to bios

Everyone Belongs Here Slogan
- Question: Copyright the poster? Answer: Yes.
- Terri talked to the legal about it and it is inexpensive (roughly 60 dollars). We already decided to let people use it, but the copyright is just to ensure we can take action if someone decides to misuse it.
- Questions: What will be the purpose of going through copyrighting? Are we going to be out there policing it? Answer: It lends credibility to the fact that this is something that has been designed.
- Audrey says there is a pushback about the beautiful concept of the EBH campaign, as some people feel less connected with it since it’s LGBTQ-concentrated due to the rainbow

C) Miscellaneous
- Palm Springs Conference
- Gene attended the GLBT conference in December in Palm Springs and in the beginning of the conference; it was somber with an extensive video of the stories of those who died in Orlando, Florida. He got a sense of vulnerability among the crowds and he thought the workshops were terrific. There were a lot of resources and films that may or may not be appropriate for Alameda schools
Gene did a presentation and brought the EBH posters and buttons and everyone was in awe. He gave the buttons away and other school districts seemed empowered by our work.

**Question:** Can we lend our support to other vulnerable communities this year?

**Harvey Milk Day Poster Contest Idea**

- Given the context of where we are right now, there are some new actions being taken in Washington. Perhaps, we should do a combination of both Harvey Milk and Everyone Belongs Here for this school year. We should be supportive of what's happening around us.

**Good of the Order**

- **Kale:** MLK Day, there was a youth speaks event in San Francisco where youth talked about how MLK affected their lives
- **Olivia:** Expanding from Hayward into all of Alameda communities, Michelle Gonalzes, who does a lot of workshops in Hayward for queer youth, wants to attend a meeting. She also wants to go into the GSAs and schools to do lessons (Our space: where it is safe to be yourself, our space a program of sunny hills service)
- **Gene:** Invite student-teacher from Mills College (Jaime), as he identities as genderqueer and wants to find out the deets in Alameda
- **Anne:** Middle school GSA representative, Ms. Ganely, from wood? Invited her to come to this meeting, but it raises concerns over money for substitute teachers. She teaches History and committee says that we can get half-day subs. But, she has to do an application!
- **Anne:** LGBTQ+ chair for AEA- Audrey wants new people and she knows a young teacher where we can provide her a half day sub, so she can see what its like (name is unidentified)
- **Question:** Are there gender-neutral inclusive restrooms? **Answer:** There is one on every campus, but in terms of construction, there is controversy. Lincoln middle has one on the forefront. There are concerns over signage, but it's still being worked on.
  - Bathroom Law: starts March 1st and for every public restroom, if it is a single-stalled, it cannot be solely female or male. Must be gender neutral! There is discussion over what the signage will look like. There is going to be different people going at public facilities to check that the law is being enforced.
  - Gene's brilliant idea for signage: “Everyone Pees Here”