Bullying & Harassment

✓ Comments like “That’s so gay!” and “Faggot” are not ok. If it’s mean, teachers should intervene.
✓ Teachers and administrators should have a plan to address bullying, including cyberbullying.

GSAs/LGBTQ Clubs

✓ Your school should allow Gay-Straight Alliances and LGBTQ Clubs to form on the same basis as any other club.
✓ Clubs are allowed to choose their own names, and shouldn’t be forced into euphemisms like “The Diversity Club.”

First Amendment & Expression

✓ Does your school’s internet filter block positive LGBTQ sites? You can check by searching for organizations like GLAD and GLSEN.
✓ LGBTQ students should be able to attend school dances on the same terms as other students, including bringing a date of their choosing.
✓ LGBTQ students should be able to dress in a way that fits their gender identity, including at graduation.

Want More?

Find more information about your rights in school and beyond at www.glad.org/youth

Have questions about your legal rights, or any of the information here? Contact us at www.GLADAnswers.org for free & confidential help.
Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Students

The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has published guidelines for schools to follow regarding transgender students. Your school should:

- Use your chosen names and pronouns.
- Ensure that you can access facilities like bathrooms and locker rooms in accordance with your gender identity.
- Allow you to participate in school activities such as athletics according to your gender identity.
- Keep your medical records and other documents related to your transition confidential.

Non-discrimination

- Gender identity and sexual orientation should be included in your school’s non-discrimination policy.
- Health and sexual education classes should offer information that is inclusive of all sexual orientations and genders.

Beyond the basics...

- Is the procedure for reporting bullying clear?
- Does the anti-bullying policy list categories including sexual orientation and gender identity?
- Does your school participate in the Day of Silence?
- Is positive information about LGBTQ people and issues included in the curriculum and available in the library?

This document provides general information only and should not be taken as legal advice. If you have questions, need more information, or need help with a problem you are facing, please contact us at GLADAnswers.org

www.GLADAnswers.org