

SUPPORT FOR LGBTQ+ STUDENTS

Every year, as school starts back up, we see an increase in requests for name and gender marker changes. Our transgender and non-binary students often anxiously approach a new year hoping to be welcomed into their classrooms as their full and authentic selves. Of course, kids also transition throughout the school year and there are frequently requests for support in helping make the transition smooth, seamless, and safe. Here is some guidance on how to support LGBTQ+ students.

Brennon Ham (*pronouns: Brennon/they/she/he*), who recently graduated from Harvard's Master's in Educational Policy program (Way to go, Brennon!), oversees LGBTQ+ efforts in SPS. Brennon is our Health Education Specialist and a skilled trainer who recently provided staff training at one of our elementary schools. The school leader had this to say, "*Your training for my staff yesterday was AMAZING. EVERYONE loved it and was super engaged. SO good. I learned so much. I appreciate you taking (time) out of your day to help us grow our personal knowledge and to teach us concrete strategies to support students in our school and classrooms. I feel like that should be required training for everyone in the district.*" Yes! We do too. In fact, to schedule a training with Brennon, please email Brennon at brham@seattleschools.org

For more, click <u>here</u>.