

March 6, 2025

We, the undersigned school superintendents, write to express our support for students, families, and staff in light of recent federal attempts to roll-back LGBTQIA+ rights and anti-discrimination policies. In order for students to learn, they must feel safe and welcome at school. Therefore, we will continue to stand firm in our commitment to support all students and families no matter their gender, gender identity, or gender expression.

As education agencies, our mission is to provide an excellent public education that empowers every student, educator, and family member to reach their fullest potential as productive members of our community. We are dedicated to creating comprehensive learning opportunities in safe, supportive, and collaborative environments that address the individual needs of every learner. In these changing times, our core values remain steadfast: every student is valued, respected, and welcomed in Santa Clara County schools.

While the federal political landscape has shifted, California law, and our commitment to protecting LGBTQIA+ students, remains unchanged. To that end, we will continue to:

- Investigate and resolve all claims of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying based on gender, gender identity, and gender expression, as required by California Education and Government Codes.
- Comply with Education Code 221.5 which requires schools to allow students to participate in school programs and use facilities aligned with their gender identity.
- Honor Constitutional protections and Education Code which prohibit schools from requiring staff to disclose information about a student's sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression to anyone without the student's consent, except in narrow circumstances.
- Provide professional development and training to staff on the prevention of bias, discrimination, and harassment, including training specific to LGBTQ+ issues, as required by Education Code 2204.

For students, families, and staff seeking additional information, please visit <https://www.sccoe.org/LGBTQ/Pages/default.aspx> to learn more about the resources and supports available.

We stand firmly with our LGBTQIA+ community and remain dedicated to creating affirming, inclusive spaces where every student feels seen, respected, and empowered for who they are. This commitment includes supporting a robust education that celebrates diverse races, ethnicities, and gender expressions, and promoting an organizational culture of inclusion and acceptance.

Santa Clara County schools will continue to value and support all students, families, and educators, and will comply with state law by creating safe spaces for learning that welcome all genders, gender identities, and gender expressions.

In solidarity,



Maimona Afzal Berta  
Santa Clara County Board of Education  
President



Sandra McGonagle  
Los Altos School District  
Superintendent



Roxane Fuentes  
Berryessa Union School District  
Superintendent



Carmen Garcia  
Morgan Hill Unified School District  
Superintendent



Kristi Schwiebert  
Cambrian School District  
Superintendent



Dr. Ivan Chaidez  
Oak Grove School District  
Superintendent



Dr. Shelly Viramontez  
Campbell Union School District  
Superintendent



Dr. Jeffrey Bowman  
Orchard School District  
Superintendent



Glenn Vander Zee  
East Side Union High School District  
Superintendent



Nancy Albarrán  
San Jose Unified School District  
Superintendent



Anisha Munshi  
Gilroy Unified School District  
Superintendent



Dr. Gary Waddell  
Santa Clara Unified School District  
Superintendent



Lety Villa  
Discovery Charter Schools  
Executive Director



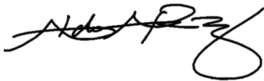
Cady Kealohi Ching  
Summit Public Schools  
Chief Executive Officer



Stacey Yao  
Cupertino Union School District  
Superintendent



Michael Gallagher  
Sunnyvale School District  
Superintendent



Aldo Ramirez  
Voices College-Bound Language Academies  
Chief Executive Officer



Valerie Royaltey-Quandt  
Downtown College Prep  
Interim Executive Director



Ladislao Lopez,  
Luther Burbank School District  
Superintendent-Principal



Teresa Robinson  
Sunrise Middle School  
Director/Principal



Jeffrey Baier  
Interim Superintendent  
Mountain View Whisman School District



Dr. Robert Bravo  
Campbell Union High School District  
Superintendent



Juan Cruz  
Franklin-McKinley School District  
Superintendent



Dr. Elida MacArthur  
Mount Pleasant Elementary School District  
Superintendent



Erin M. O'Neill  
MetroEd  
Superintendent



Graham Clark  
Fremont Union High School District  
Superintendent



Cheryl Jordan  
Milpitas Unified School District  
Superintendent