



SUPPORT SERVICES FOR SEXUAL MINORITY YOUTH

FACT SHEET

...a safe environment for all students

Historical Background: In May of 1990, the San Francisco Unified School District's Board of Education approved the establishment of a program to provide counseling services to gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning high school youth. The program, Support Services for Sexual Minority Youth, began in September of 1990 as one of the programs in School Health Programs Department.

Within two years, services were expanded beyond high schools to include responding to the needs of students, families, and staff at all San Francisco Unified School District sites. In 1996, the School Board passed Board Resolution #610-8A6 which recognized the work of Support Services for Sexual Minority Youth and mandated a series of changes. These changes include expanding curriculum, increasing educational materials, increasing awareness and implementation of the Anti Slur Policy, and providing professional development for all staff in meeting the needs of sexual minority youth.

What is the goal of the Support Services for Sexual Minority Youth?

The Goal is to provide school site resources and district support to meet the needs of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning youth.

What Is Support Services for Sexual Minority Youth?

A program that is completely integrated within San Francisco Unified School District that collaborates with other programs to make schools safer for all students including gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender students. The program includes:

- Curriculum development, training, and implementation;
- Counseling and referral services, including school-site group for students, families, and staff regarding sexual minority issues;
- Professional developments regarding sexual minority youth issues;
- Theater presentations;
- Community Based Organizations presentations in elementary, middle, and high school classes;
- Gay Pride Commemorations.

Activities within SFUSD and SHPD that support or enhance Services for Sexual Minority Youth:

- Health Education Curriculum
- Collaboration with Curriculum Improvement Professional Development (CIPD) regarding Social Studies/Language Arts Curriculum
- Middle School Healthy School Teams and High School Health Promotion Committee Sexual Minority Youth Liaisons
- Elementary Health Advocates
- Health Education Teacher Leaders
- School Nurses
- District Anti-Slur Policy
- District Anti-Discrimination Policy
- Safe School Planning
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of HIV

For further information contact:

**School Health Programs Department
1515 Quintara Street, San Francisco, CA 94116
(415) 242-2615 FAX (415) 242-2618**