

Wednesday, August 17, 2022

Ms. Cindy Tuttle, High School Principal
Ogdensburg Free Academy
1100 State Street
Ogdensburg, NY 13669

Dear Mrs. Tuttle,

Based on the interest of numerous students in LGBTQ+ matters and interests, this letter is a proposal to form a school Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA - term used in the literature). The main goal of this club is to provide a safe space for all students in grades 9-12 of Ogdensburg Free Academy to meet and be themselves in a judgement free environment. **See attached proposal for more details.**

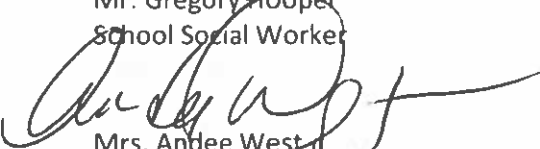
The first GSAs were established in the 1980s. Studies show that GSAs have positive academic, health, and social impacts on school children of a minority sexual orientation and/or gender identity. The study further explained that GSAs provided LGBTQ+ students with a sense of identity within their school, improved their self-esteem, and even provided students with courage and support to come out to their families and peers.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have and thank you for your consideration.

Regards,



Mr. Gregory Hooper
School Social Worker



Mrs. Andee West
School Social Worker

Gay-Straight Alliance Club

A. Identification

Name of club: The Alliance

Name of Advisor: Greg Hooper

Name(s) of student leader(s): to be determined

B. Purpose/Objectives

Statement of purpose:

- To provide a safe space for students in grades 9-12 of Ogdensburg Free Academy to meet and be themselves in a judgement free environment.

Objectives:

- Raise awareness through education and club activities.
- Help make Ogdensburg Free Academy a more inclusive place for all students.
- Help create a safe and supportive school environment free from discrimination, intimidation, taunting, harassment, and bullying.

C. Meetings

The club will meet every week after school and will run 45-60 minutes.

D. Consent

All interested students will need to obtain signed permission from their parent, or legal guardian in order to participate in the club.