Transgender Task Force

Statement of Commitment

The Livingston and Washtenaw Counties Transgender Task Force will work to push transgender rights forward alongside rights for people of color and recognize that the most marginalized in the transgender community live at the intersection of those identities.

We commit to holding ourselves accountable in working towards the following demands that have been put forward by Saline students from the Society for Student Resistance to the Saline Areas Schools and to take those demands countywide:

- Collaborate immediately with students, community stakeholders, and credible experienced racial justice and anti-oppression professionals to develop a clear and transparent plan to support healing, empowerment, and positive mental health for all marginalized students
- Identify and advocate for district-wide policies throughout the county which hold students and staff accountable for any and all hate speech
- Actively work to inform recruitment, hiring, and retention practices in districts across the county to ensure staff from a variety of diverse and underrepresented identities and backgrounds
- Mandate trainings for all Transgender Task Force members on how to take a culturally-sustaining, anti-oppression, and abolitionist approach to their gender inclusion work
- Identify and advocate integration of culturally-responsive curriculum in all levels of schooling and across subjects
- Work alongside students to inform the identification or creation of a stronger mechanism for reporting hate speech and bullying that empowers students and staff to stand up to all hate and discrimination in any building in the school districts
- Lift up and celebrate marginalized students, families, and staff identities in order to take steps towards repairing harm and growing safe and inclusive environments for all students
The Task Force is aware that racism occurs within the transgender community and, in addition to the commitments above, will work to address this specifically by:

- Working to identify and obtain funding to support local anti-oppression efforts, especially those led by Black, Indigenous, and people of color
- Identifying opportunities to shift funding to support the hiring of counselors and social workers while decreasing funding for unnecessary police enforcement and surveillance efforts in schools
- Ensuring people of color in each community in our county have a voice in all the work we do to ensure that support provided is actually needed and not creating more work on communities of color
- Proactively recruiting trans people of color to serve on the Transgender Task Force, including breaking down barriers that currently make it difficult for folks with marginalized identities to participate
- Incorporating more anti-racism work in the trans advocacy work the Transgender Task Force does across the county
- Identifying clear goals and objectives that center our most marginalized community members
- Being transparent and continue to take the time and energy to educate ourselves and recalibrate and reassess as we proceed
- Standing in solidarity with the efforts of student organizers and will work to support them in achieving their broader goals

Click [here](#) for the Livingston and Washtenaw Counties Transgender Task Force Statement of Solidarity.

The Livingston and Washtenaw Counties Transgender Task Force works to ensure that all schools in Livingston and Washtenaw County school districts are safe, supportive, and affirming environments for all students by developing and promoting gender-inclusive practices and policies and by providing guidance and other resources to educators. Members include administrators, educators, parents, students, medical professionals, and representatives from local community-based organizations from across the counties. The Task Force is coordinated by Washtenaw Intermediate School District, Livingston Educational Service Agency, and the Michigan Organization on Adolescent Sexual Health.