



# NHS GSA 2012/2013

Supporting students as they advocate and share  
their voice in the school community.

# Presentation Goals:

- ▶ Advocacy skills
- ▶ Confidence in sharing their voice within the school community
- ▶ “Safe Space”

# Who are We?

- ▶ Presenters introductions
- ▶ How we came to be a Gay Straight Alliance
  - Interest group for 2 years
  - Became an official club in 2011 /2012 school year.
  - What does our weekly meeting look like?

# Weekly Agenda

- ▶ WELCOME to the GSA!!!!!!!
- ▶ Round table share...Who are you? Why are you here (support, social, advocate, other?)
- ▶ Personal Stories
- ▶ Guest speakers
- ▶ Future events
- ▶ Wrap up



## What we have learned over the last few years that encourages students to advocate for themselves....

- ▶ Small steps, patience, and persistence can mean big gains...
- ▶ Consistency is key to a successful GSA
  - Meeting dates, times, locations
- ▶ Layer the responsibility (Seniors advisors with underclassman as presidents or co-presidents)
- ▶ Provide Food 😊

# Just starting out?

- ▶ Here are some things that will help you begin....
  - Visit other GSA's in your area
  - Contact GLSEN and Affirmations for support and resources.
  - Invite other GSA's to an outing at a location in between your districts. (College and High Schools)
  - Have outside of school bonding days
  - Attend County wide social justice events.
  - "Safe Space"

# Already a club?

- ▶ Here are some ideas on how to keep your GSA strong....
  - Set Goals for the club
  - Create a mentorship between the upper classman and the lower classman.
  - Invite staff from the school to visit the club.
  - Keep a positive relationship with administration and school board.
  - Do Fundraisers!!
  - Do Volunteer work!!

# How we started to get more popular in our school's community



# Bring Inspiration into the community...



- ▶ Accomplishments
- ▶ Setbacks
- ▶ How has it changed us personally?
- ▶ Questions?

# Contact Information

## ▶ Teachers

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