

Monthly Newsletter**SPOTLIGHT: TSSA ADVOCACY GROUP**

The Trans Staff, Students, and Allies (TSSA) Advocacy Group started in early 2023 by Clayton Sterner and the office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. The TSSA Advocacy Group envisions APS as a community of belonging for all. The vision is for all APS transgender and gender expansive students and staff to have a true sense of safety, visibility, and authenticity. The TSSA Advocacy Group is and will continue working toward the vision through implementation of education, policy, and community building. The group meets once a month to discuss policies, concerns, and celebrations. As a collective, we want to ensure every single person feels comfortable and a sense of belonging in all APS schools, offices, and buildings. If you are interested in learning more about the group or would like to attend a meeting, please email Clayton (he/they) at clayton.sterner@apsva.us or John-Derik (he/him) at john.hutchinson@apsva.us.

IMPORTANT DATES

June 5 - World Environment Day

June 14 - Flag Day

June 18 - Father's Day

June 19 - Juneteenth

June 21 - Summer Solstice

June is Pride Month

**AROUND NOVA**

The 2023 Arlington Pride Festival
Sat. June 24, 12-7pm @ Gateway Park

The Arlington Pride Festival will inspire our community to collaborate in new ways, ensuring all LGBTQIA+ individuals and their families & friends feel empowered, and supported. This FREE Event for all ages, and will be held at The Rosslyn Gateway Park. For more information and to get your free ticket, visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-2023-arlington-pride-festival-tickets-565831135157>

Contact us at DEI@apsva.us

SPOTLIGHT: CLAYTON STERNER

Clayton Sterner (He/They) is an Elementary Music Teacher at Campbell Elementary, and has been an educator in APS for 5 years. He earned his Bachelors in Music Education from Westminster Choir College of Rider University in 2018. They have been working with communities of LGBTQ+ youth since graduating, including programs like Brave Trails Summer Camps in California and Maryland.

Sterner has also been collaborating with the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion to make APS a safer district for transgender staff and students. He has been an advocate for trans staff, co-written progressive policies for APS, and founded the APS Trans Student Staff and Allies (TSSA) Advocacy Group. Clayton Sterner continues to look forward to serving LGBTQ+ communities in APS.

IN THE CLASSROOM

7. Teaches students the skills necessary to communicate and engage with diverse groups in ways that support the eradication of discrimination and bias while mitigating against classroom power imbalances (based on race, ethnicity, gender, identity, ability, and/or socioeconomic status) that perpetuate fear and anxiety of difference.

Teacher Practice

- Units/lessons address power imbalances and provide historical context
- Set and display class norms, and ensure consistent adherence to those expectations
- Set behavior expectations for group projects, debates, etc.
- Directly address a situation where a power imbalance manifests
- Reflecting on how we select student leadership/roles in our classrooms and in the buildings
- Reflecting on who we are asking questions of during class

LOOKING FORWARD**IMPLICIT BIAS - PHASE II**

The office of DEI is excited to launch Phase II of our implicit bias training for staff across APS. This voluntary component of our ongoing effort to identify biases and learn to manage them. To learn more, please visit the following link: [Implicit Bias - Phase II](#)

TERM OF THE MONTHTrans Lifeline

Trans Lifeline is a grassroots hotline and microgrants 501(c)(3) non-profit organization offering direct emotional and financial support to trans people in crisis – for the trans community, by the trans community.

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