



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Youth Pride Inc.

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Youth Pride Applauds Providence School Board Policy to Support Transgender and Gender Expansive Students

Youth Pride is delighted to endorse a new policy approved by the Providence School Board that outlines more inclusive practices, services and support for all students in how they wish to express their gender identity. The policy also creates the opportunity for a conversation with each self-identified student by a team of trained professionals to tailor services to best fit individual needs.

Providence, RI, June 30, 2016 – Youth Pride Inc. (YPI) applauds the new policies of the Providence School Board in its efforts to ensure best practices to providing services and support to transgender students that not only create a more safe and affirming learning environment, but also protects the rights of transgender students in the city’s schools. YPI is the only youth service organization in the state that is exclusively focused on the needs of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) youth. We serve as not only advocates for our LGBTQ youth, but also as a resource to any school in our State who wishes to let us help serve as partners in the process to supporting LGBTQ youth.

“This policy is a welcome change and one that YPI has been advocating for many years,” said Chris Lauth, Executive Director at Youth Pride. “This policy is a key step in recognizing transgender students’ needs to feel supported from our school leaders and paves the way for our schools to extend this right to our transgender students.

Joining the national and regional call to action to support transgender students, both Providence School Board Member Robert Gondola, who sponsored the board initiative and School Board President Nicholas Hemond demonstrated good leadership in the creation and approval of this important policy. The Policy for Transgender and Gender Expansive Students compliments Providence Mayor Jorge O. Elorza’s priorities for a school district that is welcoming, accessible and free of discrimination.

For more information about this new policy and/or what it may mean for you as a parent or student, YPI is always available for support and counseling.

About Youth Pride Inc.

Youth Pride, Inc (YPI) is an affirming space for lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer, and questioning young people to build community, develop connections and be themselves. YPI is dedicated to the unique needs of youth and young adults impacted by sexual orientation and gender identity/expression while working to end the homophobic and transphobic environments in which they live, work and play. We also provide professional development and training for youth service workers, social service organizations and schools so that they have the information and resources to treat all youth with respect and dignity.