



**Maryland Commission
on LGBTQIA+ Affairs**

Youth & Education Committee Minutes
December 11, 2025, 6:00pm - 7:00pm
Zoom Meeting

Members Present:

Asher Kennedy, Committee Chair
Wendy Novak, Committee Vice Chair
Joan Bryan
Brandon Russell

Members Not Present:

Sarah Stern
Ex-Officio: Lee Blinder

Staff Present:

Director: Jeremy Browning
Special Assistant: Taylor Harer

- I. Committee Chair Kennedy called the meeting to order at 6:02pm
- II. Committee Chair Kennedy acknowledged housekeeping and meeting guidelines.
- III. Roll call was conducted by Committee Chair Kennedy.
- IV. Approval of the Agenda: There were no changes or additions and the agenda was approved via unanimous consent.
- V. Approval of 10.28.2025 Minutes: Draft minutes were amended to change the name of who closed the last committee meeting. There were no other additions or corrections added to the agenda and it was approved via unanimous consent.
- VI. Discussion: Updates to the Recommendations for Supporting LGBTQIA+ Students - The Committee discussed updates to the Recommendations for Supporting LGBTQIA+ Students, with Director Browning providing an overview of the document and facilitating a group review of the comments and proposed changes. Commissioner Russell made a motion to share a final draft of the Recommendations for Supporting LGBTQIA+

Students for review and discussion at the January Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bryan and passed unanimously.

- VII. Discussion - Local Issues: The committee discussed a petition urging the St. Mary's County Board of Education to adopt an Inclusive Schools resolution. Since the petition is limited to individuals who live or work in St. Mary's County, the committee discussed drafting a separate statement of support. Commissioner Russell made a motion for the Youth and Education Committee to draft a statement for the full Commission to endorse the resolution. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bryan and passed unanimously. Additionally, Commissioner Novak shared concerns related to school facilities and reported incidents of discrimination in Carroll County.
- VIII. Meeting adjourned by Committee Chair Kennedy at 7:11pm.

Minutes submitted by: Special Assistant, Taylor Harer