

PINELANDS REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

520 Nugentown Road
P.O. Box 248
Little Egg Harbor, NJ 08087-0248
Telephone 609-296-3106
Fax 609-294-9519



Melissa A. McCooley, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Nicholas Brown
*School Business Administrator /
Board Secretary*

January 12, 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

On January 31, 2019 Governor Phil Murphy signed Assembly Bill 1335, the LGBTQ-Inclusive Curriculum Bill, into law. This made New Jersey the second state in the nation to require schools to teach about the struggles and triumphs of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) community. The LGBTQ Inclusive Curriculum Bill requires boards of education to include instruction and adopt materials that accurately portray the political, economic, and social contributions of LGBTQ individuals. Public Schools in New Jersey must align their materials and instruction to Assembly Bill 1335 across all content areas for middle school and high school-age students by the 2020 - 2021 school year.

We are proud to inform you that the Pinelands Regional Junior High, 8th Grade Class, has been selected to be a pilot school in the LGBTQ Inclusive Curriculum Pilot Program from January 2020 through June 2020. As a pilot school, our teachers, administrators, students, and community members will be provided various forms of support while implementing the curriculum. Teachers will be given exclusive access to the LGBTQ Inclusive Curriculum and provided instructional coaching. Our administrative team will be supported by a leadership coach regarding school law and best practices for LGBTQ Inclusive culture and climate in schools. Our community members will be provided community education programs through our partnership with Garden State Equality and Make It Better for Youth. Most importantly, our students will be exposed to instructional practices and lessons that are rigorous, accurate, inclusive, and that align to Assembly Bill 1335 and the Core Content Curriculum Standards in the State of New Jersey.

The application of the LGBTQ Inclusive Curriculum will be in 2 classrooms in all content areas. As part of the pilot program our staff members and students will complete brief, anonymous surveys regarding their opinion of the LGBTQ Inclusive Curriculum as well as instructional practices and supports.

Please join us for an informational community meeting regarding the LGBTQ Inclusive Curriculum on February 5, 2020, 6:00, in the Junior High Media Center.

Sincerely,
Eric Pschorr
Principal

Cc: Dr. Melissa McCooley
Superintendent of Schools