

Diversity, Prevention & Intervention Department
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Human Rights Campaign Foundation

Welcoming Schools is a professional development program created by the Human Rights Campaign Foundation focusing on diversity, sexual orientation, gender identity and anti-bullying at an elementary school level. The goal of Welcoming Schools is to create safe and supportive school environments for all students, staff and families.

Welcoming Schools is grounded in research that links improved academic achievement and social-emotional wellbeing with an inclusive school climate.

The district-wide facilitator program will train select educators within the district, as well as community volunteers, to be equipped to deliver the Welcoming Schools modules to the staff at five selected elementary schools. Welcoming Schools will provide a 4-day district-wide facilitator training on how to use their modules effectively. Welcoming Schools will consult and provide technical assistance on a monthly basis to the facilitators.

Facilitators will then be assigned an elementary school in which they will be responsible for training the staff on the Welcoming Schools' modules and curriculum. Elementary school staff at Welcoming School sites will implement Welcoming Schools' curriculum throughout the 2018-19 school year and will receive in-service points for participating in the trainings.

Facilitators will engage in ongoing learning through webinars and will have access to the facilitator only portal with resources and materials to deliver our quality professional development.

The Welcoming Schools program is being funded through a \$10,000 grant generously provided by the Our Fund Foundation. Our Fund is a charitable organization that assists with LGBTQ support and initiatives throughout Broward County.

For additional information, contact: Dr. Dominic Grasso, Diversity, Prevention & Intervention Department at dominic.grasso@browardschools.com or 754-321-1655.