

RESULTS: Atherton survey on adding gender identity to non-discrimination statement. May 11-15, 2014

STUDENT

- | Line # | Response Date | |
|---------------|----------------------|--|
| 1 | 5/15/2014 14:49 | i am a female at atherton high school |
| 2 | 5/15/2014 14:33 | I think that the transgender student should be allowed to use the girls lockerrooms, and restrooms. The argument is that she is attracted to females, there are many lesbians at atherton who are clearly attracted to females, and they are allowed to use the shool bathroom. I do not believe she is faking it, who honestly would go through the trouble of dressing as a girl, possible bullying, and making themselves stand out just to get closer to females? After all of the publicity of the situation, she has been bullied by other males when using the male bathroom. The girls bathrrom has closed stalls, and there are options in the locker rooms to change privately, so no privacy rights are being abused. |
| 3 | 5/15/2014 13:33 | Transgenders are still human beings. Everyone deserves to be treated fairly. Have we learned nothing from segregation laws imposed on blacks in the past or the 1964 Civil Rights Movement. Put your ignorance aside and promote FREEDOM FOR ALL, not just a selected few! Why is this even an issue? |
| 4 | 5/15/2014 10:38 | Atherton should pave the way when it comes to things like this and allow transgendered students to behave the way they choose to through their sexual identity. |
| 5 | 5/15/2014 9:30 | |
| 6 | 5/15/2014 3:07 | |
| 7 | 5/15/2014 3:03 | I attend Atherton high school |
| 8 | 5/15/2014 2:55 | I am a female student at Atherton, it does not bother me. If there's something I don't like I just walk out from it, that's what others should do about this situation. |

9 5/15/2014 2:14 Recently we have all been made aware of the ever pressing issue of Homosexuality and Sodomy. That's what it is, folks, lets not try to sugar coat and give cute names to lessen it's meaning and affect. I know we do not do that with murder. Murder is murder and the death of a man is not funny nor is it cute. Now to begin is the issue of whether or not Atherton High will allow a male body to use the female facilities. No, we should not let a male body enter the area used for female bodies. This is common sense. We highly frown upon sexual offenders, perverts, and such like. But here you may be saying, "he says that he is 'gay". Well who is to say that what he/she feels is correct. True, what someone feels can be very honest to them at times. I don't doubt that one can have confusion in his or her life making it difficult to make the right choices. As it has been said is that a 'trans' will make their choice around puberty. "Choice". Think about this word. "How does one make choices", you may ask. Good question! Choices are made mostly by some of the following: culture, friends, family, desires, wants, and needs. Whatever one grows up with will eventually, at some time, cause a person to make an altering choice. Science: chemistry/biology have shown by evidence that homosexuality is a choice. True, they usually "cop-out" and stop explaining and sum up and move on. But if you look at what they are saying more closely it will reveal that what the parent/s experience while the child is conceived and growing will determine certain genes or structures in the life growing inside the body of the female parent. Some of these may be stronger towards male or female. Most of us know this and I don't want to try to explain all the technicalities and make an error in something I don't know much about. I am not a biologist, but I can still read and I can still think. Speaking of thinking.. let us take a look at some ancient history on homosexuality. Yes! Believe it or not, this was a major problem long ago with the cities of Sodom(wonder why that sounds familiar?) And Gomorrah. The culture of these cities were predominantly homosexual. Even to the point of extreme "grossness", if I may use that word here, but not to say homosexuality isn't gross in the first place. These towns or cities of many many people, possibly more than Louisville altogether, were destroyed. Every last man, woman, child(if there were any. Cannot procreate w/o Male&Female), were killed save but three people. A man and his daughters, because they did not follow after the heart of the mass population. To come to a close I will leave you with a few things to consider. Is it really smart to enforce bad behavior and to teach our very own children in the HOME and in SCHOOL that what they want is the best and that it is okay? Proverbs 22. Particularly in verses 6 and 15. Train a child how he should be. Train your boy to be a hard working man and leader. Train your girl into a loving woman. Train your children to think for themselves and guide them in the truth.

- 10 5/15/2014 1:52 If the school is aiming to be one that goes against discrimination then allowing transgender students access to facilities that most relate to their gender would be the best way to start. Transgender people are a greatly oppressed and discriminated against group of people and I've already overheard classmates speaking with prejudice and unnecessary caution about one of our current transgender students. There are students that are especially concerned with our transgender peer using the girls' restroom due to the fact that she is attracted to girls even though there girls in this school who have been using the girls' restrooms for a while and are homosexual, bisexual, pansexual, etc, such as myself. School is supposed to be an accepting community where children come to learn and, I personally think, that allowing this girl the freedom to the bathroom she requires could be a teaching experience for many; one where children could learn to accept others and the gender they identify as and to also crush their heteronormativity and the idea that because someone is attracted to their gender and uses the same bathroom as them that it is likely that they will be put in an uncomfortable situation. Bathrooms have stalls, and people have boundaries and respect for other people, especially if they have personally experienced disrespect on such a large scale as many transgender people have.
- 11 5/15/2014 1:52 I am a Atherton High School senior. I am a Christain male. In my opinion, I believe that in a perfect non-discriminatory world , the transgender student who is biologically a boy but identifies as a girl should be allowed to use the females restroom, because unlike some christains or other religious individuals, I do not discriminate against a person just because of their sexual orientation or their gender identity. Also, nationally this issue has gained national attention and there have been related cases dealing with this matter across the country, so obviously it is slowly becoming a new policy that is trying to spread to state governments and school districts. Gender identify should be included in a schools non-discrimination policy, because Title 9 recently has just stated that. However, I believe that the transgender student should not be allowed to use the girls restroom because this is such a controversial issue where both sides will continuously disagree with one another. Freedom of religious and privacy will collide with freedom of expression and gender identity, it's inevitable. Also, I believe that schools across the nation are not ready to allow transgender students to use facilities that they identify themselves with, because clearly the issue is too controversial and is pre-mature, and by that I mean that this issue hasn't even been successful at the federal level, so it's going to be exceptionally hard to allow something like this to happen at the state level, especially in Kentucky, which is predominantly a conservative state. Therefore, I do not agree with my principals decision, simply because this issue is too controversial and is unlikely to happen.

- 12** 5/15/2014 1:46 While I support LGBT people, I do not think that the current plan is a good one. If someone is transexual, as in taken hormones and gone though that process or is going though that process then I don't have any problem, but as it stands, anyone can say they feel like the opposite sex and they would have to be allowed to use the opposite sex's facilities as denying that would be discrimination. I think that one of three things needs to happen: either there is a cutoff line, which I think could be people who are transexual as they have gone though the process of becoming the opposite sex, or we need to make the facilities purely based on biological gender, or we need to make all facilities unisex. I thin that any of these would work. Also, I don't know any numbers on this but if there is a significant number of people that are made uncomfortable by someone biologically one sex using the opposite facilities then we shouldn't make one or two people comfortable at the expense of the comfort of say, fifty or sixty others. If there is a large number, then that should also be part of the decision, if it is only a few or none, it should be disregarded.
- 13** 5/15/2014 0:19 Let her use the female bathrooms
- 14** 5/15/2014 0:16 As a student , I feel that this certain individual is getting special privileges and accommodations based solely on how he says he "Feels" , and that these accommodations are coming at the expense of violating the privacy and religious and moral beliefs of myself and many other female students and how we "Feel". I feel I have been forced to deal with this one individuals private matters.
- 15** 5/15/2014 0:05 A trans student should be able go to the bathroom or use the locker room of the gender that they identify with.
- 16** 5/15/2014 0:03 I strongly believe that transgender students should be protected under Title IX and that the schools must respond appropriately to any report of sexual violence, regardless of gender identity. I also believe that the counselors who deal with such cases must be trained in dealing with such cases and that it should be made sure they would not be discriminatory in such cases.
- 17** 5/14/2014 23:54 All those who are transgendered should be allowed the right to express themselves as the gender they believe to be, and not born as.

- 18** 5/14/2014 23:17 I am a sophomore student at Atheron and I honestly don't see the severity of this issue. --- is one of the sweetest girls that I've ever met, and allegations of her abusing the ability to use the female facilities because of her sex and sexual orientation are, to be blunt, ridiculous. --- may have been born with male sex organs, but she is a female and recognizes by the female gender. And her sexual orientation has nothing to do with this case; she is bisexual and currently has a girlfriend, and some people blow this out of proportion while disregarding the issue at hand. I personally would not mind sharing facilities with transgender girls, --- or otherwise. As a female, it wouldn't discomfort me in the slightest because the city of Louisville has laws that prevent discrimination against transgendered people, and that allow them to use facilities of their choosing. For all some of you know, you could have gone into a bathroom with a transgendered or lesbian girl, and you wouldn't have been the wiser about it. Majority of the student body at Atherton wasn't even aware that there was a transgendered student at the school, and only became aware in light of recent events; even now, many of them remain impartial and also don't see the big deal. I ask that you consider the possibility of discriminating --- as a minority who only looked to express herself. Coming out takes a lot of courage, and these events might dishearten other students to come out because of fear that they will be discriminated against as well.
- 19** 5/14/2014 23:16
- 20** 5/14/2014 22:29 Hello. I am completely supportive of LGBT people, and believe they deserve no less respect than others. However, I do side against the idea of allowing the transgender student to use all of the female rest rooms and locker room. I have no doubt that the student is telling the truth about his gender identity, and I believe he has every right to want to use female utilities. But we must consider the rights and feelings of others as well. Some people are uncomfortable with the idea that a person who was born male can use female rest rooms. Even if the student does not identify himself as a girl, feelings of fear and discomfort have risen. This leads me to propose one solution: those of the same physical sex (not gender identity) are to use the same rest room. This does not mean telling transgender students to associate themselves as their physical gender. However, I recognize that the student may feel uncomfortable using the male restrooms. That is why I support the idea of a community restroom, in addition to segregated male/female restrooms. This is like the case Dr. Aberli has implemented: allowing the student to use only one of the female rest rooms. I feel as though that is a fair compromise for this issue. Sincerely, Anonymous Atherton Freshman

- 21** 5/14/2014 22:05 Speaking as a female student, she should be allowed to use the female restroom. There is nothing wrong with being transgendered and trying to forbid the right to use the restroom of the gender you identify with is inhumane and disgusting. Trying to forbid this right is just another atrocious display of segregation based upon something you are born as and cannot change. I'd like to think my own school is better than this and smart enough to realize that transgendered students have rights too, they are just as much of a human as everyone else.
- 22** 5/14/2014 21:53 Transgender students should be allowed to use whichever facility they feel comfortable in because they have just as much of a right as anyone else. If there was a specific "transgender" bathroom, or anything of that nature, that would essentially be segregation due to the isolation of those persons. That would be an even more discriminatory practice. Transgender individuals should be allowed the same treatment as everyone else. They should be able to do what makes them happy.
- 23** 5/14/2014 21:39 this student should not be allowed to use the girls restrooms or locker rooms. i understand this students situation but it doesn't make me anymore comfortable with the idea of this student who is technically still a boy seeing as she still has male parts, is attracted to females and has a girlfriend using the girls restroom/locker rooms. Its a violation of privacy to any girl using the restroom/locker room.
- 24** 5/14/2014 21:37 Each student should be considered. Though much of the student body didn't know this student was allowed to use the female bathroom, still most of us do not care. We are a very open, accepting student body and this has not been a major problem until now. Brought up by a lawyer, not apart of our school community at all, acting out of his beliefs though this subject is not directly affecting him.

- 25** 5/14/2014 21:26 I, personally, do not care if he uses the girls restroom because our privacy is protected by the stalls. However I find the locker room to be a different story. When I was a freshman, we did not have any sort of curtains in the locker room. I understand based on what I have heard that there are now curtains-at least in the gym class locker room. I am on a girls' sport team and promise you that there are no such curtains as of 2:45 Wednesday in changing areas in that locker room. I have not heard that he plays any sports, but what will happen when Atherton does get a transgender who plays sports? As an athlete, that would be very comfortable for me; both to share the locker room with a physical guy and possibly having a guy who claims to be a girl on the same team. Another problem I had was the fact that they are curtains and not something more door-like. While that would be more expensive, it seems like a better investment for the comfort and security of my fellow students. I worked at a camp this past summer and we had shower houses; in these shower houses were individual showers with curtains. Speaking from experience, curtains do not give adequate protection. Because of how a curtain works, it leaves a gap on the edges that someone could accidentally see through and it also could move just by someone walking by it, revealing more of the person who is trying to change. I would like to close by saying I have nothing against --- and that I have loved my time at Atherton and fully believe that, even with Atherton's overly accepting atmosphere, we would be hurting our school more than helping it by allowing transgendered students into locker rooms that match with the gender they believe they should have been born instead of their proper locker rooms that they biologically match with.
- 26** 5/14/2014 21:22 I fully support the policy against discrimination. Everyone deserves to be who they are, and I am proud to go to a school that allows people to be themselves.
- 27** 5/14/2014 20:52 On the note of people's gender identities, I believe that this is for the distribution of the one whom is concerned, and that it is up to him/her to give out such information to whomever he/she so pleases. Defining their "new" orientation should be up to the said person to define and determine. On the topic of sexual violence, such acts should be handled no differently among students of any age, race, gender, sexuality, etc. On the topic in question, I presume, of the transgendered student who is using the female restroom: Atherton, as a school, a community, a society, has to accept the fact that there are people that change genders in the world. We should definitely allow these children to do something as simple as use the school bathroom that correlates to their "new" gender. I believe that we shouldn't make new bathrooms for transgendered students in order to maintain comfort in school bathrooms. This infinges upon the wishes of trans students. Transgendered students, as you will read below, simply wish to experience the lifestyle of another sex. Part of this experience is using the bathroom. I understand that this will cause some uncomfot at first in the bathrooms. But, it is psychologically proven that environmental exposure to something will produce an acceptance towards it. Public bathrooms are uncomfortable
- 28** 5/14/2014 20:38 I'd rather her be allowed to use girls restrooms and locker rooms than be teased or feel uncomfotable in boys restrooms and locker rooms. This is issue is about how we as human beings need to be considerate of other people's decisions and situations. Imagine how she's feeling during all of this!

- 29** 5/14/2014 20:37 I feel that the student should be allowed to go where they feel most comfortable, but that other students feelings must be taken into account. The student in question should be able to use the female restroom, but should not alienate other females from using it.
- 30** 5/14/2014 20:17 It's no that I am discriminating him/her it's just I don't feel comfortable that he/she is aloud in the girls bathroom or locker room we are suppost to feel safe and the bathroom and the locker room is a personal space. I feel until he/ she gets the sex change to make him/her a girl that he/she shouldn't be aloud. Anyone can dress like the opposite sex and say and change there name but a long at he/she has boy parts it's not ok.
- 31** 5/14/2014 20:05 STUDENT is a great person, and she deserves her rights. she should be allowed to use the locker room, but I think she should still be using the D139 restroom, as I believe that a person should use a common bathroom with people that share their anatomy. the locker room is not as big of an issue in my eyes, as there are stalls in the locker room to change in, and nobody undresses completely. --- would never try to make anyone uncomfortable, she should be restricted to one restroom, but let her use the locker room of her choice, please.
- 32** 5/14/2014 20:00 It is my belief that all students should have the right to fair treatment, no matter their gender/sexual orientation or background. Should someone identify with their opposite biological gender, then said person should be treated as that gender. As for religious objection, I feel that everyone has the right to freedom of belief so long as it does not infringe upon the rights of another.
- 33** 5/14/2014 19:53 I feel that the thought of restricting this student's access to a restroom simply due to an attraction to girls, as it seems, is completely preposterous. If she wants to be known as a female, then she is a female. To limit her access because of sexuality is borderline homophobic. Would anyone ever stop a lesbian from using the girl's restrooms, or a gay male from using the boy's? The situation is the same here; the student is a choosing girl, therefore she should be allowed to use the facilities proper to her identity.
- 34** 5/14/2014 19:45
- 35** 5/14/2014 19:31 Let her in! Let her have access to both the bathrooms! Imagine this through her postition; you are yourself but trapped in the body of the opposite sex, doing everything you can to escape it. The least you can do is let her PISS WHERE SHE BELONGS! And as far as the issue goes with discomforting the other students, you let lesbians into the bathroom and they don't "make girls uncomfortable" do they??? It's the same thing except this poor thing had to escape her body!!! The dozen of parents with issues will calm down, and if 7 girls honestly care THAT much, give them a reality check and make THEM use the men's restroom!!

- 36** 5/14/2014 19:09 As a student of Atherton High School, my mind is still blown that this is even a real debate. How dare we choose to let someone who identifies as a female not use the restroom of her choice? Or whatever else may be denied to her? She's a human, and she deserves the respect that we all show for others at our school. Our school is already extremely diverse and caring, so why shouldn't we accept this girl as she is? Parents being scared of seeing someone different? This is the real world, you're not going to be able to protect your kids forever. Grow up, and accept the fact that we are all equal.
- 37** 5/14/2014 17:04
- 38** 5/14/2014 16:46 With this student being trans i dont see a problem with the accomodations. i do not completely agree with the use of the womans rest room because this person is anatomically a male, and is still aroused by females. This scenario is different from a lesbian for the fact that this person does in fact have male organs. i think that the locker rooms are okay as long as the students respects the fact some girls want her(him) to change in a stall so they do not see her(his) private parts.
- 39** 5/14/2014 16:45 People should try to be more open minded and respectful of other people needs. When it comes to the transgender student attending our school I do not have a problem with sharing the girls restroom. I know that there are some parents and students that might not agree but Atherton is known for being a diverse and unique school. Why come to Atherton if you are close minded? The transgender student should have the same rights as any other girl here.
- 40** 5/14/2014 16:16 In a better world it would not matter, but in this world teenage boys pose enough of a threat to teen girls that permitting girls the privacy of male-exclusive bathrooms is not unreasonable. The burden shouldn't be on girls to figure out which boys in their bathrooms might be a threat and which won't, and since there is no way to tell what's inside a person's brain but we can all make decisions based on physical reality, the boy i question should not be permitted in girls' bathrooms until he alters everyone's agreed physical reality by completing the trans surgery necessary for sex change.
- 41** 5/14/2014 16:14 I believe that all people should have the right to use any facility that correlates to their gender identity. Gender and sex are distinct, and should be treated as such.
- 42** 5/14/2014 15:38 I am both a transwoman, parent, former student and Reverend.
- 43** 5/14/2014 15:37 I really don't see it as a big deal. Atherton is a different school aside of other jcps schools. The boy totally fits in at this school. I was in the bathroom with her the other day and it didn't freak me out at all ! I think that we should let her have the rights of a female and not make it such a big deal (: Keep Atherton weird !
- 44** 5/14/2014 15:36 Keep female students safe! There's no such thing as a male or female brain! That is a man! He needs to use the mens bathroom, period!
- 45** 5/14/2014 15:29

- 46 5/14/2014 15:12 As an alumni, I am so proud to see the progress the administration is trying to make. Gender identity is an important issue that is not going away, and every individual should be able to use the facilities that make them the most comfortable. While I understand the concerns of other students and parents, I think it is essential that gender identity be added to the non-discrimination policy to be a school that promotes equality.
- 47 5/14/2014 15:07 No gender discrimination at all
- 48 5/14/2014 14:55 They should allow the student to use the bathroom they feel the most comfortable in. It's no different than if the student were bisexual or gay. Don't make them feel different, school should be a safe place.
- 49 5/14/2014 14:54
- 50 5/14/2014 14:31 I believe that the transgender female should be granted access the female facilities.
- 51 5/14/2014 14:06 I laud your recent decision to accommodate transgender students' need to use the restrooms that they deem appropriate. As a baby boomer, I grew up in a world far less understanding and accommodating than today. I lost 35 years of my life spinning my wheels in a social role that was always alien to me. I wish attitudes and the resulting policies such as at your school, had existed in my youth.
- 52 5/14/2014 13:59 I support the inclusion of all gender identities in JCPS' non discrimination policies
- 53 5/14/2014 13:45
- 54 5/14/2014 13:37 You are born with a set of genitals. You are born with a gender identity. You are born with a sexual orientation. NONE of these should have to correlate or match each other in order for them to be accepted. The person in question is a woman that happens to be trapped in a man's body, but that does not make her a man. Society needs to learn to accept people for who they are, not who everyone else thinks and wants them to be. If we don't, we risk losing most of our younger generations to drugs and suicide. I'm an Atherton Alumni and I have always prided myself on how open, accepting, and nourishing it provided.
- 55 5/14/2014 13:12 Reading the article I find it interesting that the student body is accepting and ready for change while the parents are the ones with the problem. I do not attend Atherton but I think I speak for all students when I say highschool is hard enough. It's probably one of the most stressful environments and often parents can not relate and do not understand. This girl simply wants to go to the restroom. Parents will always have a concern for the the saftey of their child but they are continually fighting the wrong issues. I believe that as a community we can learn something from this case. The younger generation is so open to diversity and acceptance while parents are simple not seeing the bigger picture.
- 56 5/14/2014 12:19 Who cares, why don't you let someone be who they want to be? Who gives you the right to tell them they are not allowed to be who they feel most comfortable being?
- 57 5/14/2014 11:29 I think that if you have a male part, you should use the boys restroom and if you have a female part, you should use the girls restroom.

- 58** 5/14/2014 11:27 To deny the right of a student to their identity is demoralising, dehumanising, and in violation of the Atherton policies to protect and respect all students. "What you do makes a difference," and we have an opportunity to make a huge difference in the lives of all queer and gender non-conforming students of our school. I am a gender non-conforming student myself, and until very recently I was sure Atherton was the most supportive and positive environment for all students. But now I am no longer so sure. To change the welcoming, accepting environment of our school is a step backwards and a failure of our policies to protect all students, regardless of how they identify. Let's take this opportunity to make a difference for the best, and become the first Kentucky school to have an official policy that welcomes all students.
- 59** 5/14/2014 11:18 Transgendered students should be treated the same as anyone else. They are people too. How is allowing a boy identifying as a girl who is attracted to girls change in the girl's locker room any different from allowing a homosexual girl change in the girl's locker room? And allowing her to use the girl's restrooms? There are stalls for a reason. People aren't used to change and can't grasp that this is becoming the norm in our communities.
- 60** 5/14/2014 10:47 It seems a lot of people aren't aware of the fact that there were curtains put in several locker room stalls exclusively for the student's use. As long as (she) doesn't neglect the rules, she should be able to use the restrooms and locker rooms.
- 61** 5/14/2014 10:15 I fully support trans rights, and the principals decision.
- 62** 5/14/2014 9:45 she should be able to use whichever bathroom she pleases.
- 63** 5/14/2014 9:31 All students should be treated equally and this student should receive the same respect as everyone else. They should be allowed to use the bathroom or locker room that they identify their gender with. It seems to me that more parents are uncomfortable with this than students.
- 64** 5/14/2014 4:47 I have respect for every person that walks the halls of Atherton no matter what the case may be. That being said I do not feel as if the student should be allowed to use the girls facilities on campus. Not meaning to offend anyone, but if the student has a girlfriend, and is using the girls facilities, how is that different from any one using a girl's restroom? What if a girl is put into an uncomfortable situation in the restroom? I'm all for equality in every way, but there has to be a line somewhere. You can be whoever you want and do whatever you want and be free of judgment, but not if you put others at risk of certain situations they do not want to be a part of.

- 65 5/14/2014 4:40 Atherton already allows homosexual and bisexual male and females - who are not transgendered - into the restroom matching their sex. Given that case, I see no point in discriminating against those who are transgendered. Allowing a transgendered bisexual individual into the bathroom of the opposite sex has the same risks as allowing the same student into the bathroom of the same sex. In fact, it runs the same risk as allowing a homosexual non-transgendered male to use the male restroom. Therefore I see the current issue as one originated solely by discrimination. Student bathrooms simply cannot be isolated to groups of those who are not sexually attracted to one another, because of the existence of bisexuals. The only possibility would be to have a separate bathroom for only bisexuals that is one-at-a-time, a policy which may remind you of certain oppressive segregation laws of decades past. Aberli's current policy is a valiant compromise - allowing the student to only use one bathroom, so that any students who take offense may use the other. However, if instead the policy mandated that African Americans used only one bathroom, so that anyone who took issue with them could use the other, we'd have a federal case on our hands.
- 66 5/14/2014 4:16 As a former student of Atherton, I am proud at the amount of acceptance towards this transgender student. I think that as time progresses, we will continue to see more and more transgender students in high schools and middle schools, so this is definitely something that will have to be thought about sooner than later. I think that the student should be allowed to use the female bathrooms since that student identifies as female. Once again I feel that this will be a reoccurring issue in the future and I am proud to call Atherton my alma mater, and I think that Dr. Aberli is doing an outstanding job at protecting all of the students rights.
- 67 5/14/2014 4:04
- 68 5/14/2014 4:03 Personally, I think that all student bathrooms at Atherton should just be made into unisex bathrooms - I don't see the need for separate rooms when stalls are used for privacy. If gender-separated restrooms remain in place, then transgender students should be allowed to use the restroom of the gender they identify as. As high school age students, we should all be well aware of anatomy and it shouldn't be shocking to us. Even so, if the anatomy of this student is your problem, stalls are in place - it's not like you'll walk into the restroom and see people without clothes on. People being offended by who uses what restroom, whether it be based on religious or moral beliefs, should not result in any student losing the freedom to use the bathroom of the gender they identify by. In school and everywhere else, this student should be given the same rights and respect that a cisgender woman would receive. I hope that Atherton as a whole can make the right decision and award transgender students all of the rights they deserve.
- 69 5/14/2014 3:56 As a former Atherton student (graduated in '05), I feel the inclusion of trans children is important. Atherton is, and has been, a school where one could feel comfortable to be them self. Please take this opportunity to lead the way in progression and inclusion.

- 70** 5/14/2014 3:30 There really is no logical explanation for why transgender students should be banned from restrooms/lockerrooms. One may counter that there is no reason that a student cannot use the room of his/her "biological sex". I encourage us all to reflect upon the history of our nation. In the 50s white students may have been severely uncomfortable with sharing restrooms with black students, yet, the principal of equality eventually prevailed over comfort. It may be adequate for many to disregard the transgender community, and the LGBT community as a whole. It may be the preference of many to send these people into the shadows. It may be easier to silence these few to maintain order, tradition, and the comfort that is dependent on these things. However, we are clearly living in an age where many no longer accept these mindsets and prejudices. The majority is not always just. ----- A quote from Clint Elliott, posted in the courier-journal demonstrates the misconception among many students: "Imagine this scenario â€” a transgender student, a biological boy who decides that he wants to identify with the female gender, and yet he acknowledges that he has a girlfriend and is sexually attracted to girls," Elliott said. "Are parents supposed to be OK with allowing such boys to use the girls' restroom and locker room facilities?" ----- 1.) Some of my peers argue that a transgender may be attracted to the gender who he/she shares a room with. This is illogical because homosexuality exists in both trans and non-trans students. Any girl in the girl's restroom may be lesbian and sexually attracted to those around her. This does not prompt us to build new restrooms to segregate homosexuals and heterosexuals. Nor does a girl's sexual attraction force her to harass others in any way. 2.) Students who do not feel comfortable changing in front of a trans person may have the freedom of using a stall. Stalls exist for the privacy of students regardless of gender and sexuality. ----- Nothing was accomplished by sitting idly by. It is good to be passionate and outspoken about discrimination because it is a serious subject. Atherton is one of the first schools to show open acceptance towards transgendered students because we have a passionate student body that cares for what is truly right. In the face of discrimination, Atherton has rebelled.
- 71** 5/14/2014 3:28 Transgendered youth should not be added to the non-discrimination policy as students should not be subjected to having students of the opposite sex in the same locker rooms or rest rooms. I do not support the addition of transgendered students to the policy and believe that gender roles assigned to locker rooms and rest rooms should remain the same.
- 72** 5/14/2014 3:23
- 73** 5/14/2014 3:14 I believe transgender students should be able to use the facilities of their choice because it would allow them to feel more comfortable. I believe that they have a right to this personal choice.

- 74** 5/14/2014 3:13 A bathroom should be a secure place for both genders. Girls feel uncomfortable knowing that there is a person with male genitalia in their bathroom. If everyone went to the bathroom they were most comfortable with, there would be no need for gender restricted bathrooms. I also see a potential problem with this updated code. You can't criticize a any male student for going into the women's restroom/ locker room because they could easily plead the "transgender card". Not to say that that is what --- is doing at all. However, his interests are in females still. We need to focus on the comfort and security of the many over the comfort and security of the few. What parent wants to send their child to a school where boys will be in their daughters restroom. It is an invasion of rights and naturally seems off.
- 75** 5/14/2014 2:58 Allow it! It's not that big off a deal. Don't tell a kid they can't be who they are. By restricting them from restrooms, you are taking away their confidence in who they think they are!
- 76** 5/14/2014 2:51 The bathrooms at Atherton high are specifically labeled "Women/Girls" and "Male/Boys." I don't care if you're attracted to males or females (lesbian, gay, etc.), you are a male or a female. You are legally considered one of the above (Yes, some people are born with both- but because that isn't what's in question, I don't feel the need to mention it again.) If your birth certificate says you are a male, you are a male until you can show me a legal document recognizing you as something else. "Gender expression relates to the way in which a person communicates gender identity through clothing, hairstyle, grooming or voice." All of the things listed above can be altered on anyone if that person makes the concious effort to do so. To me, the idea is ludicrous. If you are uncomfortable in the bathroom (the one at which it was determined you belonged to at birth), then use the one in the main office. If you want consider yourself a female, then understand this: many of us are extremely uncomfortable with you in our restrooms or locker rooms. I am one of these people. I am one of many females that feel this way. Female to "female" here, I can't see why you would want to make all of us uncomfotable like this. To me, it shows a great lack of respect. Either way, a male is a male and a female is a female. By allowing a male to use a female bathroom, you are endangering the females and the male. If a girl goes into the restroom and comes out to tell her boyfriend that a male was looking at her, he will be in danger. (The danger to females being rape and/or exploitation, which would probably happen as soon as we got comfortable with him.) If you don't want to use the restroom/locker room you were assigned to at birth, how is it fair to make multiple people uncomfortable? I was told (by Aberli) that if I was uncomfortable I could use the restroom in the main office.. but if the transgender is uncomfortable, he gets to make us females uncomfortable? The transgender student population can use the main office restroom if they are uncomfortable. Students have enough to deal with. I try to avoid the bathrooms anyway, but when I am on my time of the month I have no choice. None. Nor do I have the time to run down to the main office each time I need to use the restroom.

- 77** 5/14/2014 2:45 I'm the only transgender student at Doss high school. My school never tried to help me when I was attacked for being trans. Please don't make the mistake my school made because this is a student's life that is on the line. Transgender students are real students with real issues but we just want to be happy and comfortable in our bodies. Help us feel like the humans we are. ----of Doss High school
- 78** 5/14/2014 2:40 She should be allowed to use both of the woman's restrooms because that's what she identifies as
- 79** 5/14/2014 2:36 I am not entirely certain as to whether transgender identification is more cultural, psychological, or both. The question then becomes: are anti-transgender groups attempting to silence another group's voice, or are they compounding an already significant social stigma with further abuses? Either way, it's quite clear who is wrong here.
- 80** 5/14/2014 2:32
- 81** 5/14/2014 2:32 I think that students should be required to use the restroom that is associated with the gender they identify as. There are many fallacies in the arguments presented for why this student should not be allowed to use the restroom that she feels comfortable in, and no reason to bar her from using that restroom. As for "protecting students from discrimination" versus "protecting people's freedom of religious expression": the school's job is to protect its students and to keep them safe. The school's job is NOT to pander to people's religious beliefs by denying its students the right to feel safe using the restroom.
- 82** 5/14/2014 2:29
- 83** 5/14/2014 2:28 I do not condemn the fact that she is transgender. People need to be able to be themselves. But as of right now, she is still anatomically a boy who is also attracted to girls. So, anatomically speaking, she is still a boy. And therefore should use the boy bathroom. Just because she feels as if she is a girl, does not mean that she is. Unless she had a sex change to actually become a girl, I do not believe she should use the girls bathroom. Especially the locker rooms. Girls get undressed in front of each other in there and have a right to privacy. Girls and boys are separated for a reason. She is still a boy. And I have heard many people complain how uncomfortable it would make them if there was a boy in the locker room. Who, by the way, is still attracted to girls. I support the ending of discrimination against transgender. Let her dress as a girl and identify as a girl. But until she is anatomically a girl, she does not have the right to use the women's facilities.
- 84** 5/14/2014 2:28 I believe this would be an effective policy to implement.
- 85** 5/14/2014 2:20 It should not be allowed. I already know girls that feel disturbed with this decision because he is biologically a male. In addition he has a girlfriend, therefore is attracted to females. Disregarding his gender identity, he is allowed to be in a restroom with the sex he is attracted to. Many people also feel disturbed because of strong religious and ethical ties, which Atherton is full of due to its immense diversity.

- 86** 5/14/2014 2:16 If she wants to identify as a female leave it as it is. Yes we need to be educated about this, but why haven't we been properly educated on suicide/mental illness? As all of us are aware, a Male student recently committed suicide. Why was NOTHING said at school? I would love to know. Many of the students at Atherton suffer from stuff like this. I personally do, and no one seems to care. BREAK THE SILENCE. SPEAK UP ABOUT MENTAL ILLNESS.
- 87** 5/14/2014 2:15 Female, 19 Graduated 2013 from Atherton Attending UK Future Teacher Minor in Women's Studies. Definitions for those unclear Gender- How you present yourself Sex- Your biological parts Atherton is a very diverse school with diverse students always pushing the limits and making us rethink our rules. The bathroom situation is a tricky one because seeing as the student presents themselves as female but is still biologically male, it will cause discomfort to the girls in the bathroom. Honestly though, if they are really as bothered by it as they may complain, they have just as much freedom to leave the restroom. After being in high school for about 2 weeks, I had mastered the 2 minute "go." If we think about it, in the "real world" people use the restroom of the gender in which they publicly identify with so why would we have our rules any different? We are preparing them for the real world so shouldn't the girls become more accepting? I'm actually surprised this hasn't come up before. Yes there is a possibility for foul play where the student is only doing this to harass the girls in the restroom but I strongly don't believe that a student would risk their whole high school reputation just to be stupid. As someone is a little closer but removed from that whole experience of high school, what other people think of you is the most important thing. So, as for my opinion on the matter; I believe the student should be allowed to use whatever restroom that matches their gender. Any serious issues that come up, that privilege should be revoked. I also asked one of my women's studies professors to weigh in with his opinion on the matter so look out for that!
- 88** 5/14/2014 2:13
- 89** 5/14/2014 2:00 should not be able to use the females restrooms or locker rooms. It's stupid.

- 90** 5/14/2014 2:00 I feel that discrimination of any kind, should be dealt with. In this case, I think that forcing a person in the school building to fit into the mold of the sex they were assigned to at birth when they don't identify as that sex, shouldn't be encouraged. A person who is assigned as a male at birth but identifies more as being a girl, shouldn't be expected to fit into the male role because a few people think it is wrong, and vice versa. Students, teachers, staff, and anyone who enters a school building should feel safe to express themselves in anyway they would like. They shouldn't have to hide a major part of themselves from the school because they feel like they will be ridiculed and bullied because of how they chose to express themselves. People should feel 100% safe being themselves. The idea being brought forth as a solution is a rather good one. The idea that schools are becoming more accommodating to the genders that people identify as, is great. I think that the way Atherton is considering approaching the solution makes me proud to be a rebel. With the approval from administration and the parameters that will be set, is a great way to handle this particular situation. It sets certain rules for the transgender person, to make anyone who would feel uncomfortable with this happy. While at the same time it makes the transgender person comfortable.
- 91** 5/14/2014 1:57
- 92** 5/14/2014 1:54 Hi, I'm a freshman at Atherton High and think that she should be able to use the girls bathroom because she is a she. I think that the school should provide a safe learning environment and teach love, not hate. In conclusion, I think having transgender equality is a great way to move into the right direction.

- 93** 5/14/2014 1:53 Coming from a genderfluid student, something like this issue really reaches down for me. I have never brought up the subject of my genderfluid-ness, even to my closest friends, and it has never bothered me to continue using the women's restroom. But when i received the letter about students using gender-specific bathrooms and being able to use them as they are feeling that gender- i truly became curious. I am entirely happy that Atherton is moving towards accepting all genders/sexualities, because as the years go on, more and more people are assigning themselves to names they feel comfortable calling themselves. I notice that a lot of parents are kind of closed-minded and quick to judge, but i don't think they should be because the world continues to change. People of all ages should be able to express who they are, and who they want to be. This isn't one of those "it's just a stage". On the previous pages when it talked about only girls wear make-up and only guys play with trucks and talk about guns, i think that is completely wrong and really offends me because 1. Just because someone wears make-up DOES NOT mean they are female. I know men that are straight that wear make-up all of the time. (think of people in Hollywood, and yes that DOES count). 2. I know plenty of women, including myself, that enjoy "boy" things such as guns and action movies and that does not mean we are gay/call ourselves the other gender/etc. Just because someone likes something that might be "girlish" or "guyish" does not mean they are anything but straight until told otherwise. Being trans/genderfluid/etc. is the choice of anyone- and no one has the right to take that away from them. Colleges are even beginning to make Unisex bathrooms so that anyone can use any bathroom they want. I'm not saying Atherton should get unisex bathrooms, that's just a bad idea, but honestly people that will get bothered by transgendered girl entering the bathroom should check themselves. It's like saying that bisexual or lesbian girls cant use the women's bathroom because they like girls. Holding back people because of who they are is WRONG. I applaud Dr. Aberli for letting the trans students use the girls bathroom, because that's how it should be. If this continues, and students are allowed to use bathrooms to the gender they feel comfortable with, i am most certain dozens of students will come forward, if not already, to ask permission to use the bathrooms to their fitting- including me.
- 94** 5/14/2014 1:50 This student should definitely be allowed to use the bathroom of her choice. Imagine how horrible it would feel to not only be stuck in the body of a gender you don't feel is your own, but to also be forced to use the restroom with the gender you don't identify with. The other students can get over it and educate themselves. Ignorance is not an excuse. Let this girl use the restroom of her choice.

- 95** 5/14/2014 1:44 I believe that all people deserve their basic rights and to qualify someone's "authenticity" of their gender based on a physical preconceived assignment at birth is not our place to discriminate. This isn't the case of some high school guy trying to peep at girls in the bathroom, it's someone who truly views themselves as a woman has the right to use the restroom of the gender that they identify as. And while I understand that this is a very new and sensitive topic for some, I believe that Atherton is a very progressive school in its attitude and essence, and I think we should respect this young woman's beliefs and help provide social understanding towards this new idea for free gender identification and so future trans students will feel free to express themselves for they are, instead of telling them that what they feel is wrong or that it's wrong for them to feel the way they do
- 96** 5/14/2014 1:35 I am an Atherton alumna, I fully support Dr. Aberli in his decision and couldn't be prouder of my alma mater for standing for what is right. This is a civil rights matter and I am happy to say I believe Atherton High School is on the right side of it.
- 97** 5/14/2014 1:22
- 98** 5/14/2014 1:20 I feel like allowing this student to use the girls restroom/locker room in the school compromises a girls right to privacy as these places are supposed to be private places. I feel members of the opposite sex should not be allowed in the others restroom/locker room.
- 99** 5/14/2014 1:19 As a former student, I fully respect Atherton's strive towards tolerance and acceptance for diversity, though I do not support the specific issue of allowing self-identified trans-gender students to use their identified gender's bathroom facilities. I do however support all other forms of equality. The facilities are built equally and for the same purpose, and I do not personally see the reasoning behind using the student's identified gender's facility. Another concern at hand is the comfort level of other students sharing a facility with a trans-gendered person. I personally would not be comfortable, and my younger sibling, who is currently an Atherton student, is not comfortable either. There is a very defined line separating the physical aspects of being male vs. female, and I believe that gender equality should stop there. The bathroom facility may not be a large issue, though if that were allowed, where would the new line be drawn?
- 100** 5/14/2014 1:13 I am a newly graduated alumni of Atherton. I feel that so far the situation has been taken into account very well. I believe that whatever gender the student identifies as, that is the bathroom they should be allowed to go in. Technically she is a lesbian, and other lesbians are allowed into the girls bathroom, so I do not see what the problem is.
- 101** 5/14/2014 1:10 No student should feel like they cannot be themselves. Our school community is nothing but supportive and understanding, besides a handful of conservative outsiders not understanding the full extent of the situation. They are minimalistic concerns that are strictly biased and deemed only by judgemental thoughts. Clint Elliot is nothing compared to our Atherton community. What WE are doing, MAKES a DIFFERENCE.

- 102** 5/14/2014 1:04 At my school, we also have a transgender male to female. She has chosen to have surgery and complete becoming a female after she finishes high school. Before she made any of this public knowledge, she had identified as gay. She told me she knew all along, but didn't know how to go about telling people. She was in the opposing school, and moved to my school because of discrimination and judgement and bullying. Our school was better about it, but people are still mean. I have Christian friends who call her an "it". While I am also Christian, she was friend when she was a he and gay, and always will be. I identify with the LGBT community, and am a strong advocate for our rights. When my friend came to my school, she was only allowed to use the principal's restrooms because nobody knew what to do in this situation. I'm almost certain she uses the boys restroom, now though. And I've heard many times of people making fun of her. It's not right. And while I agree that God made you perfect as you are, sometimes others don't feel that way. Yet, we're always told as children to explore every possibility. So why do we get made fun of when we do? When we actually act on feelings and desires that we. No matter what they may be. As for the issue of the restrooms, nobody sees anything. We are in stalls when we do our business. There's a line between going in, peeing, and leaving or going in and whipping her penis out. If it were the other way around-a female to male, I don't believe all of this fuss would be happening. I really don't, because this world is FULL of double standards. Two females can kiss but two males can't? Screw that. If one can, the other. My stand is that she should be allowed to use any restroom she pleases to. It wouldn't bother me. Just the same as it wouldn't bother me if a male were to use the female restroom. So long as he went in a stall, and used it. The same as a female does.
- 103** 5/14/2014 0:59 I disagree with having a student that has and was born with male body parts regardless of gender identity allowed into the girls bathroom and/or locker rooms.

- 104** 5/14/2014 0:56 I think that if you want to be a girl but you were biologically a boy, or vice versa, then let it happen. I feel one of the main concerns in the school has been that she likes girls and boys, and other students are worried that she is wanting to use the girls restroom as a plan to get closer to girls in the restroom. They are seeing it as more of a perverted thing. Put it this way. If a girl, born a girl, is gay, and likes females, we don't stop HER from using the girls restroom, even though she likes girls, so why should we stop this transgendered student? She has every right to use the restroom if her choice. If she identifies as a girl, then I will treat her the way she likes. This situation had brought out the worst in people, sides I've never seen before, and has brought up a lot in the topic of gay/lesbians. I have heard horrible comments such as "it's disgusting to be gay" or "I don't care what anybody sad, being gay is a sin and anybody who is gay will go to hell." Yeah, let's bring the bible into this. Nowhere in the 10 commandments does it say that it's a sin to be homosexual, and although it does bring it up the subject if homosexuality in the bible as being slightly wrong, it also says not to judge others. It says to treat others with the respect that you'd want to be treated. It says that god will forgive you for your sins. So consider it a sin if you want, either way, god will forgive it. The bible says to treat everybody equally. And I'm sure this will get some sassy, rude comment about how the bible isn't real and to that I say get over it. It's the same argument. QUIT DISCRIMINATING AGAINST PEOPLE. If somebody wants to be gay, let them be gay. If someone believes in the bible, let them believe in the bible and in god. If somebody who was born a boy wants to become a girl and wants to use the girls bathroom then let her! We have to realize that things in this day are different than they were, so even if you've never heard or seen anything like it before, we have to learn to accept it. Get over yourself people. There's nothing we can do to change the fact that she is happier as a girl. Just because you're unhappy with it doesn't mean she should be unhappy. Let's not bring her down. You do you girl!
- 105** 5/14/2014 0:45 I don't think it matters what gender this student is, if she identifies as female then let her use the girls bathroom. Parents are concerned about this student harassing other kids while in the bathroom, are we going to subject ourselves to making this student have security take her to the restroom? Atherton is a diverse school and this student should be allowed to go where she identifies. Parents are concerned for their child--but they are not educated about the idea that this "male" was born into the wrong body. Let's do the right thing among our reputation and continue to fight for our student rights.
- 106** 5/14/2014 0:39 I have no problem with this issue and do not see why people have made such a huge deal out of it. If she wants to use the girls restroom, let her use the girls restroom. She can't control how she is, nobody can. We let lesbian into the bathrooms with girls, gays into the bathrooms with boys, and bisexuals can go into the one of their gender and we haven't said anything wrong about that. Do we really want to desegregate like we did back in the 1950s but based on sexual orientation and gender equality? I know I don't want to.

- 107** 5/14/2014 0:31 We don't discriminate against the LGB community for use restrooms and other facilities, I don't understand why transgendered is viewed or treated as any different from homosexual or bisexual
- 108** 5/14/2014 0:19
- 109** 5/14/2014 0:14 Transgender students should be allowed to use which ever bathroom they are comfortable using.
- 110** 5/14/2014 0:12 Let this dudechick use the girl's bathrooms, yo. You wouldn't let a lesbian use the boy's bathroom if she identified herself as a girl. The transgender in the article shouldn't be any different.
- 111** 5/14/2014 0:09 My name is ---. I am currently a Junior at Atherton high school. I believe this individual, and any other transgender students, should be allowed to use the facility for the gender they identify as. If someone has an issue they can simply go use the other facility. If one argument people bring up is that of sexual orientation, it is already addressed and I have never in my three years seen a problem arise due to someone's sexual orientation with the facility they use and it has never been an impeding factor upon education. If someone is uncomfortable by it then they can simply use another of the facilities. I for one have no problem with it support this decision. I see no reason to not treat them as another equal human being who has made a choice which we should come to accept just like any other choice about their personal life in what makes them happy and comfortable. This is my belief, and I truly hope that Atherton stays true to its amazing tolerance and understanding and allows her, and any other transgender students the freedom to choose the facilities of their identified gender so as to remain true to themselves and be comfortable with who they are.
- 112** 5/14/2014 0:07
- 113** 5/14/2014 0:04 I don't think the student should have to be restricted because everyone else wants to flame them. So, they identify as a female. What harm is it actually bringing to them? What if they identified as a male and wanted acceptance? If you have to, allow the student to use the faculty restrooms.
- 114** 5/13/2014 23:52
- 115** 5/13/2014 23:31 A girl is a girl, regardless of whether or not she was born that way. A transgendered person is not going to abuse the bathroom or locker room privileges any more than any other person would. She is a perfectly lovely person, as well as a good student. She deserves to be acknowledged as such, transgender or not.
- 116** 5/13/2014 23:30 Great job Dr. Aberli! Thanks for being so progressive! I believe it is every person's right to express and identify themselves without fear of discrimination, and this is a big step forward.
- 117** 5/13/2014 23:17 Atherton has always been a progressive school, accepting of students that don't fit a mold, do the right thing, protect these children regardless of their gender and let them get back to learning.
- 118** 5/13/2014 23:09 Students should use the restroom designated by their birth gender, not of their choosing.

- 119** 5/13/2014 23:03 I believe trans people have every right to use both restrooms of the gender they identify with. If someone is allowed to use one bathroom, why not both? If someone is in a class in our foreign language hallway and needs to use the restroom why must they go all the way downstairs and across the school? It's actually safer for trans to use the restroom of their identified gender because there have been many cases across the U.S. of trans people being beaten up in the restroom of their born gender because of them wearing the clothes of their identified gender. I understand that people are uncomfortable with a trans person being in the restroom but we have stalls for a reason. We have innocence until proven guilty in this country therefore we cannot punish someone and tell them they may not go in a certain restroom because they may one day harm someone while in the restroom of their identified gender. If a crime like that does happen it must be addressed on the individual basis not on the trans community as a whole.
- 120** 5/13/2014 23:02
- 121** 5/13/2014 22:54 I think the transgendered student should be allowed access to both of the female restrooms. Atherton has always been incredible about its acceptance of things, and I absolutely love that. The diversity of Atherton is part of what makes the school so amazing, and it makes you feel at home there. The transgendered student shouldn't be denied the right to use the restroom that she feels she belongs in; who are we to tell her that she can't? I hope things work out for the transgendered student. It's time for change.
- 122** 5/13/2014 22:51 She identifies as a girl, and she's always been a girl. It just happens that she was born with the wrong genitalia. That doesn't change who she is. As for the concerns about "getting into the locker room to harass girls cause they're attracted to girls", I'm a straight-up lesbian. Does that mean that I should be kept away from the female facilities too?
- 123** 5/13/2014 22:36 As an Atherton student, I strongly believe that transgender students should be treated equally. If the transgender student in question wants to use female facilities because that is how she associates and identifies herself with justification, then she should not be denied the right. In my opinion, forcing a transgender student to use the restroom of the sex they do not identify with is the same effect as forcing a gay student to use the restroom of the opposite sex to prevent sexual harassment. The diverse population of Atherton would show majority acceptance of transgender equality. As an IB student and senior at Atherton, I have been exposed to such social issues occurring worldwide and now a controversial situation is in our own school. The proper decision needs to be made, as this will set the standard for not only our school, but for the educational system as a whole. Equality is a quality that Atherton revolves around. We accept people of every race, nationality, and sexuality for who they are. Sexual identity should not be treated any differently. As a male student who likes the opposite sex, I would not mind sharing a bathroom with a transgender. It is not about the violation of my own privacy, because that is the reason that stalls exist, but about the rights of a fellow student.

- 124** 5/13/2014 22:21 I think because the person identifies as a female she should use the girls bathroom. One to keep her safe and two to help her. If we treat her as a male things could end horrid. She could self harm or go into a deep depression.
- 125** 5/13/2014 21:51 I personally do not believe that the student should be allowed to use the female facilities. Yes there should be equality and fairness but there are rules and boundaries for a reason. I can't imagine the difficulties for a transgendered person but to choose to be transgendered (or born, does not matter) is a violation of everyone in those changing/restrooms. This could be the nicest kid ever and he won't take advantage of this situation but someone will and then this will be a whole new set of problems for J. M. Atherton High School.
- 126** 5/13/2014 21:42 It is unfair to other students privacy rights to allow a male, who is attracted to females, into a female restroom even though he identifies himself as a male. If he is granted full access, what's too stop any male saying their a female and going into the female restroom?
- 127** 5/13/2014 21:34
- 128** 5/13/2014 21:34
- 129** 5/13/2014 21:30 He's still a dude though who likes girls though. You can be whatever you please but a dress every day might be a little over the top. Thank you, this is all
- 130** 5/13/2014 21:29
- 131** 5/13/2014 21:28 The stalls in the girls bathroom are closed and private for every person therefore, despite what the student may have anatomically, if they identify as a girl, they deserve to use the restroom where they feel comfortable. If any parents are concerned about it, maybe they shouldn't have let their children go to the most diverse and accepting school in the district (and probably in the state).
- 132** 5/13/2014 21:26 Terrible. Just sick. No BOY should be in the GIRLS restroom. They are separated for a reason. This will only cause chaos.
- 133** 5/13/2014 21:18
- 134** 5/13/2014 21:16 Separation of restrooms is a rather moot concept seeing as they are both rather similar and have no potential for nudity. Seeing that, transgender students should be able to access whichever restroom they please. Regarding locker rooms however, Massachusetts and the NCAA both have policies regarding transgender access. Both require a student to be taking hormones in order to access the locker rooms that don't correspond with their sex. Even then, students must have a private changing and shower area. This area can be as simple as a curtain that divides the locker room. On another hand, locker rooms are based on sex, not gender. It could easily be argued that, if trans-students would need a separate gender neutral area in locker rooms, it would be much easier to allocate that space without regard to which locker room it would be in, rendering this entire debate irrelevant since they wouldn't really be in either locker room. Don't rush trying to look tolerant without seeing multiple sides and looking for a simpler solution that would create less controversy and be easier.

- 135** 5/13/2014 21:12 I believe that this student should be allowed to use the girls' facilities because she identifies as a female. I don't see it as a problem because everyone has a separate stall in the bathroom. It may be different if a female is identifying as a male because boys' restrooms have urinals.
- 136** 5/13/2014 21:04 I believe you are doing the right thing by informing the parents and students about what is happening. However, some of the parents need to realize what ---has to go through in this life because of who he wants to be. The parents need to be reminded that they can't change him, and more and more situations like this are going to surface. "Out with the old , in with the new."
- 137** 5/13/2014 20:54 The student in question has complete right to identify as whatever gender she wants and to use the facilities she feels like she must use. Also it is horrible that this student now has to be put in the crossfire of this debate. This topic should be addressed in every school so no student has to be placed in such an undeserved position as a martyr or as someone to attack.
- 138** 5/13/2014 20:20
- 139** 5/13/2014 20:17 This student was born a male and is attracted to girls. I already don't feel comfortable getting half naked around guys, being half naked around a guy who likes my kind of body in the locker rooms is worst. Why can't he just use the guy rooms? You have male parts, use the male room!
- 140** 5/13/2014 20:04
- 141** 5/13/2014 20:00 It's a simple enough matter to let a trans person use the restroom that he or she feels most comfortable using. The stalls within the restroom are lockable and isolated from the rest of the restroom, so other students should not be disturbed or made uncomfortable by his or her activities within the restroom. And, regardless, discrimination is discrimination. Everyone who has a gender identity identical to their biological sex is allowed to use the restroom corresponding to their gender identity, so why shouldn't a trans person be allowed to do the same? There's nothing significantly different about him or her, even if he or she happens to be attracted to the same sex as his or her gender identity. Cisgendered people who are attracted to the same sex use that same restroom, and no one makes a fuss about that. Being trans does not automatically make someone a pervert, and neither does being gay or bisexual.
- 142** 5/13/2014 19:51 In the attempt to not discriminate agiasnt transgender students we may not be taking into acoustic all of Atherton. For example Islam bans women from exposing their breasts or vagina to random men. By allowing transgendered students into the girls locker rooms, you would be placing a burden on a specific religion. No matter if a transgendered student identifies as a women, many religions would consider the student a man becuase many religions assign genders due to anatomy not self identification. Our Atherton policy would effectively be discriminating against Muslim females at our school. Denying them equal use of school property, thus denying Atherton Muslim girls of title IX protection.

- 143** 5/13/2014 19:38 I believe that the student at hand should be allowed to use the female restroom and locker facilities because of how she identifies herself. She carries herself as a woman, despite having the appearance of a man. Disbanding her from using the facilities is clearly disrespectful and discriminatory. As a gay student myself, I feel as if Atherton is an open communal where everyone of every race, sexual orientation, political affiliation can come together and learn; and this entire situation has gotten out of hand. What's to say about lesbians? Since they are attracted to females, are we going to forbid them from using the restroom? The restroom is a place where people literally do not have any interaction unless they are with a group of friends. Same goes for men, who identify as being gay. Are we going to forbid these students from using facilities that they clearly have right to use just because of their sexual orientation or gender identity? This is 2014, not the 1950's and certainly not the first LGBTQ movement to occur in the United States. People should be able to assess everything clearly and move on from there. Not because of what their religious affiliation tells them, or other standpoints. People are people, and should be treated as such.
- 144** 5/13/2014 19:16 She should be able to use the bathroom of her choice. Being trans isn't a decision, nor is it a ploy to get close to other girls. I don't know what men think is going on in girl's bathrooms, but in no way would a student be able to see another female naked. Going to the bathroom may be a small thing, but it is crucial to someone to be able to use the bathroom of your gender. It is a safe place and we need to allow this student access to it. Forbidding transgender students from using the bathroom of their choice is like not acknowledging their gender.
- 145** 5/13/2014 19:04 The student shouldn't be bullied, but they should not use the girls bathroom. Regardless of (her) identifying as a female, (she) has male genitalia; there are no urinals in the girls bathroom, are there? It's not a problem of (her) identity as much as human beings with vaginas should use one restroom and human beings with penises should use one restroom. I don't discriminate against the student, nor do I care how (she) dresses, acts, or dates someone. However, because (she) still has a penis, (she) should use the restroom designated for penises. I feel extremely uncomfortable, please consider my rights as well.
- 146** 5/13/2014 19:03 This student should be allowed to use the female restrooms. It is no different from allowing a lesbian to use the female bathroom or a gay student to use the boys bathroom. This student is simply trying to be herself, and it shouldn't be assumed that she would do anything malicious towards another student, especially after working so hard to not only come out as her true self to her school, but also the struggle to even get the right she deserves.

- 147** 5/13/2014 19:03 As a male student, I do not think a person of male autonomy should be allowed in a women's restroom. To me, the student should be restricted to men's restroom the rest of the school year. The solution is simple: the creation of an individual, multi-purpose, unisex restroom somewhere such as the gym area, labeling it as a "Family Restroom". This restroom allows transgender students and visitors privacy in the restroom. It can also allow parents at events at the school an area to clean up their children. With diversity in mind, it should also be handicapped accessible for students who are handicapped (permanent or temporary) and visitors as well. This is a solution to the transgender restroom problem but also accommodates to a larger group of people as well and helps solve other issues and create convenience for multiple groups of peoples.
- 148** 5/13/2014 19:00 I believe in the acceptance of any an every sexual orientation and gender identification. However, as a female student I cannot agree with this situation. An anatomically male student, who is openly attracted to females, should not be allowed to use this same restrooms as females. I understand that Dr. Aberli has already attempted compromise by allowing --- to use one restroom instead of both, but I would like to propose another compromise. A friend of mine at KCD said her school went through a similar issue. The final solution ended with the student being able to use the faculty restroom. I am aware that Atherton has a faculty restroom near the cafeteria, and I believe that allowing --- to use this restroom would be the perfect solution to make everyone happy.
- 149** 5/13/2014 18:57 On the subject of the specific transgender student, I believe that she should be able to use both girls' facilities. I am a female student and I am a firm supporter that all transgender students should be allowed access to the facilities of the gender to which they identify, and a denial of these rights based on a few parents' concerns is extremely cruel and unethical. I applaud Atherton and Dr. Aberli for the inclusion of gender identity onto that statement, and I hope that the wrongfully "concerned" parents are able to be educated about something which should, in this day and age, no longer be an issue.
- 150** 5/13/2014 18:51 I do not agree with the decision to allow him to use the girls restroom. Not only is my sister uncomfortable with a male using the same bathroom as her but I have yet to hear a valid argument to allow him to use the girls restroom. The two arguments I have heard are that it is his desire since he believe he is a girl. The flaw with this argument is that leaves for many other decisions to be
- 151** 5/13/2014 18:41 The student should be allowed to use both girls restrooms because of basic human rights.
- 152** 5/13/2014 18:30 This makes me uncomfortable because of the fact that he is a boy. Just because he thinks in the mind that he is a boy does not make him one. He is attracted to girls which makes me uncomfortable being in the same locker room/restroom as him. I know for a fact quite a few girls are very uncomfortable about this situation.
- 153** 5/13/2014 18:14 As a female student, I am extremely supportive of this new policy and believe that all transgender persons should have the right to use the restroom and locker room that corresponds to their gender identity.

- 154** 5/13/2014 18:10 He has a penis, he is a male. If he has used male facilities for 14 years why the sudden change? If he was perfectly fine with it for so long why must he use a women restroom or locker room now. Until he has a sex change he should be limited to the MALE facilities, point blank he is a man. You can't just label yourself a woman and that's that. Not only does that violate female students rights, it is unethical. Let alone his GIRLFRIEND is in the same gym class he's in and allowed to use the locker room with her and change with her. This is not a hard issue, he's a man, he must use male facilities. Students at atherton are more than accepting of him, but this is too far.
- 155** 5/13/2014 16:18 put this into affect. if one wants to truly identify as a different gender then they should be able to without facing any discrimination.
- 156** 5/13/2014 15:10 This is absolutely disgusting. No he should not be allowed to use the girls restroom. I'm a male and I guess I'll just start using the girls restroom if a gay guy with a penis can. Even though I would rather not have him in the boys restroom either, it's only the right thing to do. I'm sure it makes all of, if not, most of the females uncomfortable
- 157** 5/13/2014 14:52 I can't imagine how people would have a problem with a GIRL doing things that girls do. If she wants to use the girls bathroom because thats where she is comfortable, then she should. A girl is no threat to other girls and their privacy, (especially since bathrooms and locker rooms have stalls for that reason). Though I agree that this is an important topic that needs more awareness, I think the fact that this person's self identity and privacy isn't being respected is not okay. A girl is a girl, no matter what body they were born with, and this should be all that matters.
- 158** 5/13/2014 14:46 I belived that the people who identify themselves different from what they appear should allowed to do so wheter or not it is a disorder or a personal chose. They should not be labeled by what they look like or what they wear or what thw do if they choose to be the way that they are they should be intitle to it. Not all females like to wear makeup so does that make them less female.If people who are identified by what there sex are intitled to there sexual preference and not be frown upon why are they any different. Why are they any different because they have different ways then the "norm". I do not see what the big deal is let them be how they are if someone tried to tell you different on thing that you prefer would you want to be as equal as they are wouldn't you want to beable to just be the way you are without being judge amd how you should amd shouldn't be. My question to this issue is that why is it a big deal let them be the way they want to and respect the new ways because there is not only two gender and one sex anymore you are going to have to relize that we live in a time where everything is difference there are more then the two main preference. All I wait to say is respect there decision and don't discriminate because they are different. They deserve the same amount of respect as you want, as you deserve.
- 159** 5/13/2014 13:11 She should be allowed to use the girls restroom, for her own safety as well as respect.

- 160** 5/13/2014 13:07 I think SHE should be able to use the GIRLS bathroom because SHE identifies as a FEMALE. thus SHE is not a HE! Calling a transgender female a male is a crime. Leads to suicide and self harm. It is hurtful and mean. SHE is a SHE. Treat HER as such.
- 161** 5/13/2014 12:50 I am not against transgender people at all, however I am not in favor of changing the policy to allow Trans to use the locker and rest rooms of their gender identity. If a school told a Trans student they couldn't take certain classes that would be discrimination. Telling a Trans Girl that she will have to use the boys restroom/Locker room is not discrimination. The policy is against discrimination and I'm totally for that however the council needs to think if not allowing a Trans student to use the restroom/locker room of their gender identity is really discrimination.
- 162** 5/13/2014 12:48
- 163** 5/13/2014 12:47 In my opinion, this whole situation is very confusing and instead of helping people out, it will bring more problems in the future. Certain parents won't be ok with the fact that their daughter is sharing the same restroom and locker room with a "trans girl" that in reality is a boy. Not only will it attract problems but how do we really know if this person is a trans or not? What if they're just faking it to see girls naked or vice versa. I personally, wouldn't feel safe and think this whole idea is crazy. Allowing gays and lesbians walk around and be together in the hallways is one thing, but allowing trans to use the restrooms of their choice kind of crossed the line.
- 164** 5/13/2014 12:12 "Religious Freedom" in no way legitimizes ignoring simple biology so the entire issue is completely meaningless. If someone identifies as a female they are a female, it's really that simple. Sexual violence is even more simple; gender makes no difference when it comes to sexual violence as said crime is a crime of power, not sex. To let discrimination of any type persist because it is "abnormal" for someone to identify as a different gender is a disgusting abuse of power and unfit for civilized society.
- 165** 5/13/2014 12:09
- 166** 5/12/2014 22:52 It is already awkward in the bathrooms because you can see over the stall doors. It would be even more awkward now. I feel that the installation of floor-to-ceiling stall doors would be nice. This would make things a lot easier. Perhaps adding more security around the bathrooms would be helpful as well, to correct current problems of drug use in the bathroom as well as making it less awkward feeling. It already feels somewhat unsafe, and this would make me feel a lot better about it.

167 5/11/2014 21:02 When I heard that a boy at my school would be allowed to use the girls restrooms, I couldn't believe it. I thought: there's no way this is even legal! Also, if it were true, wouldn't they have to inform the entire school, since it would involve everybody? The following day, I heard from a trusted friend that it was true, for she was in the same gym class as the transgender. I was very angry. This was an invasion of women's privacy! Once I had calmed down, I thought it through. The idea of changing in a locker room or using the same restroom as a boy made me very uncomfortable. I do not know this boy, so I cannot trust him in anything he claims, says, or does. I have nothing against gays, lesbians, etc., but this is an invasion of privacy. Because I am uncomfortable with this situation, I have received insults both directly and indirectly. Now, I am being singled out. Also, I refuse to use the lockerooms or restrooms because of how uncomfortable I am. The principal told my mother when she called in that I have the option of using the faculty restroom in the office. Once again, no one else was addressed or offered this information. Now, I am inconvenienced when using the restroom and have no right.

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169 **PARENTS**

170 Response Date

171 5/15/2014 15:54 We need to respect the rights of all students. One of the challenges here is to protect the right of the GBLTT students while also while also protecting the rights of typically developing students

172 5/15/2014 15:45 I support the Atherton administrator's decision to update school policy to include protection for everyone I appreciate the way Thomas Aberli is leading a productive discussion and for standing up for equal rights. I'm proud of Atherton.

173 5/15/2014 15:20 If there is a transgender child in school. I think they need to choose what they want to be and stay that way in school and not change from day today. Specially in regards to restroom usage.

174 5/15/2014 15:10 I appreciate the wording of "parameters set by the administration". This should alleviate fears of students taking this matter lightly. I agree with this wording being added to the discrimination policy.

- 175** 5/15/2014 15:10 I think that this policy should not apply to bathrooms. What about the children who are male and female, regularly. Their rights are being infringed. I do not feel comfortable having my daughter using the bathroom with it being okay for a male student, even if they are transgender, being able to come in the bathroom... And the same for my son. If my child was transgender I would not expect them to change the rules for them. In society there are just certain things that everyone has to deal with, even if they think it's unfair to them. For example, I cannot smoke wherever I want. I have to deal with it.
- 176** 5/15/2014 14:39 Allowing a Male into the female locker rooms should NEVER be allowed regardless of what they tell you their sexual orientation is.
- 177** 5/15/2014 14:22 As a parent of a teenage girl, I have an issue with a male student, regardless of what gender they dress as or consider themselves to be, changing clothes in the girls locker room. Using the bathrooms is not a issue for me, as they are in stalls. But the locker rooms are open and this particular student does date girls or at least has a girlfriend which indicates, he likes girls and now he can view them undressing as well. That is where I see an issue.
- 178** 5/15/2014 14:22 I think it is wrong to disregard the feelings of the majority of students, to accommodate the so called "needs" of the few. My grandson was so upset about this that he had difficulty focusing on his studies. I can imagine how other students must feel. It's not too late for you to change your mind. I will respect you more if you do. Thank you.
- 179** 5/15/2014 13:55 I respect all human beings. This is a situation where many will have their rights violated in either way, so what it comes down to is the law. If a person is allowed to use (the legal version of sex identity) school restroom, they then may attempt to use a public restroom. This will cause conflict, where the person is emotionally injured. So they feel good at school, but at the movie theatre they are confronted negatively by females in the restroom, who do not know the persons mental sexual identity. If I see a male followi my wife and daughter into a restroom, I am going to take action, because I will think that this person is a sex offender. This subject must be dealt with by history. Racial discrimination is one thing, but the LEGAL sex of one versus one's feeling of sexual orientation is another. This opens the door to sexual predators violating people.

- 180** 5/15/2014 13:47 I understand that there are MANY misconceptions and much confusion about why a person born with one set of genitalia would want to identify as the opposite gender. It is my belief that every person should be allowed to be the person they feel they truly are. In the early days of "coming out" as the opposite gender the young person is excited about being who they really are and the fear of adverse reactions from others: bullying, violence, and rejection. I feel that accommodations MUST be made so that the transgender youth will be allowed to be addressed by the name and pronoun of the gender they express. That they be allowed to use the bathrooms identified for use by their identified gender. That education and training be provided to all school employees and students so everyone understand the issues surrounding transgender persons. Another thought; perhaps there should be a few non-specified gender bathrooms available to all students and employees.
- 181** 5/15/2014 13:33 Where is the common sense with people today. Why don't we try to help our children grow into the adults male and female they were born to be and stop accepting every perversion and idea as some new valid "identity." Where does the madness end. Are we willing to subject our daughters (true females) to violations of their privacy because one confused young man has been let down by our society and schools.
- 182** 5/15/2014 13:20 When does a 15 year old decide? He's too young. Wait until he has the surgery. Otherwise many more students could profess the same thing. I'm against it.
- 183** 5/15/2014 13:15 All students need a safe and supportive school environment to progress academically and developmentally. Administrators, faculty, staff, and students each play an important part in creating and sustaining that environment. Our family strongly recommends that the school include an appropriate number of gender-neutral restrooms commensurate with the size of the school, and at least one gender-neutral changing facility. Conversions of existing single occupancy areas (locker room, restroom) to "gender neutral" or "unisex" would also be appropriate. If renovations are needed, the funding could come from the district, school, parents, students and other interested entities, such as ACLU. The cost of construction would surely be less than the cost of litigation. Ultimately, this situation calls for care and compassion - for all.
- 184** 5/15/2014 13:12

- 185** 5/15/2014 12:44 First of all, I want to thank Dr. Aberli and the SBDM Council for courageously addressing this issue. Such leadership is one of the many reasons that Atherton is our school of choice. Transgender must be added to Atherton's non-discrimination policy. It is clear that gender is more than anatomy. It is also clear that we do not choose with which gender we identify anymore than we choose the color of our eyes. (I certainly do not recall choosing mine.) So, we must let students (and faculty and administration) live in the manner in which they were made--not only for their own psychological well-being but for our own health as a community as we discover more and more about these and other issues. That certainly includes allowing trans folk to use the restrooms and locker facilities of the gender with which they identify. I realize that this will entail creative thinking about how to implement such a policy, and, undoubtedly require more vigilance and attention to harassment, more occasions where enforcement will be necessary, and more education for students, faculty, administration and parents. So be it. We cannot continue to allow injustice, discrimination, and psychological harm to persist merely because overcoming these things is hard work. Finally, once you have amended the policy, realize you have help--lots of it!
- 186** 5/15/2014 12:29 There has been a LOT of discussion about this issue in the media -- and apparently in just about all of my child's classes at Atherton. For the first time in her years at Atherton, she says she does not feel safe talking in class. Apparently, the very vocal side in support of the proposal are bullying those against the proposal. That is NOT acceptable. My daughter should feel SAFE at her school, in all of her classes and when she is going to the restroom. She should not be subjected to personal criticism because she has a different opinion. Conservative values and Christian beliefs should be respected as well as liberal values and other religious beliefs.

187 5/15/2014 12:27 While I understand some issues should be handled at the school level, it appears that Atherton is about to vote on an alteration of school policy to add non-discrimination based on gender-identity, even though the current policy protects all students whether they are transgender or not. Dr. Aberli has done an outstanding job academically at Atherton and perhaps is simply misinformed regarding the legal implications a change like this has for JCPS and for ALL students there. Whether or not this change in school policy on paper is approved, the dual use of facilities by different genders must not continue. No student should be discriminated against or made to feel threatened in any way...this also includes those who are not transgender. Think about a 14 year old freshman girl in the locker room or restroom with a 17 year old biologically male student all alone, perhaps during class. Where are that freshman's rights? Who protects her from feeling threatened? Whether or not that 17 year old has nefarious plans or malicious intent is irrelevant. What prevents any student from taking off all clothing while changing in a locker room? Even if students disrobe down to underwear only, how is it acceptable to have that happen in front of an unwilling participant in a locker room simply because one of the individuals identifies as transgender but that same situation is deemed indecent and against the rules if the student didn't identify as transgender? If a non-transgender male walked into the girls' locker room and took off his clothes, not only would school officials be notified but likely the police would be as well. Seeing a picture of a sex organ of the opposite sex in order to study our bodies as humans is called health class. Seeing the real thing in a locker room is called pornographic and lewd behavior according to our court system. It appears it's the application of making transgender students feel welcome that has put others in jeopardy, including JCPS as a whole. Potentially, won't transgendered teachers or visitors be allowed to use the same facilities as students of the opposite gender? Even if the answer is "no" -- that students and adults always must use separate bathrooms and locker rooms -- how does JCPS then separate those students who turn 18 and legally become adults. While every single day there are children in this country who use gym locker rooms (where people take off their clothes, by the way) or public restrooms with those who are transgender, the students and their parents in those cases have a choice in the matter of whether to expose them to seeing body parts of the opposite sex. At school, we apparently do not. In many cases in this country, if this happens we literally call it a crime against a child. Then the case becomes a legal one for JCPS. This is an issue that is much, much bigger than one school setting an internal policy. Or do we wait until an 18 year old

- 188** 5/15/2014 12:26 I believe the ideal solution is to offer alternative gender neutral restroom choices available as an option for all students. If that can not be made available and convenient to students, the only reasonable alternative is to assign restroom use based on gender identity. To attempt to include sexual orientation in that assignment would be difficult to navigate. Gay guys would have to use the female restroom and gay girls the men's. Where would an openly bisexual child or teacher pee? Forcing a trans teen to use a restroom based on their genetic gender is, for those children, a constant reminder that who they are is not "acceptable". Many children put in this position will simply try not to have to use the restroom at all during the school day which is very unhealthy for them. Constantly having to be "outed" by being forced to use a restroom inconsistent with gender identity only serves as a reminder that some people do not "like" who you are and that who you are inside is "wrong". I don't think that is what our schools need to foster. One of the goals of education is to help children find their identity, to figure out who they are and to gain the tools they need to join adult society as functioning and contributing adults. I would never tell your child I thought they were wrong for being Christian. Why would anyone have the audacity to tell my child they were wrong for being a boy. Remember, your right ends where my right begins.
- 189** 5/15/2014 12:23 I do not believe in discriminating against anyone and am glad there are laws against it. Having said that I feel this issue goes way beyond the normal limitations of accomidation and do not agree in any way, shape, or form, with this issue. If the transgender person has began treatment to become the other sex and the private area has changed then perhaps an exception could be made but not until then. It is not acceptable to me at all to expect my daughter to use the same facilities of a male student. ESPECIALLY when this male transgender student has made it no secret his sexual preference is female. How is this any different from having shared facilities? It doesn't happen in any situation other than single, private ones where only one occupant is allowed in at any time and a door locks for privacy. Last time I checked the Atherton facilites were not this way? And I'm told by my daughter the Principal says if they feel uncomfortable they can use the facilities in his office? Why isn't this transgender boy told to use those facilites instead of the entire female population at Atherton? How is this fair for anyone other than this one transgender boy? I don't think it is! There are students at Atherton that have the same sexual preference they were born with that feel uncomfortable using the facilities because of cruel people their same sex. There are no exceptions made for these students and frankly there is no way to do it aside from single, individual rest rooms. So I don't agree with this at all. I think this is ridiculous to even address it! A persons must use the facilities they physically match to. Mentality should not play a role at all. There are just too many that would abuse that situation and this is a can of worms that doesn't need to be opened. Not to mention how uncomfortable and vialated the girls will feel if they are subjected to being forced to have a male in their midst while in a female facility. That is not acceptable!

- 190** 5/15/2014 12:05 My daughter should NOT have to worry about having a 'male' in the restroom or locker room with her during a private time. This should not even be in question! If a person has the physical attributes of a male - they should use the male facilities. PERIOD. NOT A QUESTION. No different for a female. This is called life - we can't make an exception for every exception! What's next - my bisexual niece be allowed to use either restroom or none at all because of her sexual preference? Or my gay nephew not be allowed to use the male facilities because of his? How about our military - do they need to create multiple facilities to accomodate all the differences? This just can't happen. Do I sympathise with someone that feels different? Yes. Do I hate they have to feel this way? Absolutely. But the fact is - that does not make it ok to make everyone else around them feel that way instead. And that is exactly what you are doing when you accomodate the one - you put every single person around them in a possible situation. This is NOT acceptable. And frankly I am MORE than a LITTLE offended that this has been kept so low key and secret. Had the letter going out been more straight forward about what the definition of 'facilities' are I have NO DOUBT all hell would break lose at that school with all the parents that would show up. If my daughter is ever in a restroom when a boy comes in, or in a locker room in a state of undress when a boy comes in, I expect swift and immediate action to be taken against that boy - regardless of any claims that boy might make. This is ridiculous! There are laws against this for a reason! This can not be allowed!
- 191** 5/15/2014 11:49 I would be in favor of amending the school's policy to include ant-discrimination clause for transgendered individuals. We should treat the individual based on how they identify themselves.
- 192** 5/15/2014 11:01 Making accommodation for one student which puts other students at risk is objectionable. This student is identified as being bi-sexual meaning he continues to have sexual attraction to females and you are actually considering allowing him to use the female restroom? The individuals involved are all minors and instead of considering the personal and private needs of all students you should not fall to political correctness.
- 193** 5/15/2014 10:13 Currently a trans person cannot use any restroom they wish in public restrooms they should not be able to choose which restroom they want to use in the schools either. The school system needs to use some common sense to answer this question. Which bathroom you use must be based on your genitalia or all bathrooms must be non-gender specific. This must apply to school and public restrooms for all aged transgender persons to feel comfortable.
- 194** 5/15/2014 7:37 My child should go to the restroom with those who have the same genitals, not a identity to one gender over another. Stop conforming to the liberal agenda. Choose for the majority not the few. Are women staff member willing to urinate with him? That may be you litmus test. Children don't make decisions about sexuality in school. They can do that as adults.

- 195** 5/15/2014 7:32 How is it discrimination not to let a transgender individual use the restroom of the opposite sex? Said individual has the right to use a restroom of their gender like any other student. The individual is wanting special rights not afforded to any other. This is the opposite of discrimination. By this distorted rational, anyone should be able to use any restroom of their choice, or you are discriminating against all other students by giving special rights to supposed transgendered individuals. I have a daughter that attends Jefferson County public schools and am appalled that this is even being discussed. I feel that her safety would be compromised if males were able to use female restrooms or locker rooms. All that a sexual predator would have to do is say they were transgender and have access to whatever facility they choose, making it easy for deviant behavior such as rape to occur. I hope and pray that the council will side with the safety of the female students rather than pander to a small faction of our society who wants special priveleges and are only concerned with themselves, not the wellfair of others. You know this is a slippery slope! Please protect our children.
- 196** 5/15/2014 7:21 This situation has been created from the fear and ignorance of individuals not willing to deal with situations in which they are put on the spot and have to commit to. Instead they feel they must just go with the flow. That is where we are now afraid to say what is right is right and what is wrong is just that wrong. I never thought the day would come in which I would be voicing an opinion on a male being able to use the same restroom as a female at the same time. If the male should have any handicap or any mental issues at all is still a male, our birth certificate clearly states our gender. I don't see how anyone in their right mind could even consider that a male should be considered a female, then throw in the argument that its because they simply feel like a female inside. If we don't open our eyes and see just how much this has progressed in the last two decades we are in big trouble as a nation. We might not see the damage we created but our great grandchildren definitely will. We need to quit feeding the drama and pull together and face the facts that time has shown us. I have given my daughters direct orders concerning this issue. Should either of them be located in a public restroom and a male should walk in (no matter what his attire) they are to use their phone take a picture and dial 911 then call me. I will bring any news media that is willing to listen to make sure this gets proper attention and anyone that is connected to this will be revealed and if in anyway seek criminal charges against them for the situation they have pushed on them. I simply can't see how creating ten - twenty++ issues is worth fixing one.
- 197** 5/15/2014 5:11
- 198** 5/15/2014 3:51
- 199** 5/15/2014 3:28 The other girls involved have rights also!!! If one can have a choice of two bathrooms, then the other girls should have a choice of two bathrooms! Whether they want to use the one with the boy or not!
- 200** 5/15/2014 3:08 Penises should NOT be allowed in the girls bathroom or locker room. Chromosomes determine Gender and there are only TWO chromosomal possibilities.

- 201** 5/15/2014 2:46 please vote to allow this. All members of humanity should be accepted and should feel safe.
- 202** 5/15/2014 2:42 I do not believe a person who was born male should be using the female restroom. Period. Just like a person born female should not be using the male restroom. My daughter attends Atherton and we have been very happy with the school in our time there. However, this is one decision from the principal where there is disagreement. Our daughter should not expect a male (e.g. a person born with male anatomy) to be in the ladies' restroom. I've heard lots of things on the media about "accepting" the person and letting the person take care of restroom business in peace. Well, my daughter has the same rights to be able to use the restroom without worrying about if there are non-females in the bathroom. There are instances due to my daughter's involvement at Atherton where she has to change at school for a performance or game or other event. She changes in the girls' restroom -- and does not expect to have someone born a male in the girls' room. Please understand that my message is not meant to discriminate against the person at the center of this discussion. It is meant to protect my daughter and her rights, which are just as relevant and important as--- rights. Atherton has always provided an open environment, but there has to be a better way than allowing a person born male to use the girls' room. A rose is a rose even if it wants to be a lily. My dog is a dog even when she thinks she is just like us and wants to eat from the kitchen table. Matt was still born a male and should use the male restroom, even if Matt wants to be known as a female named ---. Thanks for considering our opinions too!
- 203** 5/15/2014 2:39
- 204** 5/15/2014 2:17 As I've discussed with my daughter, she's very concerned for the safety of this student. My child has a few classes with the student in question and the main issue we have is: the student should identify which gender they'd prefer and stick with that for the school year. As a parent and putting myself in the situation, I'd want what's best for my child and their safety. Thanks in advance for allowing all to provide feedback. I'm very proud we have a principal that's willing to support all students!!!
- 205** 5/15/2014 1:48 I am a parent of current exchange student. I live less than 3 blocks from the school. Atherton is woven into the fabric of my family and my neighborhood. I have three children that will be attending Atherton in the near future. I could not be prouder of the stance Mr. Aberli has taken to support the individuality of the students who attend Atherton and represent the community as a whole. I am relieved to know, that as my children enter high school, they will be accepted and supported for who they are, without discrimination.
- 206** 5/15/2014 1:47 I applaud Dr. Aberlie and the Atherton Community in following the letter of a fair and just law. It would be illegal to discriminate against this young person and I don't want our school to be known for this; I'd rather we be acknowledged for acceptance and tolerance. I do not want segregated bathrooms, locker rooms or anything else. This young person is brave and deserves respect. I don't want to see her bullied by anyone, in school or out. Thank you Dr. Aberli for supporting this student.

- 207** 5/15/2014 1:44 NO WAY! If my granddaughter was subjected to a boy who may or not be transgender entering a restroom with her I would sit outside the school waiting for her to call me to escort her to the girl's room. And nobody at her school would dare to stop me! I would call the news stations to be with me and film the event! This is bull and will lead to nothing more than quick thrills to enter the restrooms of the opposite sex, and a few side bets! People, get a grip on sex and get over the "politically correct" BS that is being shoved down our throats.
- 208** 5/15/2014 1:20
- 209** 5/15/2014 0:59 I applaud Dr. Aberli! My son and I have been discussing this student since the beginning of the year. Although my son doesn't understand transgender totally, he understands the issues this would cause at school for the student, other students, and parents. We believe the district and SBDM councils must address transgenders and add this group to the list! Thank you for showing our children that we must be sensitive to other's needs!!
- 210** 5/15/2014 0:40 Dear Dr. Aberli, After hearing the news about one of your male students wanting to use the girls restroom and locker room, I found myself questioning your ability in providing a safe learning environment for our children. To my understanding, the student has a girlfriend and a penis. If this is allowed, any boy who wants to invade female students' privacy would simply just tell you that he is a girl and you would be suckered in to allowing him the same access that you are granting the current student. Have you even taken into consideration how your female students feel about this? What will you think about your decision when one day you learn that your "transgender" student was found in the girls locker room trying to have sex with them? There is a reason we have those cleverly distinguished figures on the restroom entrances. If they have balls, they belong in the boys room.
- 211** 5/15/2014 0:36 All staff, students, and anyone using school facilities should only be using facilities that are assigned for the gender with which they are identified as on their birth certificate. A person has no right to use facilities of the opposite gender regardless of how they identify themselves. Regardless of how a person acts or who they say they are, they have no business being in a private location with a member of the opposite gender. Ever. Period.
- 212** 5/15/2014 0:24 I do not accept this in any way. And obviously someone decided to take this matter without proper channels. That person (s) should be removed. We are opening doors of the future that we cannot answer the questions put in place. We as a school community have so much to be thankful for. We give way more than most. But we do not need to be the attention getters of this subject.
- 213** 5/14/2014 23:56 I support the addition of the non-discrimination statement, that includes gender identity, to school policy, on the use of school space.

- 214** 5/14/2014 23:48 As a parent and obviously former teenager, I believe it is critical to foster understanding of teens in such a trying circumstance. We are "...endowed by their Creator certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness..." To deny such critical rights to those suffering as transgender would be Un-American.
- 215** 5/14/2014 23:47 One should use the facilities that their body parts or general is dictate, not the way they "feel." If it is necessary for separate facilities in your opinion, please do not use my tax dollars to pay for them.
- 216** 5/14/2014 23:22 I am very outraged that this would even be considered at Atherton High School. I feel that this is an extreme invasion of privacy for my daughter. I am in total agreement with the attorney Mr. Clint Elliott.
- 217** 5/14/2014 23:18 Discrimination of any kind is uncalled for. Transgender students should be given the same rights as a person born into that gender.
- 218** 5/14/2014 23:06 As a parent, I support Dr. Aberli's position to add gender identity to Atherton's nondiscrimination policy. It is so important to educate our youth to be accepting, tolerant, and empathetic. At Atherton, we have a chance to educate the larger world. Only in change, can we move forward to a more equal society. I am truly grateful my daughter attends Atherton where I know the staff truly cares about all its students.
- 219** 5/14/2014 22:48 I believe that Atherton is setting a standard for love and tolerance that all schools should follow. There's not a better way to teach teens love, tolerance, and acceptance. I will never forget my child's freshman orientation (now a senior) at Atherton. The principal began the orientation by explaining the absolute no-tolerance for bullying or discrimination at Atherton. In that moment I knew we had chosen the correct high school for my son. I have worked hard to teach him the benefits of equality, tolerance, and acceptance as he plays "boy" sports and has experienced many of his peers encourage a "jock" attitude towards anything outside of mainstream. In addition to teaching these kids acceptance, Atherton is possibly helping to prevent one of society's worst issues- teen suicide, by insisting that all teens are accepted exactly as they are... My son came home yesterday and shared that he seen a boy coming out of the girls restroom at school. When I asked my Varsity Basketball and Football player how that made him feel, he responded "I only wondered if "she" was racing to class like me. Mom I don't judge anybody, especially since I know what gender identity means - and besides our school accepts everyone. Atherton don't put up with bullying and judging"... Thanks and KUDOS Atherton!!! I 100% support adding gender identity to the non-discrimination policy... Keep up the good fight Rebels!! Atherton Mom
- 220** 5/14/2014 22:13
- 221** 5/14/2014 22:13 If you are a male you should use male only bathroom. If you allow this, then what happens when males say they are transgender and aren't and go into female only areas. This is violating the females right to privacy and could be sexual harassment.

- 222** 5/14/2014 22:09 We do not agree that transgender students should be allowed to use restrooms and locker rooms of the sex that they are identifying with during the K-12th grade years. Until these students go through the "affirmation process" and take on the body parts of the sex they are transforming to this is VERY INAPPROPRIATE and disregards the rights of other students!!! Boys and girls should not have to use restrooms and locker rooms with others that have body parts of the opposite sex. By allowing this you open up room for many problems for transgender students as well as the other students. If this is the directions our society is taking and the need is there during the school age years then the schools just like other public places need to provide a private unisex restroom and locker room. It is disgraceful the Atherton High School has to add one more stress to our kids when they already have enough!! We understand the need to accommodate transgender students, however it is the school systems responsibility to do it while respecting and protecting our children! FIND ANOTHER WAY!!! Why is this only occurring Atherton??
- 223** 5/14/2014 22:01 Locker rooms and bathrooms are areas where kids take care of personal issues. Regardless of how a student identifies him or herself, I don't want my daughter in a locker room with a boy, nor do I want my sons in a locker room with a girl who believes she should have been a boy and seeing her change clothes. It is ridiculous to even consider this as a possibility. It is just another reason homeschooling is a better option.
- 224** 5/14/2014 21:55 I believe the school has a responsibility to be tolerant and provide a safe environment for transgender students. This should not be at the expense of other student groups enjoying the same protection. The school needs to provide a smaller gender neutral restroom(s) much like you see family restrooms in public spaces. I am sure with thought and planning a private locker room space can be created on a case by case basis if needed. Areas designated for boys only and girls only should not be compromised.
- 225** 5/14/2014 21:49 Transgender children should use the restroom of their affirmed gender. There is no danger to other students by allowing this. Conversely, the transgender child is at great risk of attack, injury, bullying, etc. When using the non affirmed restroom. The American Medical Association defines transgender as a medical condition, which falls under the protection of HIPPA. Requiring a transgender child to use the non gender confirming restroom violates that student's HIPPA protections for which the school could be held responsible.

- 226** 5/14/2014 21:49 Gender & biological anatomy are separate, therefore, place signs stating "penis" or "vagina" for the bathrooms. I am not for this move because it will lead to more students asking for the same right. The world does not revolve around each person individually & we should not teach children that it does. Next week there will be a female asking to use the "boys" restroom! Since there is a private single restroom that does seem to be the best alternative. In college these exceptions are not made not are they in the work world! This is absurd that it is even being considered as an option to allow the student to use female restrooms. Remember, if this passes make sure to ask yourself, "what is coming next"! I am all for expressing & identifying with individuality, but this is interfering with the majority of female students privacy. I have a son currently attending, but the minute females are trying to use the male facilities I will have even more to say. A modern world should include acceptance but this a over the top.
- 227** 5/14/2014 21:44 Absolute foolishness. Males in the boys room, females in the girls room. A boy that "feels" like a girl is still a boy. A girl who "feels" like a boy is still a girl. What they do when they graduate and become adults and move into the real world is none of my business. Right now, they are children and their hormones are raging already as it is, there is absolutely no need to confuse them further.
- 228** 5/14/2014 21:42 No person should ever be discriminated against, no matter their gender or gender - identity. Teenagers are fragile enough as they come to grips with who they are, and a teen being told that being who they are is bad could have horrific effects. There are a lot of trans people who have been harmed by what's been done to them when they were discovering themselves. It is time we stop hurting all people and be an example of forward thinking and change.
- 229** 5/14/2014 21:36 I would not want my daughter using the bathroom with an anatomical boy, no matter what he claims to be. How can this be fair to any girl. (but what about a girl who may have been sexually abused by a male having to share a bathroom with a male! Fairness works both ways.) The fact that he is dating a girl is another reason to question his motives in using the girl's restroom. At my daughter's school when she was young a female student had a catheter she needed to urinate. The school allowed her to use the private teacher's bathroom, both for her privacy and medical necessity. It did become obvious to students she had a special situation, but respected her privacy and situation even though no students knew the details of the situation. I don't understand why this young man is not satisfied with similar accommodations.
- 230** 5/14/2014 21:18 My daughter WILL NOT be forced to go to the restroom or to dress in front of members of the oposite sex PERIOD! You're gender is assigned by nature PERIOD! I do not care what they want to change to. If they have their physical body changed by surgery then I will be open to discussion on the topic. Until then I will move my child to another school either public or PRIVATE if I have to. When enough of us move our children and you start to see the funding for the school cut, perhaps you'll start considering what the majority wants.
- 231** 5/14/2014 21:15 All students need to be informed of any actions taken by school that does not give other students the ability to express their convictions about the issue.

- 232** 5/14/2014 21:14
- 233** 5/14/2014 20:20
- 234** 5/14/2014 20:09
- 235** 5/14/2014 20:07 Why does this transgender student get the right to choose which bathroom he will go to when all other students are forced to go to the bathroom or their gender? If he can choose his bathroom then everyone else should be able to choose their bathroom. Imagine the mayhem when boys and girls with over active hormones can share bathrooms. Why does this student deserve more rights than other normal gender students? If I don't want my kid to be discriminated against they need to be abnormal? Is that how it is at Atherton? Normal heterosexual students have no rights?
- 236** 5/14/2014 19:41 Designate one restroom for Transgender and label it as such. Locker rooms should also be designated as Transgender. If the additional space is not available then the Transgender restroom can also double as a Transgender locker room. Regardless of how a transgender "thinks" or "feels" they are male or female until and only after they have full sexual reconstructive surgery. If an individual born male wants to play on the girls basketball team because they are transgender...fine.. but they should not be using the girls restroom or locker room. Let them utilize the facilities designated transgender as outlined above.
- 237** 5/14/2014 19:40 Those with male genitals should use the men's room, and those with female genitals should use the women's room. Period. If you want to change your genitals from male to female or from female to male, that's between you and your doctor/insurance company/parents. But until and unless you do, you are using the restroom that is appropriate for the genitals you currently possess.

- 238** 5/14/2014 19:10 In the name of tolerance you are now forcing a certain number of girls to have to have a boy in their bathroom. Do these girls not have rights too? It does not matter what he thinks he is, as long as he has a penis he should be using the boy's bathroom. This is not discrimination to make a boy (a person with a penis) use the boy's bathroom. Would you let a girl (a person with a vagina) use the boys bathroom where there is no privacy? Are we only going to listen to this transgender student because he and his friends complain the loudest? What does it take to have normal heterosexual people (the quiet majority) to be heard? I'm not saying the kid can't believe whatever he wants about his sexuality but by using the girls bathroom when he was not born a girl is now forcing his point of view on everyone else. I am angry that we even have to have this conversation. I am angry that the people who are not the norm are forcing their perspective on everyone else in the name of tolerance. If people want to be different(or were born different and I'm not referring to physical disabilities) that's fine but you have to understand that if you are going to be different you cannot force everyone to like it or expect them to bend over backwards to accommodate you. I am disappointed to hear that Dr. Aberli is accommodating this one student over the rights of several others. I understand it's bad press not to be accommodating of people with different sexual orientations because the press will make you out as a bigot but whatever happened to doing things because it's the right thing to do? The right thing to do is to have boys and girls not sharing bathrooms or locker-rooms no matter what sexual orientation anyone thinks they are. If we don't draw the line somewhere, where will this end?
- 239** 5/14/2014 18:38 I believe that Atherton's goal of inclusivity is appropriate and should be pursued. The challenge of maintaining privacy and safety in the school's bathroom and locker facilities has always been dependent on the choices the students make and relies on the students to make the proper choices with respect to how they treat each other. I don't see how adding transgendered students to that mix changes those premises. Ultimately, it's up to the parents of Atherton students to teach their children that to "love thy neighbor (student) as thyself" requires respect and tolerance for all varieties of our fellow human beings. I applaud Dr. Aberli's efforts to create a harmonious learning environment at Atherton and hope that he can continue to move forward with this initiative.
- 240** 5/14/2014 18:36 In trying to tip toe around and bend the rules for one child, what about the hundreds of girls whose rights are being violated? What is happening in our school system? It is truly sad what our country has become.
- 241** 5/14/2014 18:21 Equity is non-negotiable. Put children first. Period
- 242** 5/14/2014 18:17 I fully support Principal Aberli's position that transgendered students should be allowed to use all restrooms and facilities designated for the gender to which the student self-identifies.

- 243** 5/14/2014 18:01 Two main points: 1) All students should be protected from discriminatory practices. 2) Our schools must provide restroom facilities for all students. Throughout the modern-day history of our schools, the restroom facilities have been segregated into "boys" and "girls". The terms boys and girls represent the sex of the person as defined by the genitalia of the child. Until a person has a sex change (surgically altered genitalia), he or she is not the opposite sex. If the principal of Atherton, or any other school board member, needs to provide bathroom facilities to unaltered students, that principal/board member has the responsibility to accompany the student to a private bathroom where the student will not be harassed. To put the student in a public bathroom facility violates the privacy of all other students.
- 244** 5/14/2014 17:59 Excuse me, but here are the rules. If you have a penis, you go to the boys bathroom. If you have a vagina, you go to the girls bathroom. You can call yourself anything you want, assuming that gives you special rights, but you still need to follow the written rules of gender.
- 245** 5/14/2014 17:53 I feel that all students should feel comfortable and safe in the school environment. I fear violence more than my son going to the restroom with a person not born of the identifying gender.
- 246** 5/14/2014 17:19 If he wants to use the girls restroom, I would be ok with it. Because there is some privacy. However, a locker room is a different story. I don't think girls should be made to feel uncomfortable having to change in front of a man or man changing in front of them.
- 247** 5/14/2014 16:55 School restrooms and locker rooms are built and designed for the equipment the student was given at birth, simply put they either urinate standing up or sitting down. They should use the appropriate facilities designed for them. I have sons and have had daughters at Atherton and with talking with my kids it seems that my daughters would be very concerned and even feel that their privacy rights would be violated if a male were allowed access to the females facilities. On the other hand, the boys said they could care less if the male identifying as a female were using the male facilities. I'll have to agree with them and say that you use the facilities you have the equipment you were born with to use.
- 248** 5/14/2014 16:54 I am so very pleased with Principle Aberlie's statement. My daughter is in class with this student and was emotionally distraught by some of her schoolmates choice not to support said student. As a hospital worker we see all sorts of patients as well as the results of bullying, and suicide attempts due to mistreatment. If this student identifies themselves as a female, so be it. I feel for the girls who genuinely feel "violated" at a "guy" being in their bathroom but 99% of the opponents (I believe) will be based on an archaic philosophy of what a man or woman are. Bravo Atherton! Very proud (especially today) that our daughter is a Rebel!!!

- 249** 5/14/2014 16:48 There have been no credible or documented instances of a transgendered woman or girl harassing cis-gendered women/girls in a women's restroom. This is a non-existent bogeyman to scare voters who do not understand the reality of transsexuality. There is, on the other hand, plenty of evidence of transwomen being harassed, beaten, and even killed just for existing. Furthermore, there is no religious freedom being abridged here - a person's religious beliefs may lead him/her to consider a transgendered person to be a sinner, but being asked to share a public facility with a transgendered person does not force anyone to become transgender, act transgender, or even interact with the transgendered student. There is no reasonable argument against allowing a young woman to use the restroom that matches her self-image and presentation (I am assuming she presents herself as female at school).
- 250** 5/14/2014 16:43 I understand about not discriminatin, but also have a daughter at the school. I read the article in the newspaper and understand the this person is attracted to both male and female students. WHILE I have told my daughter that technically, she could be put in harms way by either gender and to look at it that way. SHe has decided that unless it is an absolute emergency she now will not use the restroom at school. Teenage girls can be stubborn and challenging! I just want my daughter to feel safe at school. This situation happened at a friends place of emplyment. The way they handled the situation was to only allow the pesron use of the restroom of that gender once it was actually changed. Until that happened this person had to continue to use the men's restroom. This person was attracted to only men. If my child were in the same situation I would try to be understanding of the feelings of all the other students as well.
- 251** 5/14/2014 16:30 Congratulations to Atherton's principal for taking this step to accommodate transgendered students.
- 252** 5/14/2014 16:30
- 253** 5/14/2014 16:30 This child should not be allowed in the girls restroom.
- 254** 5/14/2014 16:28 I don't mind if you update your policy to include gender identify for anit-discriminatory but I do have a major issue if you allow a different sex into my daughter's locker room. I'm not sure why 'sex' is entering into the school studies so strongly anyway! My daughter would not feel comfortable having ANY male in the restroom or locker room when she is present with other females. I question the 'gender identity' when there is bi-sexual and gay as well. My daughter told me of a student who claims to be transgender yet is a male and has a girlfriend. Really? You would put that student in a locker room with my daughter? I think not. I agree with equality but remember that is for ALL, not just those who choose to be, or perhaps are, different.
- 255** 5/14/2014 16:13 My problem is that MY DAUGHTER is uncomfortable. SO IS IT FAIR FOR HER TO LOOSE HER RIGHTS BECAUSE SHE IS? Are you going to pay her doctor bills when I have to send her to the doctor when a problem occurs.
- 256** 5/14/2014 16:13

- 257** 5/14/2014 16:13 This is a very tricky one, because no matter what, someone will be angry. I honestly think that if the student puts in the time to ask to be switched to a different locker room, that most likely, they feel uncomfortable with their situation in the locker room they are 'equipped' to be in (or bathroom, ext). The transgender student should be granted the right to be in facilities where they are comfortable.
- 258** 5/14/2014 16:01 A person who possesses male body parts is a male and should not arbitrarily be able to determine that they are female. If you allow such, then you are effectively saying you can be 'whatever you think you are.' That is patently absurd. If you start down this 'slippery slope,' then who is to say that a boy may not think they are a girl one week and a boy the next? Who makes that call. Who says a white person cannot think they are black?
- 259** 5/14/2014 15:52 A student should never be allowed to enter the opposite sex restroom or locker room!!!! The students that are normal should not have to feel awkward about going to the restroom so that these "abnormal" persons can dominate the world. We need to get God back into schools to stop this nonsense. If you allow opposite sexes to enter the same restroom or locker room that is asking for trouble. There could possibly be more sexual harassment occur. There could be more sexual assaults occurring. This is insane to even think about putting juveniles in this predicament.
- 260** 5/14/2014 15:50 The transgendered student should be either required to use the staff bathroom or the boys bathroom. Under no circumstances should the teenager be allowed to use a girls bathroom when they are biologically a boy. I understand that the school is trying to preserve the rights of the transgender student but what of the rights to the other students? The rights of the many always outweigh the rights of the few.
- 261** 5/14/2014 15:39 I believe that Atherton has taken the correct steps in this matter. All students should be protected from discrimination. I hope that you will continue to fight for the rights of our kids, no matter the situation. This is such a trying time for teens and I believe Atherton is focused on equality and helping teens transition to well rounded adults!
- 262** 5/14/2014 15:37 My daughter Alexis Davidson will be attending Atherton next year. I support the decision to add gender Identity to the SBDM policies, and I applaud Atherton's staff for taking the first steps forward on this issue to ensure equality for all Atherton students. In addition, my hope is that other schools will follow Atherton's example of putting the children's REAL needs first, not the stereotypical image of the norm that society wants to embrace, but the actual teen who all are learning at this age who they want to be in this world. Thank you!
- 263** 5/14/2014 15:32 I support Dr Aberli's stand on allowing transgender students to be protected as all others.
- 264** 5/14/2014 15:31 All students deserve to be treated equally and fairly, transgender students included. Please pass protections giving transgender students equal access to all facilities that correspond with their gender identities!

- 265** 5/14/2014 15:18 Who are Pepper and Brill? That book was written in 2008 and what are their qualifications? Surely there is more current research than that. What about common sense? Boy parts and girl parts do not mix regardless of gender identification. Besides, Dr. Aberli is about Title IX because it is all about the money...not about the students.
- 266** 5/14/2014 15:17 I totally disagree. I don't want my daughter using the bathroom with this person. Has he had a sex change or does he just "think" he is a female?
- 267** 5/14/2014 15:09 I understand that this student may feel like a gir/woman but until this student has female parts I would rather they use the restroom or take a shower with persons that have the same parts as this student. What about the rights of my daughter that attends Atherton? What about the rights of the hundreds of girls/women that attend Atherton? As I said I feel for this student however this is just one student. Please do not push gay/ transgender rights on my student. It makes no sense to me that my daughter could not lead prayer in class if she wanted to but this transgender student can use the same restroom as her!!!!
- 268** 5/14/2014 15:08 I feel like biology is biology. We were taught that even plants are male or female. No one asked the plants sexual orientation. Basically, If you dont know if a child is male or female by their anatomy, maybe you should not be teaching our kids.
- 269** 5/14/2014 15:08 I totally disagree with allowing a transgender student to use a restroom or locker room of the opposite sex. If they have not had gender reassignment surgery then a boy is still a boy and a girl is still a girl. Why is it ok to make 200-300 students uncomfortable to appease one student. If needed the school should assign one restroom in the building for transgenders students only or allow them to use faculty facilities. We are very upset about this and are looking at other options for our freshman that was to be starting there in the fall! Unacceptable!
- 270** 5/14/2014 15:05 I believe the trans student should have access to one designated girls' restroom. I believe all female students should be aware of this designation incase they are uncomfortable using this same facility. In terms of the changing area situation, I think the trans student needs a neutral area if at all possible. Surely something can be arranged so no one is forced to dress where they are not comfortable.
- 271** 5/14/2014 15:01 I think it is very disturbing that a male can go into a females bathroom. I was raped by a friend in the confort of my home and he was a transgendered male. So, I feel that if he was born male it is only appropriate for him to use the male bathroom. This is to help with the privacy and comfort level of other female students that occupy the school. Otherwise, a transgendered restroom should be made available to the students that are. Not everyone is comfortable with transgendered persons and to have it forced on them may be a violation of their religious and belief rights. God has already been taken out of school please don't push something that is a sensitive subject onto others.

- 272** 5/14/2014 14:50 It should not be allowed if you were born male you should use Male bathroom you were born a female you use females restroom if you're transgendered that's just your way of looking at it not the way Avery one else may look at it. I do not think the school has the right to make this rule change it affects more than just one student.
- 273** 5/14/2014 14:45 I am in favor of adding language specific to gender identity to the non-discrimination policy. I applaud Dr. Aberli on taking this controversial step.
- 274** 5/14/2014 14:43 I would maybe suggest student use the adult. only bathroom only.Going into female bathroom n you u used to be a male just not right vise vera
- 275** 5/14/2014 14:29
- 276** 5/14/2014 14:22 I support support the current practice of allowing transgender students, upon prior approval and parameters set by the administration, to use the facilities of their gender identity.
- 277** 5/14/2014 14:13 Opens the door for bad situation. Create a separate bathroom at most. Don't subject the girls born girls to an uncomfortable situation. Why make more feel uncomfortable for the comfort of one?
- 278** 5/14/2014 14:10 Transgender students should have all of the same rights as all other students, including use of their identified sex restroom and locker facilities. Transgender should be added to the legal wording along with all other catagories of students. I also think that having a option for students and parents that are uncomfortable with this is a good thing (i.e. having a restroom that is specified) because this level of acceptance takes time. I applaud Dr. Aberli for his foresight and courage in making a decision and bringing this issue to the school board. Thank you Mr. Aberli for your willingness to talk about something that others (who are in elected positions) are too afraid to talk about. I am so proud that my children have had the privilege of attending Atherton High School!
- 279** 5/14/2014 14:09 Respect the privacy of my child. My daughter does not want male students in the locker room, watching her dress and undress. Her privacy must not be violated. JCPS must not bow to the wishes of a small militant minority, whose main goal is to force society to not only tolerate but embrace their sexual lifestyle choices. Dr. Aberli has chosen to discriminate against the majority of our student population, in order to please the LGBT activists.
- 280** 5/14/2014 13:50 Transgendered students should not be allowed to use the opposite sex bathroom in facilities with minor children. Birth gender should be the determining factor on which bathroom should be used by students.
- 281** 5/14/2014 13:37
- 282** 5/14/2014 13:36 Kidsat this age are trying to figure out who they are. Allowing a student of opposite sex to use the restroom of the gender they think they identify with should not be allowed.

- 283** 5/14/2014 13:30 I have talked to my daughter, who is a student at Atherton, about this and she is not bothered by this young lady using the girls/womens restrooms. I am not bothered by this either. This is what we love about Atherton - their openness, and acceptance & tolerance of others. This is a very diverse school and I am proud that we are part of the Atherton family. I always tell people what a great school it is, how well my daughter fits in there, and how diverse the school is. I do not think this young lady is pretending to be something she isn't in order to get closer to girls and/or harass them. She must feel safer using the girls restroom than the boys restroom. Having said that, my daughter said she has never heard of any cases or bullying or harassment in the 3 years she has been a student at Atherton.
- 284** 5/14/2014 13:26 I don't agree!
- 285** 5/14/2014 13:14 As a parent, community member and Atherton Alum, I feel that it is incredibly important that we maintain an open, welcoming environment that does not permit any sort of discrimination.
- 286** 5/14/2014 13:09 no boys in the girls restroom or locker room a physical inspection shall determine what sex you are . no exceptions.
- 287** 5/14/2014 12:35 I sympathize with the struggles of a transgender. However, as a parent, I feel they should still have to use the appropriate locker and restrooms. I would not want my daughter or son to be in the locker/restroom with a member of the opposite sex even if that other child/young adult feels they are not the actual sex they were born as. Those areas of the school are marked boys locker room, girls locker room and boys & girls restrooms for a reason.
- 288** 5/14/2014 12:29 It is ridiculous to make other students to feel uncomfortable in a restroom or locker room because one student cannot accept his DNA assigned gender.
- 289** 5/14/2014 12:23 Use of restrooms and locker rooms should be based on anatomy. If you have a penis you use the boy facilities.
- 290** 5/14/2014 12:20 I fully support this decision.

- 291** 5/14/2014 12:17 Transgender students should certainly not be forced to share a locker room or restroom w/ a gender they do not identify with if doing so makes them feel uncomfortable in the vulnerable context of dressing/undressing. However, even members of the same birth-assigned gender have these feelings (even into adulthood) & in those cases will use closed-door or curtained stalls to change or use the restroom. It is unfair to put any of the students in a situation where, due to the locker room / restroom's intimate context (seeing and being seen in stages of undress or using a toilet) they feel vulnerable & uncomfortable. Whether for transgender students exclusively or as a "safe place" for any student uncomfortable sharing intimate space w/ others, something akin to a "family restroom" - a private, closed door changing and/or restroom area could be made available as an alternative to birth-gender assigned facilities, or built in to them. Not to say this would be a co-ed or catch-all area, because it makes sense that a transgendered girl would not wish to share this space w/ a transgendered boy simply because they are both transgender, or vice versa. It is impossible to know or claim to know another's motivations or intent, so the possibility for abuse of a forced two-gender-based facilities system is high. What's to keep a student from claiming gender identity in order to be given a free pass to the opposite sex's facilities? None. It cannot be judged by outer appearance or behavior or by anyone but the individual involved. Just as not all girls are girly, & not all boys are rough & tumble. A third facilities option open to all students is a solution, or at least a safe one for the present as we learn more about these issues & how to address them in the community.
- 292** 5/14/2014 12:11 If the student has male parts, they should use the mens restroom for the privacy of the girls. If the student has female parts, they should use the ladies restroom for privacy of the boys. There should be NO exceptions. I wouldn't want my daughter in the restroom or any other room where private parts might be exposed and have someone with male anatomy in with her.
- 293** 5/14/2014 12:11 I do not want a biological male in the restroom or locker room with my daughter.
- 294** 5/14/2014 12:10 Why would I let a male look at my daughter in the locker room or in the bathroom? Any male can say they are transexual to look at girls naked. Are your folks that dim??
- 295** 5/14/2014 12:09
- 296** 5/14/2014 12:09 Let Your Freak Flag Fly!! Everyone should be given the opportunity to be true to themselves. As long as everyone can be accommodated, all trans gendered students should be allowed to live their lives as they choose with regard to their appearance. Bathroom and locker room accommodations can be worked out! They are worked out for students with disabilities. Atherton--please don't cave. We love you for who YOU are!

- 297** 5/14/2014 12:00 My husband and I support adding protection of non-discrimination based on gender identity to the school's non-discrimination policy. We also think that allowing the student to use one of the girl's restroom but not both is a good compromise. This provides a restroom for the transgendered student and also provides a restroom for female students who are not yet comfortable sharing a restroom with this student.
- 298** 5/14/2014 12:00 In order to protect the rights of everyone a solution would be to have a transgender restroom. Students who feel the need to use this accommodation would need to go through the proper channels to gain access (ie.be given a key). If I had a daughter at Atherton and a person with male anatomy was allowed to use the women's restroom I would be very upset. You have to protect the rights of all students not just transgenders.
- 299** 5/14/2014 11:59 Boys should not be allowed in a girls bathroom or locker room
- 300** 5/14/2014 11:49 I absolutely do not believe in discrimination. However, everyone is forgetting the facts. He/She is 15 years old. He/She is a freshman in high school. He/She is male. Not yet is he/she a female. He/she has male genitalia. Once he/she has the surgery then lets talk. To me it is a moot point. He/she should not use the female bathroom. He/she should not use the female locker room. Wait! How come this is not being mentioned? Yes! He/she is being allowed to use the female locker room! I have a daughter who is currently in the 7th Grade. Do I want her using the bathroom or changing in the locker room with a boy? No, I do not! I believe that most school administrators would feel the same way. I believe Dr. Aberli would feel the same way if he had a daughter. Dr. Aberli is not protecting the school...he is protecting ONE student. In the light of being politically correct, we are forgetting common sense. Furthermore, if Dr.Aberli could have gotten away with it, there would be no meeting. He would have implemented this policy without consulting anyone! What kind of leader is that? A very poor one! I know a solution can and will be reached...one that will be fair and just for all. It needs to be taken out of Dr. Aberli's hands and placed in the school board's or another entity that is competent to handle this situation.
- 301** 5/14/2014 11:42 This student's rights are already protected - male or female. You are creating special rights for one. That is not equality.
- 302** 5/14/2014 11:35 I believe wholeheartedly that this boy should NOT be discriminated against or treated badly, HOWEVER his needs should not be put above all the girls in that school who will be made to feel uncomfortable with someone of the opposite sex in the bathroom/locker room with them!! It's unfair to them when a simple solution would be to give him his own facilities.
- 303** 5/14/2014 11:21 I appreciate the efforts to accomodate the student in question, but you are beginning to tread on the rights of other students - accomodation should not include creating stress for others in the process.
- 304** 5/14/2014 11:11 As a graduate of Atherton I am proud that the current principal supports all our students' needs. Gender identity should be included in every nondiscrimination policy. Thanks goes to the principle for taking a stand.

- 305** 5/14/2014 11:09 Rules should be based on proper privacy for all students - biologically male students should use the boys restroom and locker rooms, likewise female students should use their respective facilities.
- 306** 5/14/2014 11:07 Thank you for the opportunity to voice opinions on this issue. It is much appreciated. I first would like to point out that I find the information in the survey helpful and thorough, but am concerned about the length and wording of that information. I worry that it is not clear or easily accessible to all people who may want to chime in - not because we are not capable of understanding what it says, but because it is written in the language of policy and not of people. It would be helpful to see a simplified version that says the same thing, but in fewer words, and can be easily understood. (Similar to the effect of most privacy policies and terms and conditions clauses, the careful and lengthy wording can cause confusion to the point that many people stop reading, therefore cannot be truly informed or included in the decisions based on that information.) I believe that the survey - and the policy, for that matter - would be much more accessible and effective if it were presented in less formal language and condensed to one page (at most). That said, I do have some thoughts about the issue. It is confusing to me what question is being asked here, after reading that information, but I think I understand some key components of the issue. Here is my interpretation of what is currently in place: There are policies in place to protect all students from violence and harassment at school, regardless of the separate categories of gender and gender identity (among others), While school officials and personnel believe all students should be protected, there is disagreement on whether the policies should include specific groups such as transgender students in the wording. Some believe there is no reason, since all students are technically protected. Others believe the protection should officially extend to transgender students if they are to be truly protected from discrimination and harassment. Some are not sure what that protection might entail, and do not want to make a claim (to protect those students) that cannot be backed up. Am I on the right track? If not, I apologize, but can assure you I am trying to sort through and understand the information being presented. If I am on the right track, then I believe there SHOULD be an additional protection against discrimination for students identifying as transgender. Here is the main reason: If there is any question about ability to implement such a change in policy, then clearly it is not the same thing as what is currently in place (or there would be no question). Also, in terms of the bathroom issue, I believe a student should have the right to use the bathroom without harassment or discrimination. I believe this should include access to all bathrooms for the transgender student in question. (I also understand it is complicated, as some students are not comfortable with this because of their own upbringing and values. Is there a single or smaller bathroom in the building that could be offered as an option to *those students* - who have voiced discomfort with
- 307** 5/14/2014 11:01 Allow transgender students the same rights as other students of the gender in which he or she identifies.
- 308** 5/14/2014 10:56 My first response is no they should use the restroom that is equipped for their gender or are you proposing adding urinals in the ladies restroom? If he/she wants a unisex restroom create one or let them use the teachers lounge...
- 309** 5/14/2014 10:47 I think the school should add a unisex bathroom for students with gender identity issues. The main female and male student bathrooms should be based on physical anatomy.

- 310** 5/14/2014 10:40 I am a parent of an incoming freshmen next school year and applaud Atherton on their efforts. My children and I all feel equal rights are exactly what the term implies, not selective. I asked my daughter, currently in seventh grade her feelings on the subject and she didn't even need time to think, she was absolutely for all transgender student access to (for lack of a better term) identifiable facilities. Thank you Atherton for standing up against hate for the betterment of out students and community. Jimmy Flaherty
- 311** 5/14/2014 10:40 I am supportive of adding the statement to protect the rights of transgendered students. However I also think it is important to have some education and conversation with students to increase understanding about it so other girls using the same restroom, who don't understand aren't made to feel uncomfortable or unsafe. The goal is to have ALL students feel safe and that's going to require some work on the part of the school. It's a difficult issue when you think about girls at this age who often feel uncomfortable with their bodies anyway - if their level of understanding is that "they're letting a boy use the girls restroom" it would leave them feeling vulnerable. So along with protecting the transgendered student's rights there must also be some education and open conversation with the students.
- 312** 5/14/2014 10:28 I'm torn. But ultimately I think bathrooms should stay the way they are. I feel that this will open up some issues that won't be contained. I don't know what the solution would be. This is a tough issue but I feel that if you're born boy/girl you should use the appropriate bathroom. Shouldn't the other children have the right to not have a boy using the girls bathroom? Even if the boy feels he is a girl.
- 313** 5/14/2014 10:13 I think that transgenders should be allowed to use whatever bathroom they identify with. If that causes an uproar, then designate an adult restroom for their use. Change is hard for some people. Just because they are unsure of, or argue decisions, doesn't mean they are anti-anything. It might just take time because they don't understand it. Give them time & schools should continue to educate & advocate.
- 314** 5/14/2014 8:34
- 315** 5/14/2014 6:31 I think that they should use the restroom of the gender that they were born. Other people might feel uncomfortable if a boy is in a girls restroom and vice versa.
- 316** 5/14/2014 4:53 What about lesbians, who are attracted to girls? Will they have to use the boys bathroom?
- 317** 5/14/2014 4:26 I am pleased Dr. Aberli stood up for a good law that requires acceptance of diversity, something that is hard enough to find in the world, and certainly hard to find in high school. I would prefer this student has full access to all facilities, not segregated ones, reminiscent of the white vs. colored facilities of the 50's, but if that's what needs to happen while some students/parents catch up to the 2014's, then so be it. I hope this student continues to be protected by her administration, faculty and legal counsel, as well as friends and the Atherton Community as a whole. If everyone cannot accept her right now, that's ok, but as a parent, I would like to see/hear conversations about acceptance of diversity promoted in school. I fully support Dr. Aberli, Atherton students and this young woman in helping her find her niche at Atherton, and that it becomes as comfortable as home for her.

- 318** 5/14/2014 4:19 All children should be allowed to be who they are. Transgender children, in truth, so not choose to be that way. They are taught to be themselves and be who they feel they are. To tell them no, they have to be this or that, is wrong. They are already fragile enough, they need to be supported.
- 319** 5/14/2014 3:39 bad idea, what if someone pretend to be transgender just to get in to the girls restroom.
- 320** 5/14/2014 3:39 I think there should be a bathroom for transgender students to keep everyone comfortable.
- 321** 5/14/2014 3:36 There should be more important things going on in JCPS schools such as preparing our children for college rather than wasting time and energy on nonsense such as this.
- 322** 5/14/2014 3:31 If you have male parts go to the men's room. Where are the rights of my daughter?
- 323** 5/14/2014 3:25 In see this issue as separate from protecting students from sexual harassment or violence. Students of the same sex or biological gender can commit acts of sexual harassment or violence against students of the same sex regardless if they are transgender or not. I would support a policy of not restricting facilities for transgender students if prior approval is obtained. The process for obtaining approval should be very clear to all students, parents, teachers, and administrators.
- 324** 5/14/2014 3:23 A biological male or female should not be allowed to use the locker rooms or rest rooms of the opposite sex out of respect for both he/she and members of the opposite sex. Those who identify as transgender should be free of harassment. Creating a restroom specifically for transgender students protects and respects the rights and sensitivities of both transgender students and students who are biologically male and female. Transgender is a psychological disposition and there is dispute in the medical community as to diagnosis. In situations where nudity or partial nudity exposing female breasts and/or the male and female genitalia may happen, separation of the sexes based upon male and female anatomy should be enforced. This is the most fair option for all students and staff in regard to usage of the Atherton school property.
- 325** 5/14/2014 3:17 As a parent with a student at your school, I completely support what you're doing. Knowing that you are open-minded and accepting is very encouraging. I hope that if my child ever identifies as transgender, you'll act the same way for them. People complain that this is a violation of students' privacy. How? There are stalls in the restroom. There are stalls and curtains in the locker rooms. There is no opportunity for 'exposure' in modern high schools. People also claim that transgender students may be using their identity to be able to harass or otherwise be intimate with people of the same sex in restrooms. We don't have separate restrooms for homosexuals, heterosexuals, bisexuals, etc., so I don't see how it would be possible to use that as a valid argument. Besides, the article posted by USA Today and the Courier Journal states that the individual is bisexual. This means they are no more likely in the girls' restroom to attempt intimacy than they were in the boys'.
- 326** 5/14/2014 3:12 Surprised it took this long to even be mentioned. Times have changed, so have many people. I don't see anything wrong with it.
- 327** 5/14/2014 3:10

- 328** 5/14/2014 3:03 I'm a sociologist minus an algebra course. I have studied this and interviewed individuals that consider themselves to be members of the SBDM community. Violence... This is not acceptable dealing with any group. However back to a discussion I had with a transsexual male to female on informing a potential partner of their transformation. She insisted that it wasn't anybody's business. Her argument is based on a person's right to privacy and disregards the other potential victims all together. Why do I say victims? Respecting one group's rights is ok but what if it infringes on everyone else's? The majority simply has to accept being uncomfortable. Civil rights are always brought up at this point and a parody is made about blacks still not being able to counter if we were focused on the majority. How is this any different? The difference is this is sexual identity. There is no color or religious difference here. The difference is heterosexual or other. There are many people that are not born this way.
- 329** 5/14/2014 3:02 My daughter is a junior and does not care if the freshman uses the girls' restroom. I agree. She most likely will not bully, harass, or harm another student, but I am not sure she would have that safety in the boys' restroom. I don't know what religion has to do with restrooms, but I guess letting her use one and girls who are offended can use the other one is acceptable. When in doubt, err on the side of kindness.
- 330** 5/14/2014 2:55 There are too many homophobic, transgender phobic in this community. DO NOT have a knee jerk reaction to people who chose to stay ignorant about the dignity and respect of this transgender child. As long as the child respects the other students in the bathroom, there is no harm. I love the diverse population at Atherton. It is your identity. Lead the way for this community.
- 331** 5/14/2014 2:48 I believe that a boy should use the boy's bathroom and lockerroom. Until the surgery has taken place nothing should change. Just because he feels like a girl doesn't make him a girl. The body part is still the same. Please understand that your wanting to accommodate one boy's feelings but in a whole your hurting the girls that will be effected by this on a daily basis.
- 332** 5/14/2014 2:36 This child appears to be struggling to identify who they are, however in your effort to accommodate 1 student you may be distributing other students. While trying assure this student feels comfortable you maybe infringing on other students and making them feel uncomfortable. The fact is this student is physically a boy and should not be using the restroom with students who are physically girls. A person can change the way they dress but physically the bodies are different and function differently. I understand wanting to help this child work out the mental feelings they have but it should not include sharing the restroom with people who are physically of the opposite sex.
- 333** 5/14/2014 2:36 This is insane and should not even be considered because of the other people that have to use the bathroom. How will this be monitored??? To keep straight boys out of the bathrooms

- 334** 5/14/2014 2:23 I think there are way too many other issues to be concerned about in high school in general. Atherton has always been known for it's being tolerant and safe for all, so if a parent is not happy with that culture, they should move schools. I may be way off base, but if a student has "plans" for something to happen (I.e. See girls in various states of undress), it's going to happen regardless of where they tinkle.
- 335** 5/14/2014 2:20 I believe all students should be afforded the equal rights with which they are born under in this nation. As a mother of a heterosexual son, daughter of a life long equal rights activist, and sister of the Director of the Academy for Leadership and Action of the Natinal Gay and Lesbian Task Force I have been privileged to grow up around so many open minded and discriminatorily blind folks. I believe that as people we are born exactly as we are, we do not choose sexual orientation or gender identity just as we do not choose skin color. I believe that forcing a transgendered student to use restroom facilities that are opposite of their true gender identity can easily be construed as a type if hate crime or torture. Please allow these student the same rights as all others.
- 336** 5/14/2014 2:15 I do not support the non-discrimination statement/policy. I am appalled that individuals born as male are allowed to use same restroom as my daughter
- 337** 5/14/2014 2:15 males use the males restroom females use the femalesgod decided this not i or you
- 338** 5/14/2014 2:14 Persons born female should use the female restroom and locker room, and those born male should use the male locker rooms and restrooms. I honestly can't believe this is even open for debate! A child with a penis should NOT be in a restroom or locker room with a child who has a vagina! Why would the "rights" of a child who thinks he or she is the opposite gender be more important than the rights of a child who does not have these confused thoughts and ideas? The middle and high school years are often very difficult and uncertain psychologically and emotionally. I've known numerous kids who "thought" they were gay during those years, but realized later that they were simply confused and vulnerable to suggestions from the current culture of our society. Please do not let the rare case of gender confusion be reason to punish the kids who are not confused. It would NOT be fair for a female child to be forced to share a bathroom or locker room with a boy or vice versa.
- 339** 5/14/2014 2:14
- 340** 5/14/2014 2:00 All of this fuss trying to dictate where someone poops? Aren't there more pressing issues? This one should be a no-brainer. If a person has a penis but feels in HER heart that SHE is a FEMALE, please don't add to HER issues by denying her bathroom privileges. I am a female and I would be mortified if I were made to use the men's restroom.
- 341** 5/14/2014 1:59 JCPS is a joke!
- 342** 5/14/2014 1:55 ABSOLUTELY NOT!! My daughter shouldn't have to be uncomfortable because a kid wants to be the opposite sex. Boys should use the boys room and girls should use the girls room. It's as simple as that. This is not how the real world works.

- 343** 5/14/2014 1:53 I disagree with the policy that would allow transgender students to use the bathroom that is not the one of their biological sex. This policy would completely disregard the privacy of all other students at Atherton High School. Transgender students at Atherton can be accommodated the same way they are at high schools like Manual, Brown and others. Manual specifically provides a unisex bathroom in their building to accommodate any student that wishes to visit a restroom that is not of their biological sex. Aberli has said that this student should be treated fairly and justly. But what about every other student at Atherton High School. They should also have an expectation of fair treatment and privacy as well. If this policy is implemented, the expectation of privacy that all other students should have would be completely disregarded. Lastly, until an email was sent to parents on May 11, there was no communication to parents, students, SBDM council members and others, even though the policy was implemented throughout the school on Wednesday, April 30.
- 344** 5/14/2014 1:52 Transgender should use the restroom of their born gender. Or, if you want to create a transgender bathroom, I'm alright with that.
- 345** 5/14/2014 1:50 I fully support Dr. Aberli's position on this and applaud his decision in this matter. I do not agree with the proposition that other students are endangered, put at risk, or even inconvenienced by his decision in this matter. I also object to the efforts of some stents to learn the identity of the student in question, as this could only be for the purpose of intimidation.
- 346** 5/14/2014 1:49 I would be very angry if my daughter went to this school and they allowed a boy to use the same restroom/locker room as her. I do not care what gender he wants to be, the fact is he is a male and it should not be allowed
- 347** 5/14/2014 1:49 "Gender identity" is a manufactured term by the politically correct crowd. PC is getting out of hand. Someone may identify oneself as a dog, but it doesn't make it so. Same thing with "gender identity". Ones plumbing determines ones sex ("gender" is a literary term which applies to language not to describe ones physical being). People with a penis are male. People with a vagina are female. Each should use facilities designed for their physiology, not the facilities with which they want to "identify". Get real, please.

- 348** 5/14/2014 1:45 Atherton Staff and SBDM Council Members, I DO NOT agree with the statement or actions proposed regarding equal access of opposite sex facilities (locker room or restrooms) for transgendered individuals on the basis of their preferred gender identity. The survey excerpts are highly misleading. Reading the ENTIRETY of each document provides a very different conclusion. Title IX is part of the Civil Rights Act of 1974 which protects against sexual violence. It says NOTHING about equal access to facilities. There are NO current laws in Kentucky requiring equal access to opposite sex public restrooms or changing rooms. Nor has failure to offer such access been considered sexual discrimination under the law. To be clear, the state of Kentucky currently considers it a crime for a biological male to enter a female restroom. Allowing a pre-operative biological male to enter a gendered female facility actually violates the rights of your female students. Under Title IX, they have the right to a facility free from the harassment, voyeurism, and sexual assault which can result from allowing men to enter such a facility. Sexual orientation doesn't even come into play here! No biological male, regardless of his sexual affinity, is permitted under the law to enter a women's restroom or locker room. It does not matter that he is
- 349** 5/14/2014 1:42 This child dresses like a girl, but dates girls. He has male genitalia and should keep it in the boys restroom/locker room. His preference of gender should be respected but so should the hundreds of actual girls who attend Atherton. Until his body is changed to female, he should not be in a restroom or locker room with girls.
- 350** 5/14/2014 1:39
- 351** 5/14/2014 1:35 I believe you are doing the right thing. Equality for all will include safety guidelines for all involved as well. I believe in God and God is love, patience and tolerance. Pray for us all.
- 352** 5/14/2014 1:31 My daughter goes to Atgerton and said that she would feel very uncomfortable using the restrooms with a male present regardless if he identifies himself as a female. She has rights just the same as he does.
- 353** 5/14/2014 1:28 I'm a parent of a 2013 Atherton graduate daughter. And, 14/15 school year, I will have a 9th grade son attending. As a parent, I would expect not only Atherton, but any other school across the nation that every child is unique and should be treated as such. Just because a 'girl' is physically a boy, does not mean that they can only go into the boys bathroom. If the school stops there, then where should the gays go to the restroom? A guy who is gay going into a the boys restroom would be outraged by many parents. I feel badly for this young lady and her parents. The individuals who are complaining about a small issue as this should be ashamed. This young lady may be a boy by physically speaking; however, if her heart and soul is female, than that is what she is. There should be no other questions or red flags. Being gay does not make things any different for this girl. If other gays can use their own gender bathroom then so should she.
- 354** 5/14/2014 1:28 I believe that a student's gender identity should be respected and that regardless of his or her sexual orientation he or she should be allowed to use the restroom that he or she is most comfortable using. Of course any inappropriate behavior should be forbidden, but a presumption of inappropriate behavior based on mere identity or orientation is wrong.

- 355** 5/14/2014 1:13 Gender identity should be seen as just as an important topic as homosexuality. If one identifies as a certain gender, then they should be accepted as said gender. Period. If there are problems that arise they should be dealt with as they come. If a student acts inappropriately towards other students, regardless of gender, in a bathroom setting (which is the only possible problem I can anticipate occurring), then it should be dealt with in the same manner as if a heterosexual male harassed another heterosexual male, for example. Please make the right decision and do not be on the wrong side of history. Thank you.
- 356** 5/14/2014 1:05 Ask your child when they decided to be straight. Then ask yourself when you made the decision to not be transsexual or transgender. Then support this child and do the right thing. Help the school make history. - Rich Hardison 1984 grad of JCPS system (also gay/legal married and father to beautiful daughter.)
- 357** 5/14/2014 1:04 I commend Atherton for pursuing this issue and for asking for public feedback. I fully support adding gender identity to Atherton's non discrimination policy.
- 358** 5/14/2014 1:00 I agree with Dr. Aberlis decision
- 359** 5/14/2014 0:59 Transgender individuals have a right to be included directly into the terminology of the anti-discrimination policy of the school district. The policy should include gender discrimination as something that is not tolerated so that it protects directly the rights of those students who identify as transgender. Allowing students to use the restroom for the gender they identify with is the right action rather than forcing students to use restrooms and identify with the sex into which they are born. Gender discrimination is wrong and should not be tolerated in the public school system. If we as adults stand up for the rights of students everywhere to express their individuality and their true selves then the students will begin to follow the lead of the adults and things may get better.
- 360** 5/14/2014 0:48 Why are our daughters' rights to safety and comfort secondary to what's inside this BOY's head? I am as progressive as they come, and that's precisely why I am having trouble understanding why all the girls in this school don't amount to one male student in the eyes of the Principal. I read the previous pages on what gender identity is, according to genderists, and it's an IDEOLOGY. I don't believe gender IS individual, it's the role society rightly or wrongly (the latter IMO) expects of us based on our sex. Sex, that immutable biological fact, on which basis women and girls have had protection for over half a century in places where there is undress or a presumed state of vulnerability- bathrooms, locker rooms, etc. Is this legacy of basic women's rights being undone now at Atherton? What recourse do we parents of girls have??? And what precedent is being set? For: even if his young man is as confused as he seems to be, what about the next dozen who just want to intrude on girls and harass them? If this scenario is considered far-fetched, the SBDM needs to take a good look at the world our girls are growing up in.

- 361** 5/14/2014 0:47 Behavior management is the responsibility of the school. Regardless of where the students gender identity lies, be it transgender or anything else, if the student behaves in a respectful way, then the use of a restroom or anything else shouldn't matter. People need to get over their indignation and trust that this student is who she says she is. The school administration should manage the rest.
- 362** 5/14/2014 0:38 I hope Atherton will do anything necessary to insure the rights of transgendered students are protected. I also expect these children, as well as all others, to be protected by school staff, from any form of bullying. My granddaughter has recently informed me she is aware of bullying, in the form of verbal abuse, of transgendered and gay students, for the first time since enrolling 3 years ago.. I trust Atherton to do the right thing and continue to be an example, to all other schools in the district, of respect, inclusion and civility.
- 363** 5/14/2014 0:37 This is wrong. What about the rights of the girls to know there is only girls in the restroom. If you are trying to be respectful of everyone, then where is the Respect and Privacy for the girls. This isn't about one person, this is about Females knowing there is only Females in the restroom with them
- 364** 5/14/2014 0:32 110% in support of Mr Aberli. ALL students need to feel safe, accepted and accommodated for. This equality needs to be district wide. Mr Aberli & Atherton HS has stood up for the God given right of every child that passes thru their doors, and hopefully started the wave of fairness and equality every student is entitled to at EVERY school!
- 365** 5/14/2014 0:30 I believe this is the perfect opportunity to educate the entire high school system in Jefferson County about gender identity. We have many amazing, well-spoken, and knowledgeable members of our community who, I imagine, would love the opportunity to educate an entire population of teens on this issue. In regards to this specific situation, all students who identify as female should be allowed to use the girls' restroom. I would also suggest gender neutral bathroom facilities so that anyone can feel free to use the bathroom without needing to identify as any particular gender.
- 366** 5/14/2014 0:11 We live in Atherton's resides area. I have two sons who attend middle school and elementary schools on JCPS. I fully support equal treatment of transgender students in JCPS schools, including unrestricted access to all restroom facilities. We must treat all people with the same care and love we would wish our children to receive. Thank you for caring about our children enough to all all of the to thrive in their own true selves. Thank you.

- 367** 5/14/2014 0:00 After reviewing the background materials you provided and doing some research on my own, I do not agree with the decision to allow a male - even a transgender male who considers their-self a female born in a male body - open access to the girl's restrooms and locker rooms. I also do not agree with the addition of the following non-discrimination statement to our policy on the use of school space that includes gender identity: Atherton High School shall not discriminate in the use of school space on the basis of age, color, religion, disability, marital status, national origin, race, sex, sexual orientation nor gender identity. The NSBA Council of School Attorneys.pdf and Title IX April 29 2014.pdf documents provided as reference material justifying these changes do NOT expressly state that schools MUST allow transgender students access to the restrooms and locker rooms of the gender with which they identify. The NSBA article was written by Grant Bowers and Wendy Lopez, Toronto District School Board, Toronto, Ontario. It is not a U.S. school district authored document. There is no mention of Kentucky law and indeed this article shows that Kentucky is NOT one of the States providing specific legal protection for transgender people on pages 3 and 4. While I can see where this document provides situations and ideas to consider, and examples of what has occurred in other school districts, I do not see where this document justifies the sudden leap into allowing a physically male student free and open access to the girl's restrooms and locker rooms. On page 6, the article does point out a U.S. example in Maine where "...the claim that the Orono School District had an affirmative obligation to accommodate the student's transgender status by allowing her to continue using the girls' bathroom facilities was dismissed. Therefore, the courts do not appear willing to go as far as the transgender advocacy recommendations and seem to be somewhere in the middle of the bathroom debate." On page 8, it states, "The issue of the transgender athlete is evolving." and states the recommendations from National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR) guide on the transgender athlete published in 2010. Again, these are recommendations and are not quoting law. Where are the Federal and/or Kentucky laws or court rulings stating that transgender students must be provided access to the restrooms and locker rooms of gender with which they identify? Regarding the recent the Department of Education clarification that transgender students are protected under Title IX, the document does not mention restrooms nor locker rooms. The document is about protecting students from bullying, sexual harassment, and sexual violence. It is about not discriminating in allowing access to education programs and school activities. It does not specify nor cover restroom and locker room policies. Furthermore, it does not state that Atherton's non-discrimination policy statement must include the words "sexual
- 368** 5/13/2014 23:54 Totally against granting transgender accommodation to bathroom and locker room facilities.
- 369** 5/13/2014 23:53 I strongly support the addition of transgender students in the language of Atherton's non-discrimination statement. Gender identity should be included along with age, color, religion, disability, marital status, national origin, race, sex, and sexual orientation in all school related matters- including use of school space.
- 370** 5/13/2014 23:32 I do not support anything Transgender or homosexual. Nor will we have anything to do with a school that supports or tolerates such behavior.

- 371** 5/13/2014 23:08 I understand this is a difficult subject. But if a lesbian girl is not forced to use the male bathroom BC she is sexually attracted to other females and vice versa this is the same seniero. I know being a high school it's hard to have a uni-sex bathroom but it could be a possibility if it was a one stall or one person bathroom. Or have an attendant in the bathroom. There are stalls. I don't and other parents shouldn't feel concerned basiced off that. Straight boys have to use urinals next to gay boys and this issue is not arising. We should find a way to be just as understanding and accepting to the transgender community
- 372** 5/13/2014 22:56 We chose Atherton High School for our daughter because of it's acceptance of diversity. The staff, administration and student body come together to form a welcoming environment without prejudice. We have raised our daughter to be open minded and examine all points of view before making a rash judgement about someone. Many of her friends seem to share that same open minded belief. This girl deserves the same rights as any us do. If the poor girl needs to use the restroom then by God she should be able to use any girls room in the school. She doesn't have a contagious disease that can be spread by being near her or using the same restroom. She deserves understanding and compassion to become the best person she can possibly be. Making her feel like an outcast is something from the dark ages and needs to stay there. Make the information available and maybe our kids can turn our nation into a more accepting one that encourages people to be open and not ashamed.
- 373** 5/13/2014 22:54 I support adding "gender identity" to the non-discrimination policy. I have both a male and female child at Atherton and I am proud to say they both also support this decision. No one should be discriminated against. We should all "be equal in each others eyes". I support Dr. Aberli and Atherton 100% and I applaud their handling of this situation. This will hopefully educate more people on this topic.
- 374** 5/13/2014 22:47 She should be able to use the females restroom.
- 375** 5/13/2014 22:16 All students should receive equal rights and protection. Teachers need to be competent to deal with these issues.
- 376** 5/13/2014 22:14 I support the inclusion and protection of all people, regardless of gender, sexual orientation, race, etc.
- 377** 5/13/2014 22:11 Discrimination should not be allowed. Let people be who they are. Be a role model of inclusivity and doing what is right, not reacting to fear and ignorance.
- 378** 5/13/2014 21:31 An individual with a penis is a male. Period. It's abhorrent and inappropriate that a male would be allowed to use a women's restroom.
- 379** 5/13/2014 21:08 What ever sex you're born as, is what restroom you should use.
- 380** 5/13/2014 21:07 I have talked with my student. Neither my student nor I are comfortable with a male using a female bathroom OR a female using a male bathroom. We do not feel it is our position to judge this student, but we deserve the same respect and considerations when decisions are being made. From here the issue goes to sports locker rooms and continues to grow. Many things to consider.
- 381** 5/13/2014 21:01 Transgendered students should be allowed to use the rest rooms that correspond with their gender identity.

- 382** 5/13/2014 20:59
- 383** 5/13/2014 20:57 equality and protection should be made for all students equally. There is no room for bullying, singling out these kids, denying them access to all areas of schools.
- 384** 5/13/2014 20:54
- 385** 5/13/2014 20:48 Transgender students should be allowed to use the bathroom related to the gender that the student identifies himself or herself with.
- 386** 5/13/2014 20:47 Student should not be allowed in girls restroom. Have a bathroom for transgenders if you feel they can't use the bathroom of the sex they were born.
- 387** 5/13/2014 20:34 Students should use the restrooms that they identify with. If a student identifies and dresses as a boy, that student should use the boys facilities
- 388** 5/13/2014 20:32 I think this is absolutely crazy. If this student is truly "transgender" then have your penis removed and become the women you were "born" to be. Then and only then should this student be allowed in a girls restroom. We are so worried about how this one student might feel, what about the entire student body? What about how my child feels? This student is worried about be bullied or discrimated against. Well child you've just opened up a door that now can never be closed. You've got your attention now accept what people think about you. I've raised my family in a Christian home and I've taught them to love everyone. That doesn't mean they have to agree or accept the policy that is in place. This is just so wrong!!!! Principal Aberli I'm not sure if your just trying to make a name for yourself but I think this will come back to bite you in the butt and possibly ruin your career.
- 389** 5/13/2014 20:16 Everyone has the right to use the bathroom! Bathrooms still have individual stalls for privacy. When people line up for the "port-a-potty" at a public event, no one cares about gender specificity because, as functioning humans, everyone needs "to go." If the student identifies as female, then surely there should not be a "threat" presumed by any other females that may be in the bathroom at the same time. The student who identifies as female would not feel safe being sent into a male-deisgnated bathroom. My greater concern is that this student will be harrassed in ANY high school bathroom. Perhaps the use of a faculty bathroom, to avoid potential bullying by any peers, may be in order. All students have the right to a good education in a safe environment. This includes the bathroom!
- 390** 5/13/2014 20:09 I urge Atherton to pass non discrimination policies such as allowing tans students to use the bathroom of the gender they identify with and/or providing gender neutral facilities.
- 391** 5/13/2014 19:58 Please use this as a teaching moment. Identity is not about genitalia, it is about identity. She is a girl, allow her all of the same rights as any other girl in your school. And to those who say, "but she is attracted to girls", are there restroom restrictions on lesbians? Kudos to Mr. Aberli for his insight and foresight!
- 392** 5/13/2014 19:55

- 393** 5/13/2014 19:54 As a parent of a past Atherton graduate & a soon to be Atherton freshman, I am appalled at the decision to allow a boy, transgender or not to use the girl's bathrooms & locker room. This student may identify himself as a girl; however, having a penis makes him a boy. As far as I am aware the girls go to girl's restrooms & boys go to boy's restrooms. If Atherton would like to accommodate this student or others with gender identity crisis, providing a unisex bathroom would be the best way in order to protect the rights of all. As a parent, I also am very disappointed with the lack of information. The decision was made & there was nothing sent out notifying parents of this radical decision. It was almost as if it was being hidden from the rest of the school. This indeed is not the way to lead a school. This is not a decision that should have been made by one individual, principal or not.
- 394** 5/13/2014 19:48 I believe in equal rights for all people. Either you need to make additional bathrooms or she needs to be allowed to use both restrooms. This is beginning to be the same thing African Americans went through as well. Why are we teaching our children to repeat our mistakes as a nation? I understand some people do not feel the same and they have that right; but they have to decide if they would like their rights taken away as well? This is sad that these topics have to be voted on and not just passed. Once you start treating one different then others will be treated different as well and it will be a firestorm that no one will be prepared for.
- 395** 5/13/2014 19:46

- 396** 5/13/2014 19:43 I am a 32 year old happy and healthy transgender man. I am a parent of two young children in Atherton's catchment area so I wanted to respond to your survey as both a transgender person and as a parent of future Atherton students. I suppose that with the publicity, you might be subjected to ignorant vitriol for your stance, so I am writing in the hope that I can counter some of that. First to say, I am in complete support of the young woman attending your school. Coming out as different in any way is difficult in high school and it shows bravery and strength of character to live authentically at such a young age. It is both appropriate and commendable that as educators, you have chosen to use this issue as a learning opportunity for students, parents, and staff. Second, I am of the opinion, as I'm sure you are, that all students deserve a safe learning environment in which to thrive. Transgender people (and lesbian, gay, and bisexual people) pose absolutely no unique threat to other students - on the contrary, studies show that we are subjected to harassment and violence at alarming rates. As such, the real "threat" here is that the student herself will feel isolated, stigmatised, or worse by being characterized as a predator in the local newspaper. Have you considered what it would be like to have your identity questioned (or disregarded) or your right to use a restroom debated in public? My sincere hope is that all available resources will be used to support her during this time, and I trust that ALL school employees, led by the top, will rally around her. I urge you to stay calm and steady in the face of scaremongering. I would like to recommend Louisville Youth Group (a support group for young LGBT people) and the Fairness Campaign as resources. Perhaps they can help you and the student navigate the rough waters. My hope is that in a few years' time, my daughters will attend a diverse, welcoming, and genuinely inclusive Atherton. Best of luck until then.
- 397** 5/13/2014 19:43 Students should be allowed to use the restroom that corresponds with their gender identity - without question or hassle.
- 398** 5/13/2014 19:36 Sometimes you just can't help what gender you were born with and unfortunately society has to be so harsh when you try to uncover your true self. I do believe it would be hard to establish who is truly transgendered and who is falsely betraying. That's scary.
- 399** 5/13/2014 19:06 The addition of a non-discrimination statement to the Atherton School policy is completely appropriate and will keep us in alignment with federal law. Violence and discrimination, whatever the cause, has no place in a school. In regards to the complaints that has brought this item to SBDM, if a person is uncomfortable with a transgender person in the bathroom, they can go to another bathroom or wait two minutes for the person to finish. No one's rights will be violated.

- 400** 5/13/2014 18:48 I fully support any steps taken to protect the rights of all students... Which I feel will in turn will take the necessary steps in producing an atmosphere that promotes a safer, better learning environment for all involved! I also am from the mind-set that discrimination is taught... That needs to be changed and anything that starts that process, is above and beyond acceptable. I have never understood when different became a derogatory adjective.. I have always known different to simply mean unique: and unique has always been a good thing! I also believe that choice is not involved in any gender identity or sexual preference issues and therefore, these "right"-if not instated- to me- could fall under medical discrimination. I know it's not that uncomplicated- but what's not complicated is that every single person needs to feel accepted for who they are, wherever they are-especially school. Bridgett Buckley, Parent of Atherton Student I picked up my child last year and saw a couple of gentlemen walking out hand-in-hand. I actually teared up because that was allowed in the environment my child is shaped by. That wasn't always the case when and where I grew up. Thank you for that Atherton.
- 401** 5/13/2014 18:30 I feel the school should approach this very carefully and on an individual basis. If a trans person identifies as a girl (born a male, vice versa sp) and has proof of professional counseling for more than 6 months, than that trans person may use the "staff" restroom of their identity. Not to discriminate, but more to protect the other students in the school. I don't think teenagers have the mental maturity to completely deal with a transgender person on a casual basis. Meaning, unless they are family or close friends, there will be a comfort level of walking into a restroom/locker room and finding a person of the opposite sex there. Whether that person is trans or not. Any person can claim to be "trans", just to gain access to unauthorized areas. I strongly suggest proof of professional counseling prior to any decision for any student.
- 402** 5/13/2014 18:17 She should be allowed to allow to use the girls restroom. I love that Atherton is open to all. It is what makes our school the best!
- 403** 5/13/2014 18:10 Both genders share home bathrooms. Many public bathrooms here, and especially in Europe and throughout the world share gender-neutral bathrooms. As long as there are stalls with doors and no one is being harassed or using these basic rights inappropriately. then I think transgender students should have access to the public bathroom of the gender with which they identify. If there are specific behavioral problems, that should be addressed as a behavioral issue, not as a transgender issue.
- 404** 5/13/2014 18:02 I would give these individuals as much respect as possible. I can't imagine the difficulty they go through just trying to fit in. However, I might request that my own daughter choose to use the single restroom instead of one with multiple stalls, in case she would not feel comfortable in the situation. If she says it doesn't bother her, then I would believe her. She is going to make her own choices about where she uses the restroom when she is in school. She will be facing this for the rest of her life.
- 405** 5/13/2014 17:53 I agree with adding the clause to prevent discrimination based on gender identity. Students should be allowed to use the restroom of the gender with which they identify.

- 406** 5/13/2014 16:41 I fully support Atherton and the SBDM in their efforts to make school a more welcoming place for all students.
- 407** 5/13/2014 2:28 I am concerned about the transgender male student using the female bathrooms/locker rooms. It violates the privacy of every female student at Atherton High School as well as their safety and security. You are placing these girls in situations where there is no supervision with a member of the opposite sex. I am also disturbed that this policy was put in place on April 30, 2014 but no letter or communication was sent to students or parents until the email dated May 11, 2014 but that letter failed to tell parents that this policy was already in place. It only states that this topic will be discussed at the SBDM meeting.
- 408** 5/13/2014 2:22
- 409** 5/13/2014 1:00 I have researched this issue and have found that although SBDM has jurisdiction over the use of space, the US Supreme Court decided in "Hazelwood School District vs. Kulmeier (1988)" that the principal is obligated to preserve a non-disruptive instructional climate in the school. In order to meet the needs of the transgender student, but also meet the principal's OBLIGATION to avoid OFFENDING others and disrupting the school climate, principals have given permission for transgender students to use unisex (single-seat) restrooms found in offices or custodial rooms. This simultaneously meets the needs of the individual student and the student body at large. The email sent from Dr. Aberli citing the article is misleading and incorrect. In his 3rd paragraph Dr. Aberli states, "There have also been multiple recent court rulings across the nation addressing equal access for transgender students (see the NSBA article attached pages 1-12)." The NSBA's article he cites actually acknowledges that as recent as April 2011, EVERY ATTEMPTED LAW AND COURT DECISION HAS FAILED TO REQUIRE public entities (including public schools) to allow transgender students to use any restroom they wish. Thus, there are NO laws or precedent cases requiring schools to abandon the designation of restrooms by biological sex -- as noted in the NSBA article. The only successful alternative, and from what I understand past JCPS practice, is to honor the transgender student (and prevent him/her undue harassment or embarrassment) by providing ACCESS TO SINGLE STALL, UNISEX RESTROOMS.
- 410** 5/12/2014 23:01 Restroom/lockerroom privacy seems to be at risk here. I try to stay open-minded, but at the same time try to hold true to basic rights of the males and females who do not have issues with their gender and are secure in who they are. Maybe a separate restroom/locker room for those with gender identity differences. The needs of EVERY student are very important and no student should be made to feel threatened or alienated.

- 411** 5/12/2014 16:42 A space could be provided for this but not at the expense of the girls that go to Atherton. This current policy was never discussed with the girls only the transgender. The girls found out because the transgender entered the girls restroom. This is appalling to me that a couple of people can out way the safety of so many. There are many girls who have been sexually assaulted and harassed and they shouldn't have to deal with this in the stall next to them. A separate but equal space should be allowed. And only separate but equal not together. This policy is wrong.
- 412** 5/12/2014 16:42 I support the addition of a non-discrimination statement to the Atherton policy on the use of school space that will include gender identity and I applaud Atherton for taking a stance and opening the topic for discussion.
- 413** 5/12/2014 16:18 Perhaps the best solution is redesigning the restrooms with more modest floor the ceiling stalls would protect all children from lateral violence based on gender preferences. Taking out urinals and replacing with completely closed stalls would protect all children from the abuses that happen in the restrooms. Security personnel posted at restrooms would be an improvement for all children.
- 414** 5/12/2014 15:58 I approve this change in the non-discrimination clause.
- 415** 5/12/2014 15:17 My main concern is the sexual safety of the non-gender confused students. What is to stop a male student from putting on a skirt to gain access to the girls locker room? Or a girl from entering the boy locker room? Bathrooms and locker rooms are hard enough on students of this age without the added stress of what gender does the person next to me think they are today. I think this opens the door for sexual predator situations from all sides and limits the amount of oversight by the school. The only way I would feel comfortable with this situation at Atherton is if they had Trans-gender/ gender neutral bathrooms along with traditional men's / women's bathrooms and locker rooms.
- 416** 5/12/2014 13:39
- 417** 5/12/2014 13:24 I support respect of transgender identification. However, I feel there would need to be clear guidelines with a process for permitting students to use a restroom not aligned with their biological gender. It does concern me how the other students will feel when they encounter a transgender student in their restroom. There will have to be lots of communication and education (I guess this survey is an example). I applaud your courage in addressing this issue in a straightforward manner.
- 418** 5/12/2014 13:18 I am in full support of the SBDM policy being expanded to include trans students. I am friends with several trans adults and have been educating myself on many of the issues. I trust that the Atherton team would handle this appropriately, making this a relative non-issue for students. Thank you for the additional information and the opportunity to voice my opinion.
- 419** 5/12/2014 11:57 This policy simply must be approved. Opposition can only be based upon fears generated by misinformation.

- 420** 5/12/2014 11:35 I appreciate the fact that Atherton is allowing students freedom enough to be able to express their sexual identity. With that said, I would hope that with this disclaimer comes responsibility to everyone (teachers, staff, students etc.) at Atherton to respect the policy and not over step boundaries that have been issued. If there were to be a violation on behalf of the transgender student or ridicule from the student to the "transgender" student I would expect necessary actions to be taken.
- 421** 5/12/2014 11:08 My son will be starting 9th grade at Atherton in the Fall. I can not tell you how delighted we were to get an email from the Principal and hear this news. Hatred and discrimination are not what we teach our son at home. I am so pleased that he will learn that these are also not values tolerated at Atherton. This is great news not only for transgendered youth and their families but all the youth and families that attend Atherton. I am so glad that we choose Atherton! Please know that had the email/decision been to discriminate against transgendered children - we could NOT have allowed our child to attend Atherton; this would have been a serious issue for my family both practically and from a perspective of our religious community/beliefs.
- 422** 5/12/2014 10:56 While I understand the need to have a restroom available where transgender students feel safe, it should not be at the expense of non-transgender students. One of my child's friends at Atherton has recently identified as transgender and is a great person; however, what happens if this student is allowed to use the restroom of the non-biological sex and later decides that choice of gender identity isn't exactly right for him or herself? In that case and arguably even before, the rights of the students using the biologically assigned restroom have most surely been violated whether or not there was any crime committed in that restroom. We justifiably go to great lengths to protect children from being or feeling exploited or violated, we advise them to cover their bodies in certain ways while inside and even outside of our school walls, and we try to protect them from incidentally seeing a member of the opposite gender naked by having separate locker rooms; however, if we allow the use of gender-identity restrooms, we provide a completely unsupervised location where exactly those events we work so hard to protect them from can occur. What happens if a biologically female student enters a boys' restroom only to see a male student at that moment uncovering because the urge to quickly use the restroom between classes is so great? Does the student using the biologically assigned restroom now have a valid case of sexual harassment or sexually hostile "work/school" environment? This potential solution only creates more problems and potential problems than it resolves. If any accommodations are to be made, then those must include yet another perhaps private restroom available for those who are transgender.

- 423** 5/12/2014 2:46 As the parent of a rising 9th grader, I am very happy to see this non-discrimination statement about to be added. I offer the words of Ban Ki-Moon as moral support for the SBDM Council: "â€œTo those who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender- let me say- you are not alone. Your struggle, for the end to violence and discrimination, is a shared struggle. Today, I stand with you. And I call upon all countries and people, to stand with you too. A historic shift is underway. We must tackle the violence, decriminalize consensual same sex relationships and end discrimination. We must educate the public. I call on this council and people of conscience to make this happen." The time has come.â€
- 424** 5/12/2014 2:04 The Atherton community has a long history of inclusion and embracing of diversity. I wholeheartedly embrace the inclusion of the transgender members of the Atherton family.
- 425** 5/12/2014 1:39 I will comply with whatever my employment requires.
- 426** 5/12/2014 0:11 As a parent of what I consider a "straight" daughter, I DO NOT feel comfortable or agree that she should be in the same private space as a "suspected" transgender student. Not that I have any issue with this student or his "identity", I DO have a problem that he most likely has the parts that make him a male AND he is around my daughter and other young ladies when they are in a very vulnerable situation (ie, locker room, rest room, Etc). I do know a bit about the young man person in question and appears that he still likes, or "claims" to like girls..... This is a problem for me, other parents I have spoken to and I hope members of Atherton High Schools' SBDM committee. Why should a student that, for sake of argument "goes both ways" be allowed to see girls in intimate settings? It should be said that one reason we liked Atherton was because of the forward thinking the school is known for. The acceptance of those who are different and want to express themselves..... That's what makes Atherton, Atherton. However, situations like this one should be looked at very carefully, not with a knee jerk reaction. Allowing this person to change clothes, use the restroom, or whatever else goes on in a private area assigned to a gender of which the person has the correct anatomy for, should NOT be taken lightly. If it is
- 427** 5/11/2014 23:52 Don't feel my child is ready for bathroom or locker room changes. Regardless of what gender a person associates themselves with, the school should not force the non trans kids to be ok with being in the bathroom with a person born opposite sex unless they have completely changed gender or started the surgical change. Understanding and sensitivity yes but not ready for the next level

- 428** 5/11/2014 23:34 As a mother of a girl student as a freshman I was shocked to have learned from another parent that her son told her a boy who wears a dress at school was allowed to use the girls bathroom and girls locker room. My daughter was not notified of this decision made by the principal. When I contacted Dr. Aberli he confirmed what I heard. My daughters rights have been taken from her. She no longer feels comfortable using the restroom in fear the boy will be in there. She doesn't know this boy so how are the girls that dont know this kid know the right boy is in the restroom? My daughter and I have nothing against gay or bisexual, or transgender people but I do have a problem with a person with a different anatomy using a private room to change clothing or use the facilities. How are they to identify this person because my daughter says the person doesn't always wear girl clothing. Also, when I suggested a unisex restroom for anybody to use Dr. Aberli stated that would be forcing him to use a certain bathroom. We all are forced to use a certain bathroom, if you have a girl anatomy or boy anatomy. When I said my daughter said she would hold it all day Dr. Aberli said she would have the "option" of using the faculty restroom in office. She is being forced to use a different bathroom. Where are her rights? Why can't there be a unisex bathroom for all to use? Now my daughter is being singled out by some people for being insensitive for not feeling comfortable about him using the restroom. I just want to know how fair is this to my daughter. Does this kids parents know how far this is going and what effect this may have on their son? I think he was pretty well accepted now he is making it uncomfortable for a lot of girls and boys from what my daughter has said because of this ridiculous decision. If this is going to be the decision I might have to consider a different school for my daughter which is unfortunate because this is an awesome school and she is a straight A AP student and athlete. She loves this school. Please put yourself in the girls situation and think how comfortable you would be having a boy in the stall next to you or in your locker room while you are changing.
- 429** 5/11/2014 22:44 It's no wonder there are court cases challenging Title IX! It's highly controversial. I am not in favor of the male trans-female using the bathroom or the locker room with my daughter. What are her rights?! She has a right to privacy. She has expressed that she is not willing to share the bathroom or locker room with a male trans-female. It has nothing to do with discrimination. We have not asked trans students to attend a different school. My religious beliefs do not align with Title IX. The issue is being shoved down our throats! The agenda is not as simple as some may believe. We are constantly being told we need to surrender our morals! To what end!? To satisfy a liberal agenda?! Atherton High school parents, Staff, and Students haven't we seen where that gets us? Let's take a stand! We have entrusted this very institution to protect our children from outside pressures so they can enjoy an excellent education. We do not want to become embroiled in controversial politics in our schools! I am not in favor of adjusting our focus away from education. This is a distraction.

- 430** 5/11/2014 22:11 Speaking as the Father of a daughter that is now being asked to share the restroom and locker room with a Heterosexual Male regardless of Gender Identity is wrong. The Female students privacy is violated when allowing a heterosexual male in the restroom and locker room. Having the female students who are uncomfortable to go out of their way to use the restroom is wrong as well. Does 1 person have more rights than another? When 1 persons rights infringe on a group of peoples rights or privacy is that OK.
- 431** 5/11/2014 21:28 It is all good for fairness and equity.
- 432** 5/11/2014 21:26 Restrooms should remain gender specific. They are shared space for each medically defined gender. Students that are medically defined as male and female are not discriminated against by being allowed to use their gender specific restroom.
- 433** 5/11/2014 21:04 I think that Atherton has done (and will continue to do) an exemplary job of being inclusive, of making this student feel welcomed and safe, and most importantly, of providing the community with the resources they need so that they too can be inclusive and understanding of every member of the Atherton family.

- 434** 5/11/2014 20:12 Whatever life decision someone makes for themselves is their business. However, we now have a situation that is making my daughter feel unsafe at school and wondering why there is now NO women restroom available at school for her to use as a person with a male penis and who is attracted to females since he has a "girl friend" allowed to share the restroom and be nude with her in the locker room. Where are the women rights for my daughter? She was told she is allowed to use the faculty restroom? Clear discrimination/segregation towards her. She will suffer from tardiness to classes leading to poor grades and school records being blemished and potential ridicule from other students when she participates in physical education in the clothes she came to school in and leaves course in the same sweaty and potentially smelly clothes because she will not change clothes with a male watching. No matter what a person "feels" there are still physical differences that should not be ignored. My daughter is being left to feel unsafe, discriminated against, and her needs not being thought of. I recommend that a single restroom on each floor be designated as unisex or whatever term is acceptable. It is also my understanding that there are several locker rooms available, why not designate one of those as unisex or whatever term is acceptable. As I see it, every biological female in the school is being discriminated against and potential life changing decisions for these girls are about to be made as their school experience and academic records could be in jeopardy as well as their rights as women are being taken away. Shouldn't there be some doctor documentation confirming this person is transgender or how are we to know he is just not confused or imbalanced. How are we to know if the boy is just seeing how far he can get with this. Are his parents aware of the problem they are creating for him, is it really worth it for this to be exposed and being talked about for him to use a different bathroom and locker room? I hope you all consulted with them the consequences, because for whatever outcome this has, he now has a red flag above him as the kid who everybody is talking about. I know my daughter mentioned him as wearing a dress but now its more, he is infringing on her rights and making people very uncomfortable.
- 435** 5/11/2014 16:57 I wholeheartedly support the addition of a non-discrimination statement to the Atherton policy, as well as greatly appreciate the school being proactive on this topic, and for expressing full support for transgender students.

- 436** 5/11/2014 16:17 First and foremost, you must consider the safety and freedom from harassment of ALL the students, not just the transgender ones. These are the words of my oldest daughter: "I often go into the women's restroom and will hike up my shirt and adjust my bra, or fully lift up my skirt to adjust my panty-hose with the knowledge that only girls can come in. I would not feel comfortable doing this in a restroom or locker room where a biological male could be present." Females have the right to be free from voyeurism and sexual harassment, particularly in a facility designated for females. Understand, that harassment is in the mind of the victim, and if your female students feel harassed by the presence of a biological male in the restroom, then they are. If you have even one female student who feels uncomfortable or unsafe with a biological male present, then you have violated the privacy rights of your female students. This is precisely why a business can legally REQUIRE a restroom attendant in a women's restroom to be female. While there are states that allow equal access for transgender students to opposite sex facilities, there are many others (the majority) that do not. The solution to this problem is NOT to allow a biological male to use the female restrooms and locker rooms. The solution is to create additional genderless facilities, referred to as "unisex", which allow access to all. This avoids the harassment issue and the discrimination issue. The gender that should be used for a student to enter a gendered bathroom should be the one that matches the information filled out by their physician on their school health form / physical submitted for enrollment. Let someone with medical credentials determine if a person is male or female. The unisex bathroom and locker room would be open to any gender, and any person who feels comfortable in various stages of dress in the presence of a member of the opposite sex. In this way, you are not violating the rights of any of the students. In the short term, I would recommend you designate some of the staff restrooms as unisex with an appropriate sign. In summary, I am AGAINST the language as it stands. The term "nor gender identity" must be removed. Nevertheless, Atherton should create a unisex bathroom and changing room. Another statement should be added, "Unisex facilities will be added to accommodate any students of any gender or gender-identity."
- 437** 5/11/2014 15:56 The gender that you are born, is the gender that should be used to determine which restroom or locker room the person should utilize. If you allow a person to choose what they want it takes away the rights of many. For example, if a boy feels like a girl, that boy does not have the right to make all of the girls feel extremely uncomfortable by using the girl's restroom and locker room. If there is a problem, then there should be a restroom and a locker room space made available for that person that has the issue with using the appropriate restroom or locker room. Stop trying to take away the rights of the majority. The rights of the individual with the issue does NOT supersede everyone else's rights.
- 438** 5/11/2014 15:15 I am in favor of adding the nondiscrimination clause and the practice of same to the policies of Atherton High School.

- 439** 5/11/2014 14:03 Thank you for this very important and informative information. I believe the rights of transgender students should be respected and enforced and access to restrooms of the identified sex should be permitted.
- 440** 5/11/2014 13:54 My problem is that he has a penis! He has been honest and said he likes girls and boys sexually.
- 441** 5/11/2014 12:57 My daughter is a student at Atherton. My daughter is friends with the student at the center of this issue. We have taught her compassion, understanding, and to embrace the differences in others. This child is at an incredibly difficult crossroads in her life. She identifies as a gender she was not born with. Education for others, support for her is key to helping her adjust. These formative years for her need to go well. They are so important. She needs affirmation in addition to acceptance. School needs to be a place that she can go and feel safe, secure. Other people's discomfort and /or ignorance should not be a factor. Put these protections in place for this student. Set a precedent. Be a leader. Give her our support. Dr. Aberli has laid the foundation. Build upon it. Do the right thing. I am proud to have my daughter at this school. I will be even more so if you approve these measures. You can be a part of progress or you can impede it. I hope you choose to be a part of it.
- 442** 5/11/2014 12:57 I support the school in the transgender policy address here. I am a mother of a freshman daughter. My one request would be to put some type of private dressing room stalls into the locker room to allow privacy for anyone who may need it to feel comfortable. Bathroom stalls is not a dressing room stall.
- 443** 5/11/2014 12:51 The AHS SBDM statement mentions the rights of trans-gender students to choice in bathroom and locker use, subject to prior approval and parameters. What are the approval policies/procedures and particularly what are the parameters referred to in this statement? Thanks, Eric Starnes (parent of new student in 2014-15)
- 444** 5/11/2014 12:34 It's great they respect a person choose
- 445** 5/11/2014 12:03 If born male, you are infact male. "Gender identity" is not something I support. If a male chose to use the female restrooms I'm pretty sure there would be disciplinary action, if not legal charges, why is this any different? If this is an issue, then single occupant bathrooms are necessary period.
- 446** 5/11/2014 11:59 Please add this language to the policy. All students (and people) deserve the right to be respected for who they are.
- 447** 5/11/2014 11:37 I agree with this policy and am proud to be affiliated with a school that proactively addresses this issue in a positive way
- 448** 5/11/2014 11:34 Transgender students should be allowed to use the restroom of their choice. The student body as a whole should receive education on what means to be LGBT.
- 449** 5/11/2014 11:26 Action should be taken to protect and respect transgender students (and staff) as the gender they identify with.

- 450 5/11/2014 11:11 I thank you and agree with the current policy of allowing transgendered persons to use the restroom that corresponds with their gender identity. It is vitally important that we continue to respect their identity in school through this really important period in each of their lives. I love the diversity of the student body at Atherton, and we should continue to embrace it as an important part of the Atherton Advantage.
- 451 5/9/2014 9:55 I support this effort to recognize our transgender population and provide a non-discriminatory environment.
- 452

453 **STAFF**

- 454 Response Date
- 455 5/13/2014 20:04 Atherton is a cutting edge school where we teach and accept whoever comes in the door. Send us your tired, your poor, you trans-whatever. Most students feel the same.
- 456 5/13/2014 20:10 Dr Aberli is right on track with supporting fair and equitable treatment of ALL students, including transgendered.
- 457 5/13/2014 20:35
- 458 5/13/2014 20:46 Students should be able to use facilities that match their gender in order to avoid facing bullying and discrimination that may occur otherwise.
- 459 5/13/2014 20:50 School should be a place where students feel safe, respected, and supported-especially when it comes to our LBGTQ students. If we as responsible adults don't teach children what it means to treat another human beings in an accepting and respectable manner, where else will they learn? This is an opportunity where we need to reflect and really consider what fairness and acceptance is in 2014 and make a change that honors the beauty of every human being.
- 460 5/13/2014 21:10 I am in favor of the change in policy allowing transgender identified student to use the restroom of their choice.
- 461 5/14/2014 0:13 All students have the right to feel safe in their school and respected

- 462** 5/14/2014 1:14 Fully supportive of transgender students being allowed to use whichever bathroom they feel most comfortable with.
- 463** 5/14/2014 1:37 I support the proposed policy that provides for gender equity in the use of school space.
- 464** 5/14/2014 2:44
- 465** 5/14/2014 12:27
- 466** 5/14/2014 13:45 I believe that all students should have the opportunity to be treated fairly. The usage of bathroom facilities is not a concern but usage of the locker room is concerning.
- 467** 5/14/2014 15:57
- 468** 5/14/2014 16:19 The student already has access to a restroom of the gender preferred.
- 469** 5/14/2014 22:35 First, the introduction in this survey unduly takes sides before even asking the question; and it is not clear whether how much of what is contained in the introduction is in fact the law and how much is what some parties want the law to be or become. In other words, this survey has the unfair reek of prejudice from the outset. That said, the best approach that considers everyone to some degree, and those who would be most effected to the most degree, is to have bathroom usage based on sexual parts: these parts use these bathrooms, those part use those bathrooms. Any exceptions should be made with the administrators' bathrooms only, since they are for one-person-at-a-time usage only. We don't want people with male parts in female restrooms, and vice versa. Period.
- 470** 5/15/2014 1:10 I recommend separate facilities for sexually confused students
- 471** 5/15/2014 12:48 I am exceptionally happy with Atherton's decision. As a teacher at another JCPS school, I am impressed that he is taking such
- 473**

474 **COMMUNITY**

475 Response Date

476 5/15/2014 15:52 Former Trinity student, very formally familiar with a few graduates of Atherton.

- 477** 5/15/2014 15:51 This is a slippery slope and I absolutely feel that it is absurd to consider allowing a biological male to use female facilities. I respect the students right to choose how they would like to live but by allowing them to undress in a female locker room is completely inappropriate and uncalled for. This is a common sense issue. Are there any private restrooms that the student could use?
- 478** 5/15/2014 15:48 This is a slippery slope that California is skidding down right now. They now have boys joining girls sports teams. And it is absolute madness. I have sympathy for any girl who believes she is a boy ... But the truth is she is not a boy no matter what she feels. I really don't understand why this irrational policy is even being considered. For the safety and privacy of the VAST majority, please keep boys out of the girls bathrooms, locker rooms and showers... And please don't permit boys to join the girls softball team either. This boy student is obviously very confused and needs counseling. Any boy who calls himself a girl who is attracted to girls and is therefore a lesbian at least until he sees a boy that meets his fancy should not be setting policy for everyone else ... Wow, I can't believe this is even being debated. Please use common sense.
- 479** 5/15/2014 15:44 Unbelievable debate...regardless of what this person "feels" he is, the fact is that he is biologically a male, period. He should use the Male facilities and no other. It really is very simple. Bathrooms were designed, not for sexual identity, but biological differences. It is not hate, disrespect or any other term the LGBT supporters want to brand it...simple biology.
- 480** 5/15/2014 15:23 Fairness has made it clear that all individuals should be treated with the same dignity and respect as others. To not allow an individual who is transgendered the opportunity to live their true gender identity the school is complicating issues that the youth will face as they grow up.
- 481** 5/15/2014 15:18 As a former atherton student and my sister goes to atherton I feel this issue is important. I think that transgendered students must be treated with the same rights as others. Dr. Aberli's decision has made me proud to be an Atherton alumni and I hope the board upholds this decision.
- 482** 5/15/2014 15:14 I feel that this issue is incredibly complex, however do not feel an individual who is physically male should be allowed to use a female restroom and the other way around. I certainly would not advocate for discriminating or ridiculing the transgender individual, however I feel the concerns of the other students should be addressed. An allowance in this instance could lead to a multiplicity of other issues where males or females claim that their "true identity" is that of the opposite sex. Teenage boys will undoubtedly take advantage here of the opportunity to be amongst females in an intimate and inappropriate setting. I feel the transgender individual would be served best by being allowed access to a private bathroom. This does not have to be a massively public thing as the individual certainly considered their gender to be a private matter. This also would save the student from ridicule from other students for being in a restroom that they do not "fit" in the other student's opinion, thus actually saving the student from unnecessary discrimination. This I feel would be the most realistic solution, thank you for your consideration.

- 483** 5/15/2014 15:06 There need to be single-sex bathrooms for both Males and Females and also uni-sex bathrooms that both can use. Each floor should have one single-sex bathroom for either men or women and one uni-sex bathroom that both can use.
- 484** 5/15/2014 14:49 There definitely must be provisions made for these students. Perhaps they should have individual bathrooms in various areas of the building for trans students to use and thus not forcing the issue. However dressing room issues offer a different challenge. Hopefully a solution can be found that can satisfy all parties.
- 485** 5/15/2014 14:35 Women and girls deserve--and have the right to--privacy. The fact that ONE student is confused about who he is does not negate the rights of all the rest of the student body. This is INSANE.
- 486** 5/15/2014 14:32 For the function of using the restroom, the sex of the student should take priority over the gender identification. Primarily because using the restroom is a physical function.
- 487** 5/15/2014 14:21 Sexual preference should not play a role in what facilities should be used, otherwise homosexuals will be using opposite sex bathrooms and changing facilities. As well, the way someone dresses should not determine which facility they use, nor whether they call themselves "he or she." The lockerroom facility should be determined by the genitalia that you have, not based on dress or what someone says they are. If, as a society, we allow transgendered individual to use the 'opposite' changing facilities, than any man in the world can now dress as a woman, claim to be transgendered, and then go into a woman's lockerroom. Thus any woman in the world, can dress as a man, claim to be transgendered, and go into a man's lockerroom. What you must ask yourself and what you must determine is "what is the purpose of the restroom/lockerroom." The restroom does not seem to be a huge deal, as I believe most bathrooms offer privacy, it is the lockerroom and changing facility that is in question. Why do we offer separate changing rooms in the first place? Why do we have male/female bathrooms? If it is not a big deal or in question then why not just have community bathrooms and locker rooms? This has nothing to do with sexual preference and has everything to do with individual privacy. If you have a penis, you should shower and change clothes with everyone else that has a penis. And visa versa if you have a vagina. I don't think anyone cares what toilet you sit on? It is the changing facility that causes the most concern. I do not want my young daughter changing clothes in front of another man (someone with a penis). Regardless of what he thinks of himself or who he relates to. There are boys that don't feel comfortable changing in front of boys, we don't allow them to use the girls changing facility. If there are transgendered boys that don't feel comfortable changing in front of boys, we shouldn't allow them to use the girls changing facility either.
- 488** 5/15/2014 14:17 It's really a simple proposition to treat someone the way they want to be treated. If a trans student says they identify as male, you treat them that way. If they say they identify as female, you treat them that way. I do not see how this is a difficult thing to understand.

- 489** 5/15/2014 14:16 all Students Need Protection. Please Continue Your Current Policy.
- 490** 5/15/2014 14:14 I'm pleased that Atherton High is taking steps toward protecting all student and faculty. Support for this young woman is incredibly important during her time in high school- as it is for all students. The faculty is doing the right thing by creating an environment where students feel safe and the educational process is not inhibited by outside worries.
- 491** 5/15/2014 14:09 Girls should feel safe at school and should not have to share a restroom with someone of the opposite gender. The transgendered person is seeking special rights while trampling on the rights of others.
- 492** 5/15/2014 14:00 I think if "she" still has male organs, then "she" should still use the facilities for males, not females. That would be an inappropriate imposition on females if allowed to use their facilities.
- 493** 5/15/2014 13:50 I believe you should allow the student access to the girls facilities. It sounds to me like she asked permission and has been very respectful and understanding. I realize you don't want all the boys just feeling like they can stroll into the girls rooms any time they feel like it, but for transgender people that take the proper channels of asking for permission because it is where they feel the most comfortable, I think it should be permitted.
- 494** 5/15/2014 13:36 I support the rights of all students to be safe from discrimination and violence. As a teaching artist I have worked at Atherton from time to time.
- 495** 5/15/2014 13:27 Gender Identity and Gender Expression should be added to the non-discrimination policy. As a product of the Jefferson County School System I was taught to do the right thing, simply because it is the right thing to do, and yes sometimes you may find it difficult to do. Has this lesson been dropped from the teachings? Lead Life with the lessons you wish others to learn.
- 496** 5/15/2014 13:26 This transgender student, and any other who identify as transgender, should be allowed access to the gender appropriate bathroom of the gender they identify with. It is a misconception of many who have concerns of safety to other students, as a transgender child means no harm to others in bathroom facilities. They simply wish to use the restroom. All of these fears are unfounded. I encourage the SBDM committee to include gender identity for protection in the JCPS anti-discrimination guidelines. Transgender students should receive the same opportunities and protections that all students have.
- 497** 5/15/2014 13:12 I support an anti-discrimination policy that includes gender identity. I support Atherton's decision to let the transgendered student use the women's bathrooms.
- 498** 5/15/2014 13:09
- 499** 5/15/2014 12:24 There is no harm to anyone when you let this student use the female restrooms. If she was hurting or harassing people, it would be a different story. But she just wants to be accepted for who she is, and who she is is a FEMALE student who needs to use women's restrooms. It's not that difficult.
- 500** 5/15/2014 11:16 It can be life and death issue. Please allow transgendered to use the facilities of the sex with which they identify

- 501** 5/15/2014 11:11 Fairness is imperative in our community.
- 502** 5/15/2014 10:23 Transgender individuals must be allowed to use the bathroom that they wish to occupy for their mental welfare and their personal safety. Transgender students are at an incredibly high risk of being the victims of violence, more so than any other demographic. Allowing transgender students to enter the bathroom that they wish to enter is crucial for ensuring their safety once out of reach of immediate teacher supervision.
- 503** 5/15/2014 10:17 I think this is ridiculous to even think about letting this happen! I wouldn't want my child I. These surroundings. I know you can't discriminate against those that are gay or lesbian and that's fine, I agree but this is taking it WAY TOO FAR! NO, this person should not be allowed to go into the girls' restroom or locker room.
- 504** 5/15/2014 8:38 If he was born a male, than he is a male. He has the anatomy of man, has a girlfriend , and is sexually active with females..... HE has no business using women's restrooms or locker rooms. This shouldn't even be an issue. If you are a man, use the Men's restroom!
- 505** 5/15/2014 8:29 If you let boys who 'feel like girls' into sex-segregated spaces for females, you are going to have rapes on school property sooner rather than later.
- 506** 5/15/2014 6:53 I think it's great that Atherton High wants to do something to help transgender students, and I hope that the school will include gender identity in its formal protections.
- 507** 5/15/2014 6:17 I think its totally unfair to dismiss these female students concerns like seems to be the case right now. To be concerned about not want to share these kind of spaces with any of us males in the world has nothing to do with any transphobia. These female students very right to not have to share shower room spaces and / or bathrooms and other similar spaces with any of us males, no matter what a particular male identify as, is their democratic right. If you dismiss the concerns of these student because they feel unsafe by this male you are clearly not taking into consideration "all students saftey & concerns" that you so eagerly mention that you do at the school.
- 508** 5/15/2014 5:20 Restrooms are assigned by anatomy, not preference. If the boys bathroom isn't good enough, maybe they should put a porta potty outside for him. The discomfort of one male student shouldn't be considered above the discomfort of many female students and many parents.
- 509** 5/15/2014 4:44 What's so bad about people expressing themselves? Does it really matter to you what someone else's genitalia is?
- 510** 5/15/2014 3:46 The student should have the same rights as other students. There should be no tolerance of bullying or mistreatment of this individual by other students or leaders at the school. However, the issue of bathroom privileges must be considered carefully. This is not straightforward. The argument by the student's mom that she should have the right to use both bathrooms seems like "having your cake and wait it too." Ultimately, the rights of the student are not more important than the rights of the other students. It would be prudent to take time to figure this issue out as a community.

- 511** 5/15/2014 3:41 Students should be allowed to use facilities of their gender identity. Highschool is hard enough as is and if one wants to identify as one sex or the other they should be allowed in all aspects.
- 512** 5/15/2014 3:26 please make sure to protect the privacy of ALL students when making policy. some children may be disturbed by children with identity different from the gender assigned at birth. the students receiving the accommodations might also be subject to some discrimination by the other students. tread carefully, and you will likely accomplish this with minimal disturbance. good luck
- 513** 5/15/2014 3:21 I believe that whatever sexual reproductive organ they have is the restroom they should be forced to use.
- 514** 5/15/2014 3:08 I believe transgender students should be allowed to use the bathroom of the gender they identify with. Anything else is discrimination.
- 515** 5/15/2014 2:56 First, I would like to state that I am neither for or against anyone being transgender, although I myself am not. In no way should a transgender male be allowed to use the restroom facilities of female students, especially when the male is sexually attracted to females. This opens the doors for more serious problems such as lawsuits and criminal charges against the male student as well as the school. The solution is a simple one: we have restrooms for female, male, and why not Unisex bathrooms. Any woman or girl would feel very uncomfortable using a restroom knowing there might be a male inside there and Im sure a male would feel the same way using the restroom knowing a female could be in there. Build a Unisex bathroom and the problem is cleared up its that simple. Being transgender is a choice and it is unfair for the girls in this school to feel uncomfortable or embarrassed about going to the restroom. I find it quite unsettling that the male student is attracted to females and could possibly be allowed to use a female bathroom. Its an open invitation for disaster. I know one thing for sure, if I had a daughter and the school she attended allowed transgender males to use their bathroom she would not be going to that school.
- 516** 5/15/2014 2:46 What if this was your son or daughter who's rights were being taken away because of something they believe in? Would your opinion still be the same?
- 517** 5/15/2014 2:37
- 518** 5/15/2014 2:36 This should not even need debate. If you have a penis, you should go to the boys bathroom/locker room. This is outrageous.
- 519** 5/15/2014 2:32 Please allow this young trans woman to use the bathroom for the gender that she prefers.
- 520** 5/15/2014 2:22
- 521** 5/15/2014 2:02 Even if Atherton is permitted to discriminate against this student, it still shouldn't do so. Sex-segregated restrooms are a silly, outdated concept like child labor laws anyway, and locker rooms should have individual changing areas like dressing rooms at stores.
- 522** 5/15/2014 1:50 I think the student has every right to use the girls' bathroom. She identifies as female, so she is female, she should use the girls' bathroom. I graduated from Atherton in 2012 and I'm a girl and I would have had no problem with her using the bathroom. It's a really open and great high school where everyone deserves to be themselves.

- 523** 5/15/2014 1:33 Although I have some personal viewpoints that differ from those of the LGBT community, without hesitation I believe that ALL students should be protected from harassment and discrimination. Transgender students should be provided with the option of using either the restrooms and/or locker rooms associated with their biological identity or a unisex facility. This would ensure that transgender students that do not feel comfortable using the facility associated with their biological identity have an option that does not infringe upon the rights of other students.
- 524** 5/15/2014 1:25 I believe the decision about how to handle this young person should have been made by the school board. The principal should not have the authority to make a decision as important as this to our schools.
- 525** 5/15/2014 0:54 There should be a single bathroom to be used by male or female, but there should be no male transgenders using a female bathroom or a female transgender using the male bathroom.
- 526** 5/15/2014 0:38 what was done was a good start. gotta educate the rest on what transgender goes through
- 527** 5/15/2014 0:37 I think Atherton should adopt the proposed non-discrimination policy.
- 528** 5/15/2014 0:33
- 529** 5/15/2014 0:32 This concept of transgenderism is not scientifically supported, and philosophically is sexist. Segregation by physical genitalia makes sense, because women have three bathroom activities (urination, disposal of fecal matter, and disposal of menstrual equipment), while men have only 2. As such, women are going to need separate facilities for the three actions, as well as privacy, and, since they are bound to take 1/3 more time, due to the third activity, more space. By allowing men into women's bathrooms under the guise of trans, you not only take space away from women, you reinforce harmful, sexist stereotypes. Being a woman is not a feeling, it is a biological reality, and a social handicap due to the sexism running rampant in our society, and in your school. If a man feels he is a woman, he is reducing women to a single stereotype defined by himself, which is insulting and wrong; women are people, not a feeling. If his feelings are important, so are the feelings of women, and we do not want any men in our bathrooms.
- 530** 5/15/2014 0:21 All students should have their gender identity respected.
- 531** 5/15/2014 0:07 Our schools should set a progressive example for our children and provide an environment that will foster acceptance and promote self worth as well as human dignity. Atherton has long been known as a diverse, liberal melting pot of people that somehow manage to get along so well. It would be so detrimental to take several steps backward and not uphold the dignity of not only this student, but every student.
- 532** 5/15/2014 0:02 rest rooms and locker rooms use should be assigned back on anatomy. If the student has male anatomy, then they have NO purpose being in rest room or locker room designed as "GIRLS". It is NOT fair to the girls that attend the school to have to be put into an uncomfortable situation because the school is too chicken to stand-up against the transgender student. I think Atherton is asking for a large law suit from other students who will have a legit case of claiming sexual harassment.

- 533** 5/14/2014 23:59 Once the policy is changed there may be consequences down the road that may not be foreseen. Now the talk is concerning high school students but what if in the future this occurs in the lower grades. I do not think that I would be alone when I say that I would not want my elementary child to share bathrooms with the opposite sex before they are able to understand what transgender means. Now do not say this could never happen at a young age. Twenty, ten, or even five years ago who would have thought that same sex unions would become common. Also, look at the legal matters. One way free speech is being taken away is not by changing the amendments but by adding laws that give groups more protection than others and if anyone expresses a difference in beliefs or opinions then that person is called bigots, haters, or whatever names society is using at the time.
- 534** 5/14/2014 23:58 The Atherton HS SBDM should allow this and any other transgender student access to the facilities of the gender in which they identify, period. The JCPS school board should follow suit with an identical district wide policy. Anything less is shirking the responsibility of the SBDM to ensure that all students are protected from discrimination. Those that would argue their objection from a faith based standpoint remain bigoted in this and other views they hold; it's time this minority of people begin living in the 21st century. I'm a Jefferson County taxpayer, Male, Straight, 35 years old, public school educated, and a Christian. I was also a victim of bullying in high school, so this issue really resonates with me.
- 535** 5/14/2014 23:56 As an Atherton alumnus, I applaud the school for taking on this difficult issue. I feel that adding "gender identity" to the non-discrimination policy is the right step to take.

- 536** 5/14/2014 23:48 As a resident of Louisville, Kentucky, and a member active throughout various facets of the community, I fully support staff taking appropriate actions to accommodate transgender students. At its very core, failing to do so is sex discrimination in that requirements would be proscribed on the basis of one's birth sex. In any case, such requirements are born out of nothing less than fear of others which has no place in an academic institution. While some may hold to their religious beliefs to proclaim their vocal opposition, and they are free to do so, they may not legitimately claim their belief be any more important or another's any less. Thus none can reasonably expect that an academic institution holding itself to no religion afford any consideration to any tenet of a particular religion. This is not a religious matter. There is no mechanism for this school to establish a religion or to promulgate religious tenets. There is, however, a mandate for the school to guard against enshrining sex discrimination in its own policies, and I laud the administration for recognizing and working to do just that. The principal of nondiscrimination being clearly established, the focus, then, should be on practice rather than theory. Any attempt to derail this should be rightly rebuked and effort immediately redirected toward addressing real problems. To be sure, the matter at hand, though deceptive on its face, is not a matter of bathroom etiquette. If it were, we might well say assigning water fountains by race is mere reinforcement of good table manners. If the bathroom seems scary frontier, try football at a public high school. Rules about which teams, I need not remind you, are established by an institution unable to discriminate on the basis of sex. We don't call them the Rebels for nothing, do we? This is a big box in which we are asked to think; it has plenty of room for all.
- 537** 5/14/2014 23:33 It really isn't that hard to figure out. Boy parts shouldn't in be in a girl's bathroom nor should girl parts be in a boy's bathroom. I wouldn't want the smallest of chance that a girl would see a penis in the bathroom. This could be sexual harassment and lead the school and JCPS into a lawsuit. Young women deserve privacy while in the bathroom. Their bodies are different than a boy's and works differently. Girls don't want a boy seeing them go to a tampon/napkin dispenser or hear the sound of the products being open even if the boy feels he is a girl. He will never know what it is like to need that kind of privacy. I think Atherton needs to look at having a bathroom for this student to use and it shouldn't be the girl's bathroom. I understand that this student has rights but until he has a vagina, he needs to use the boy's bathroom. Women have fought to hard over the years for equality and penises don't belong in a women's bathroom.
- 538** 5/14/2014 23:29
- 539** 5/14/2014 23:27 Giving this person who is biologically a male access to the female facilities infringes on the rights of all of the females to have privacy in toileting and dressing. You are denying all females their rights in order to pacify one confused 15 year old male.

- 540** 5/14/2014 23:21 If a child has the sex of a female then they should be in the female restroom, and if they have the sex of a male they should be in the male restroom. It may be disturbing to the few high school students whose gender identity does not match their sex but it can also be disturbing to the other hundreds of students who have to see a male or female sex organ other than their own in the restroom marked for their sexual organs. When I was a child it would of been very disturbing to me to know that a boy with a penis was in the restroom when I was. Even though that child sees hisself as a girl, I still wouldn't want them in the bathroom with me. If you can't ask them for a tampon then they do not belong with females. What if thoughts change and they become sexual predators. Would you want a penis in your daughters restroom. NO!! Same goes with girls in the boys bathroom. Even though they feel like one of the boys there is now a vagina in the boys restroom. Could be that one of the boys will find it enticing one day. Shouldn't happen we are just looking for trouble in the long run.
- 541** 5/14/2014 23:19 I went to Atherton in the early 2000s. I chose this school because it has a unique climate of acceptance among races, creeds and nationalities. I am shocked that this is even an issue. The student should be allowed to participate in the mores of the gender that he identifies with. Anyone brave enough to make the changes that he has should be allowed to face the world in the skin that he is most comfortable in. Any action to stop him from doing so would not be in keeping with the Atherton culture that I know and love. Which is a real shame.

- 542** 5/14/2014 23:15 I feel that the issues of students sharing restrooms and students sharing locker rooms or showers are two very different issues. Most schools' restrooms have at least one separate stall with a door, which would give some privacy, so maybe sharing restrooms with transgendered students is not completely impossible to do without taking away the rights (privacy) of students who are not transgendered. I don't know about the locker rooms or showers in the gym at Atherton, but some older high schools in Jeff. Co. do not have separate changing and/or showering facilities. If students are still expected to or required to change into a uniform or other clothes for Phys. Ed. classes and/or expected to or required to shower to receive a grade, then it is unacceptable, in my opinion, to force girls to change or shower with persons who are anatomically still built like boys, regardless of gender identity. I have been a Phys. Ed. teacher in the past, and I know the teacher cannot possibly be in both locker rooms to supervise at the same time, and I assume classes are still co-ed. I feel that doing so is totally inappropriate, and eventually going to cause numerous allegations, incidents and lawsuits, especially if students are not allowed to transfer to schools who do not force this policy. Atherton has always been a very well respected school, often leading the way for change in other schools. If this policy is passed in it's SBDM, other schools may pass it as well. I am a parent and grandparent, but currently do not have any grandchildren attending Jeff. Co. schools. I am also a former staff member of Jeff. Co. schools. This is just my opinion, but I believe that is what you asked for. Please reconsider, and do not pass this policy, especially in the locker rooms and showers. Thank you.
- 543** 5/14/2014 23:05 I believe gender identity should be added to the non discrimination policy. As a member of the community, I strongly support protecting the rights of everyone within the community, including transgender individuals. This is an issue that cannot wait, if our school system allows discrimination to continue - what example does that set? Our schools should be at the forefront of trying to eliminate discrimination & intolerance through education. The primary role of a school is to educate students, preparing future generations for adulthood. Allowing narrow mindedness to continue seems pointless & counterproductive. Please, stand up for our youth that are going through enough challenges as it is... protect the rights (that should be equal) for transgender students, faculty, etc in our community!
- 544** 5/14/2014 22:53 I think that the choice of whether or not the bathroom should be allowed to the student should be left up to the discretion of the students. As a female student, I am for LGBT rights but it makes me uncomfortable knowing biologically, there would be a boy in the bathroom. Leave it up to the students to vote to decide whether the student should be able to use the girls' bathroom. In the mean time, the situation might best be resolved by letting the student use the teachers' bathroom.

- 545** 5/14/2014 22:50 Freedom from harassment and an uncomfortable learning environment is a right for all students regardless of sexual orientation or identity, including heterosexual students. The obvious solution to the issue of facility use at Atherton is to have three bathrooms and locker rooms: boys only; girls only and sex-neutral or blended. This would be expensive for retrofitting but fairness is worth the cost, and future schools could incorporate sex-neutral rooms from the design phase. Thanks, ---
- 546** 5/14/2014 22:49 I do not think it is safe for a student to use facilities designated for the opposite gender because they feel they are more opposite gender than the gender they were physically assigned. Other students should not be uncomfortable in their safe place as well.
- 547** 5/14/2014 22:40 I fully support the proposed policy at Atherton. I am a former middle school teacher in JCPD and watched students at that age struggle with gender identity, and a supportive public statement and policy support from their schools would have been meaningful to them, and help guide staff behavior to be more supportive of these students.
- 548** 5/14/2014 22:20 Separate facilities by biological and psychological gender determination. The school would end up with four options: male/male, male/female, female/female, and female/male. Then let students self-select into which one they feel most comfortable.
- 549** 5/14/2014 22:19 I believe that transgendered students should be added to the list of nondiscriminatory actions. It is unfair for students who identify as a gender other than the one they are born with to have to pretend to be something they are not and be discriminated against.
- 550** 5/14/2014 22:06 It is a violation of the rights of objecting female students to allow this biological boy to use the female bathroom when they are present. The student is obviously sexually attracted to females. If the student does not want to use a male bathroom, they maybe they can use one of the teacher bathrooms.
- 551** 5/14/2014 21:51 While I understand the concern of the parents, it seems the current handling of the situation is protective & non discriminatory. For those who are uncomfortable with sharing a restroom with the transgender, they have the option to use the other restroom. It appears only a handful of students have complained. As for the transgender student she was given the right to use one of the restrooms. Both parties have been accommodated & need to realize that fact. How many times a day are they even in a restroom that this would pose a problem? Times are changing and people need to be respectful to their differences and have patience with changes.
- 552** 5/14/2014 21:32 The student should absolutely be allowed total access of the restroom facilities. Unless there has been complaints of harassment coming from other individuals, I don't believe that freedom should be revoked.

- 553** 5/14/2014 21:32 I have both a son and a daughter who are in high school. As a parent I feel that both my son and daughter deserve protection from discrimination. However, I believe it is unreasonable for the public school system to allow a transgender male to use the the girls's restroom. My daughter should be allowed to use the restroom in privacy without a "male looking" person in the restroom. Girl's change clothes, talk, etc. Likewise, my son should not have to share a restroom or a locker room with someone who appears female. A free public education does not infer a sperate restoom to accomodate such requests.
- 554** 5/14/2014 21:27 As an alum, I believe that Atherton is correct now in allow the transgendered girl to use the girls' facilities.
- 555** 5/14/2014 21:20 The purpose of a school's lavatories and/or locker rooms is to perform the bodily functions of elimination, shower and dressing. Regardless of gender identity, those with female parts should be eliminating, showering and dressing with other that have female parts, and those with male parts should be doing those things with others having male parts. I don't see any reason to subject those with a normal sense of privacy when performing these bodily functions to performing them alongside persons having the other gender's body parts. If anything, the school should designate one private lavatory as a "unisex" facility.
- 556** 5/14/2014 21:14 As a future educator, I believe that supporting a student mentally and emotionally is important to their academic success. A transgender student who is not allowed to use the bathroom which fits their gender identity faces more than temporary hurt feelings. Just being in the school that has rejected who they are in favor of outdated and unrelated, likely uninformed, puritanical beliefs is enough to terrorize them every second of the day. No student could perform to their best ability under those conditions. If student acclimation to the school and personal growth/learning is what the SBDM really cares about, they will allow any transgender student to use the bathroom appropriate for their gender identity. I as a responsible citizen of the community and a future educator simply cannot believe that an SBDM council that truly cares about its students would forbid its transgender students from using the bathroom they are most comfortable with.
- 557** 5/14/2014 21:09 Your institution needs to be one that values inclusive excellence. People from all walks of life need to know that they are welcome, and can express themselves freely. This is no longer an option for society; it's a necessity. Discriminating against trans* students based on your own ignorance is cruel and inhumane. Educate yourselves. Include gender identity in your policy. No freedom 'til we're equal.
- 558** 5/14/2014 21:06 I support the schools decision. The main reason we have an interest in Atherton is because it accepts and embraces all people. Good for them.
- 559** 5/14/2014 21:01 People should use the bathroom and locker room assigned for their anatomical identity. Someone is not physically the opposite sex because of what he/she identifies with in his/her mind. This is a physical question.
- 560** 5/14/2014 20:58 She should be allowed to use female restroom if she identifies as a female.

- 561** 5/14/2014 20:45 I have nothing to do with Atherton, but I am someone who realized they were transgender soon before entering high school. I hope you can make things easier today than they were way back when. Back then it was hide or terrible problems. Things have come a long way and don't stop now.
- 562** 5/14/2014 20:42 She should be allowed to use both facilities and have the same rights as all other females. Her presence in the restrooms should not pose a threat. Those spaces have a specific intended purpose and she merely wants to use them for that purpose. On the other hand, if she were forced to use the men's restrooms, she may experience bullying and harassment for being gender-nonconformist. Also, it is important to note that her sexual orientation is not related to her gender identity. Therefore, it is unfair to base a position on the fact she has a girlfriend or is attracted to girls, because I can assure you there are natal females who are attracted to females that are also using these facilities without problems. Discrimination is not acceptable and I believe gender identity should be added to the non-discrimination clause.
- 563** 5/14/2014 20:41 just another start to force our children into
- 564** 5/14/2014 20:36 As a retired high school principal and graduate of Atherton I feel I must weigh in on this issue. The school should make a reasonable accommodation , but it should not impinge on the privacy of the other students. It is totally inappropriate for the student to use the girls bathroom and locker room.
- 565** 5/14/2014 20:28 to be honest and kind, what gender you "identify as has no bearing on your actual gender. I can call myself a dolphin all day long, but that will never make me a dolphin. regardless of this, you infringe upon the rights of the other students if you allow the ones who "identify with the opposite gender they were given from birth" to enter areas reserved for people actually of that specific gender. If I went to the zoo and tried to climb into the giraffe exhibit they would prevent me from doing so. even if I insisted I was a Giraffe. this is because its obvious to them that I am not a Giraffe but a human. So my point is that this isn't a matter of discrimination (and i would caution against you making it one) but a matter of logic and the truth. If you go ahead and make this a matter of discrimination then you will accidentally put yourselves in the position of "discriminating" against the students who aren't comfortable with this change in policy. its an endless and vicious cycle that won't be stopped once started so nip it in the bud and talk about logic and logistics instead. With greatest respect
- 566** 5/14/2014 20:28 I'm proud of the steps Atherton has taken to better serve all students since my graduation! Keep moving forward. As for upset parents, STOP! Your children are old enough to leave a restroom if they are uncomfortable. This isn't a passing fad, they will have to deal with this type of thing everyday. Do your job as a parent and teach them acceptance, not fear of the unknown/hate.
- 567** 5/14/2014 20:26 Replace all urinals with private commodes.
- 568** 5/14/2014 20:26
- 569** 5/14/2014 20:24 A education facility should respect privacy of both male & female students. If a non-gender restroom needs to be added, so be it.

- 570** 5/14/2014 20:22 I feel that the Freshman student that is representing himself as a "transgender" needs to be treated as the sex of a male, since he is still active as a male this puts ALL the female students in the restrooms and shower stalls at risk of rape or of an inappropriate act (such as an erection) and this is a violation of the female students rights. If Atherton wants to become renowned for allowing a student who (for the time being) wants to treated as a female (once again..,that is STILL living ALL other avenues as a male) then allow this student to use the faculties facilities only! Are you prepared when there is a rape by a "transgender" that you have ALLOWED into the females facilities to be sued and possibly closed completely down? Atherton is risking everyone elses' rights for the the rights of a lone male....,playing a game....,and you are ignoring his lifestyle. By law...actions speak louder than words. You need to at least ask EVERY student (or the parent for monors) what they want. If you don't then you have abandoned their right to have a law in the handbook that they enrolled their student(s) into your school by, changed.
- 571** 5/14/2014 20:21 The gender that the child is associated with,and approval by his or her parents
- 572** 5/14/2014 20:17
- 573** 5/14/2014 20:03 Transgender people should be included in the anti-discrimination policy. And this young person should be allowed to use the bathroom of whichever gender he/she feels is most appropriate. We have to set an example for the rest of Kentucky. This state is so backwards when it comes to the LGBTQ population.
- 574** 5/14/2014 19:58 My desire is that prudence would surface here. One who is born male should only be allowed in areas assigned for males . Again the same for females. The idea to allow anything other than what has already been established opens doors to perversion, disrespect for rights of decency (of other children) and no protection from predatory behavior. Please use good sense in making this decision. Our children's lives are on the line here. I hold to protect a child from abarrent behavior. Thank you for your time.

- 575** 5/14/2014 19:45 The issue as I see it is trying to fit the transgender individual in one of two defined groups (male or female), whether biologically or sexually. We already have two separation for restrooms, instead of being exclusive could it be possible to combine all three or even more (idealistic approach). If not could we do the opposite where we can separate all forms of sexuality and have separate rooms for each individual or at least each different sexuality. My argument being comparable to someone who may pick from two political groups being, republican & democrat, but in reality having several more such as independent, green, etc. An individual may side themselves as a democrat but be independent or vice versa. Unfortunately I understand that this is written somewhat terribly so in summary I would like to propose that the individual should not be grouped as either male or female but as their own distinct individual and an ideal approach would be to have one room with separate stalls for changing, bathrooms use etc. (even for urinals) or to have numerous rooms for each sexual group or gender group. Males have a room, females have a room, Transgenders can have a room; or, Homosexuals can have a room, Heterosexuals can have a room, asexuals can have a room. We are in an era of more knowledge and now know more about other identities and they do not have to fit in either category but their own, we will continue to learn more about this and probably are experiencing growing pains in the interim. I hope this might help.
- 576** 5/14/2014 19:43 Don't all of the toilets in the girls restroom have doors and locks? And don't the girls dress before coming out of the stalls. If yes, then what is the problem?
- 577** 5/14/2014 19:42 People should use the facilities which correspond to their physical attributes. Anything else is UNFAIR to those who do!
- 578** 5/14/2014 19:41 While one understands and empathizes with a transgender's predicament, one also needs to look at the rights of the other students that will be affected. Should the majority's rights be affected just because of one student's preference? Where does this end?
- 579** 5/14/2014 19:34 If "she" has boy parts, "she" need to use a rest room made for boy parts. Even if he feels like a girl, his body is not a girl's body, and his presence in the girls' restroom makes girls uncomfortable. You have to respect the feelings of the "real-normal-typical" girls.
- 580** 5/14/2014 19:32 I am grateful for the thorough information you presented and glad this issue is being considered openly. I am still unsure but generally support the idea.
- 581** 5/14/2014 19:27 I am applaud Atherton for making the move to enhance gender equality in our public schools. Transgender people should have the right to use the restroom that they feel most comfortable in. Even better would be a school where bathrooms are not sex segregated, as in some private schools such as Waldorf schools. Segregating children based on gender amplifies prescribed binary male/female gender roles, which may further aggravate the free development of gender identity in trans individuals of all kinds. Please allow transgender students to be who they are without fear of institutional repression.

- 582** 5/14/2014 19:26 I feel that all students (and people) no matter their race, religion, gender, or sexual preference should be treated equally with respect. I
- 583** 5/14/2014 19:24 All kids should feel safe at school. No kid is less than another, and should never feel as such. You guys are leading the pack!
- 584** 5/14/2014 19:18 Students should use the restrooms matching their sexual organs. Period. After graduation, the trans can plan his future life as he wishes.
- 585** 5/14/2014 19:17 I support transgender rights.
- 586** 5/14/2014 19:12 I'm a law student at UofL, and I have a few thoughts. 1. At UofL we have both men and women's bathrooms, but we also have a family/unisex individual bathroom. I think this would be an excellent way to comply with the requests of both sides of the issue. 2. This issue seems similar to religion in the context of schools. One of the main reasons that kids are limited in the way they can exercise their religious beliefs at schools is because the Court has said that students are vulnerable and are not at an age where they can fully comprehend those kinds of decisions. I would like to say the same should apply to the topic of LGBT issues. While some students and families believe it is the appropriate age for students to express themselves, just like religion, there are many who would say that students are vulnerable, and easily influenced in this area that they might not be able to comprehend. Thank you for asking the community!
- 587** 5/14/2014 19:10 I applaud Atherton's effort to include transgender students into their policies. I believe this is a conversation that needs to happen. It is a conversation about equality, it is about acceptance and it is about teaching children and their parents to understand and be kind to those who may be different from themselves. The trans community is not going away. Each and every day the conversation gets bigger and this inclusion will aide in the larger fight that is happening on the national level. Please, continue to be a beacon for those students who are just looking for acceptance. Please continue to educate students and their parents. This is all so vital. I am so proud that it is finally being spoken about.
- 588** 5/14/2014 19:09 As an Atherton parent of many years ago I have watched the school become more and more accepting and ecumenical in their attitudes regarding all their students. If any school can handle this situation in a positive manner, I believe that Atherton will succeed better than anyone else providing a manner that can be emulated by the entire county. Many thanks to Thomas Aberli who shows great insight into how to approach a transgender student at Atherton with intelligence and compassion.

- 589** 5/14/2014 19:04 The definition of a female human being is not based on how one feels inside. In order to be female you must have a female reproductive system. If a child has a male reproductive system, then they are not female. You cannot become female by having feelings, even if they cause you distress. Any child that is male should be using the appropriate male restrooms and locker rooms. These places are not segregated based on whether you like the color pink or blue, they are not segregated based on feelings, they are segregated based on biological sex and should remain so. The girls in this school should not have their safety or comfort compromised in order to spare one child's feelings. The concept of a gender identity has no scientific basis and relies on outdated stereotypes. There cannot be a male or female brain. The brain is not a sex organ and to imply otherwise is sexist. We all know that girls can be as good at math as boys. A male child does not become a female child because he wants to wear skirts. What you wear, how you do your hair, what activities you like do not have an effect on your biological sex. There is no such thing as 'feeling' female. There is only BEING female. If you would like an idea of how dangerous it can be to allow males into female-specific spaces based on feelings or how they 'identify', please google Christopher "Jessica" Hambrook. Please do not value identities and feelings over reality.
- 590** 5/14/2014 19:03 Transgendered students should be protected by policy. They are processing their gender identity at a very difficult time of their development, and are proven to have a higher risk of suicide and other dangers than most other groups of students. A plan needs to be put into place for them to use the restroom belonging to the gender identity they possess.
- 591** 5/14/2014 19:02 A trans student needs to be allowed to use the restroom/locker room of the gender they identify with. The "issue" with changing in the locker room really should be a non-issue. If students are minding their own business while they are changing/showering in the locker rooms, they wouldn't notice others genitalia.
- 592** 5/14/2014 18:58 They should use the Faculty restrooms, that will take care of it.
- 593** 5/14/2014 18:57 I think giving trans people their own bathrooms would be the best solution that does not compromise the rights expected by non-trans people to not have a penis or Y chromosome in a female bathroom. It is obviously okay if a trans person identifies as a different gender, but bathrooms are clearly built for biological reasons and so it should be okay to make trans people decide between the bathroom they biologically belong in or a third, trans only bathroom.

594 5/14/2014 18:42 To the Atherton School Council Members: There is much more to being a true leader than just assuming a leadership role. Atherton High School is fortunate to have a new generation of leadership in Principal Dr. Tom Aberli. Atherton needs a leader like Dr. Aberli who is not afraid to cope with new problems as well as new opportunities. Dr. Aberli is a true leader who understands and listens to people. He has accepted the challenge to enlighten the community he serves on the issue of protecting the welfare, and defending the rights of transgender students. He has taken the initiative to make a decision in regard to his students' needs and is prepared to stand by it. Dr. Aberli has stood tall and did not shrink in fear when a tough decision needed to be made. This issue is not limited to Atherton High School and if not addressed will arise again in our school system. Whether a person agrees with Dr. Aberli's decision or not, I am sure there is not a parent in Jefferson County who would expect anything less from the Principal of the school their child attends. When it comes to protecting the welfare and rights of their child under same or different circumstances, they would expect the type of leadership exhibited by Dr. Aberli. I agree with Dr. Aberli's decisions, and see them as right, just, and fair. I encourage the Atherton School Council Members to support Dr. Aberli and his decisions concerning this issue.

- 595** 5/14/2014 18:40 Discrimination has got to stop. It is now the year 2014 and people are still being mistreated because of their sexual identity, their preferences, and still even skin color. When will everyone wake up and accept the fact that NO ONE is created the same? We are all different with different beliefs and instead of being accepted for being unique, we're punished, bashed, and discriminated against. This will never be okay with me. I feel that Atherton is taking the necessary steps to a more open community. This student isn't looking to prey on girls in the bathroom, she is looking for ACCEPTANCE. She lives in a world where people are bullies and cruel and all she wants is to be accepted for who she truly is. Don't we tell our children and students to "be who you want to be" or to "do what makes you happy"? She's happy with who she has become so let her be just that...a HAPPY person. Because she is a person, she's still human just like the rest of us. That goes for every gay, straight, lesbian, bisexual, trans, black, white, asian, etc. They're ALL people and they should ALL be treated as such. Imagine if we lived in a world where we were blind. We couldn't judge anyone by their appearance, only by what they told us and who they are as a PERSON. Just because you or someone else doesn't approve of the way someone lives their life, doesn't mean you can control that persons life. I'm sure there is something about YOUR life that some may not approve of, but would you let that stop you from being yourself? Of course not. You stand up for what you believe in no matter what that may be, so why can't the rest of us do the same? I hope and wish that this student (and many others) get what they truly deserve, acceptance. Peace & love to all.
- 596** 5/14/2014 18:40 Children should be allowed to live the role of whichever gender they feel inside, regardless of their sex.
- 597** 5/14/2014 18:34 Thank you for treating transgender students with respect. The decision to allow a transgender student to use one of the female restrooms is a fair one.
- 598** 5/14/2014 18:33 It is absolutely necessary that policies and procedure be put in place to protect the rights of all Atherton students, irrespective of their gender identity or sexual orientation.
- 599** 5/14/2014 18:28 Not acceptable for schools - particularly for a minor, and groups of minors. No problem with the lifestyle choice however.
- 600** 5/14/2014 18:26 Where do you draw the line? Just because he wants to be a girl does NOT make him a girl. If this were to happen in my children's school, I would withdrawal them immediately.
- 601** 5/14/2014 18:22 Atherton's non-discrimination policy, as well as all JCPS schools should be inclusive of the entire LGBT community. This includes allowing those students who identify as transgender to use the restroom and locker room that match their identity.
- 602** 5/14/2014 18:16 Please do not discriminate against this girl. She cannot help or change her innate neurological connections and neurotransmitters. To imply that she precipitously decided to be a girl is ignorant, and quite frankly, an embarrassment to the great state of KY.

- 603** 5/14/2014 18:14 I'm a grad of the class 1972 ! This is CRAZY ! I dont care what his mind or lack there of, says he is, if he was born a male, then he should use the mens room ! I hope Atherton stands up for what is right and good ~ STOP ALL THIS CRAZINESS !!!!!
- 604** 5/14/2014 18:07 PENIS IN THE WOMEN'S RESTROOM IS NOT A CIVIL RIGHT. THIS IS A VIOLATION OF THE PRIVACY RIGHTS OF FEMALE STUDENTS. FEMALE STUDENTS NEED TO START SUING SCHOOL DISTRICTS. THIS WILL ONLY STOP WHEN SCHOOL DISTRICTS ARE SUED FOR THE EMOTIONAL, AND POSSIBLY PHYSICAL HARM THAT OCCURS TO FEMALE STUDENTS BECAUSE OF THESE DECISIONS.
- 605** 5/14/2014 18:04 I think it should be put to student vote. Is it fair to make hundreds of members of one gender uncomfortable while capitulating to the wants of one person? I do not have children at Atherton, but I have two daughters in another high school. As a parent, I would be upset if a transgendered male was allowed to use the same restroom as them if my daughters weren't comfortable with it. In just a few years these "kids" will be old enough to vote, to legally buy weapons and to join the military and possibly die in combat. I think that makes them able to decide on what restroom protocol they want in their school.
- 606** 5/14/2014 17:48
- 607** 5/14/2014 17:46 It is incredibly important that you include gender identity in your non discrimination policies. Along with that, there need to be safeguards for transgender students using the bathroom which fits their gender identity.
- 608** 5/14/2014 17:38 High school was terrible when I was younger (5 years ago) for being a mixed race in a small town. Why make high school more uncomfortable for transgender students. If a person truly identitys with a certain sex they should be comfortable setting as in the locker room or bathrooms.
- 609** 5/14/2014 17:32 Transgender students should be protected from discrimination just like everyone else. We must ensure that the law protects all people regardless of our differences!
- 610** 5/14/2014 17:29 I think Atherton should have to tell the community what is so adverse about letting a male, that feels he is a female, but has male anatomy use the Men's restroom/locker room. Are we afraid that he will be made fun of? Is the men's restroom not going to work for him b/c of the way he "feels"? Is he going to feel singled out? He is biologically a male, he can use a men's restroom/shower room...
- 611** 5/14/2014 17:06 it is crucial to provide these necessities for our youth and to support their identities.
- 612** 5/14/2014 17:03 I don't believe it's fair to the female population of the school to have a male, even if they identify as a female, in the women's restroom - unisex "family style" restrooms should be made available if everyone is made to share restrooms with members of the opposite sex

- 613** 5/14/2014 17:01 I believe that the new policy should be integrated into the school system. Transgender individuals probably feel uncomfortable using the restroom of the gender they do not identify with. Allowing them to use the restroom of the gender they identify with will not harm the other students. There are probably many lesbian students that use the girls' restroom, yet you don't see girls complaining about that. I am sure the transgender students will not try to cause any trouble in the restroom. They simply want to feel comfortable going to the restroom.
- 614** 5/14/2014 16:58 I fully support and encourage the inclusion of gender identity as a class protected from discrimination.
- 615** 5/14/2014 16:57 If you're so worried about the welfare of all of your students, worry about the welfare of your non-cis students, too.
- 616** 5/14/2014 16:56 ALL restrooms should be made available to students based on that student's gender identity.
- 617** 5/14/2014 16:53 As a member of the Community I feel that allowing a male student to call himself a girl is akin to call himself a Martian or a Merman. You are what you are.
- 618** 5/14/2014 16:52 It is so absurd to me that transgender individuals are still not protected from discrimination on the whole and it truthfully breaks my heart. There are some that are talking about how the girls have the right to feel safe and all of that, but what about the transgender student? Does the transgender student also not have the right to feel safe and secure? Unless your bathrooms lack private stalls, I fail to see what the potential problem is here. A transgender student is not going to sexually assault or otherwise harass another student using the facilities any more than a non-transgender student might harass another student using the facilities. I implore you to protect the minority in this situation. Do not turn your back on them simply because the easier would be to cave under pressure or to go with the will of the majority. By taking that easier way out, you are lending yourselves toward the breeding of misunderstanding and hatred. You are telling your transgender students - those that are comfortable in their gender expression and those who are still fearful - that they are not protected. You are telling them that they mean less to you than the other students. School is meant to be a place where all are presented with the same or similar opportunities and needs. School is a place where we are all meant to be equal. This transgender student? Her rights are just as important as anyone else's.
- 619** 5/14/2014 16:48 I commend Thomas Aberli in this difficult situation, he has led with an open mind to all the diversity in our world, society and schools. Trying to protect all is an almost impossible task but has to be done. This girl needs the protection and the right to feel comfortable in using the facilities appropriate to her orientation. Educate all about openedmindedness and acceptance in our changing world. Anything is possible. Good luck. Maybe co-ed is a way of the future.
- 620** 5/14/2014 16:46 Former student of atherton high school

- 621** 5/14/2014 16:45 As the parents of 2 Atherton graduates in the past 4 years, we have often had the opportunity to share information about their high school experiences. We proudly speak about Atherton's size, teachers and campus. More importantly, we enthusiastically discuss the school's diversity and it's lack of "cookie cutter" society, . Kudos to Dr. Aberli for seeing a need and addressing it, and trying to respect the "rights" of all those involved.
- 622** 5/14/2014 16:44 Aberli's desire to make all students feel accepted and willingness to receive community feedback demonstrates the kind of leadership I want to see in a principal. Regardless of the outcome of this I will be more inclined to send my younger children to Atherton under his leadership. It is my opinion that this student should be allowed to use any and all girls' bathrooms. If any girls feel uncomfortable with this I am sure there are stalls where they can change with more privacy.
- 623** 5/14/2014 16:41 Ridiculous...what about the rights of the girls he has access to in the bathroom and particularly tthe locker room...HE also likes girls...What about thrir privacy...at the most keep him restricted to 1 bathroom so girls who dontwant to share don't have to....Absolutely NO use of the locker room...
- 624** 5/14/2014 16:37 Atherton graduate who thinks the plumbing determines the gender. Girls already wear pants, so if boys want to wear skirts and dresses let them though its largely irrelevant. Male restrooms have both urinals and toilets so one can use the one they wish.

- 625** 5/14/2014 16:35 As a gay cisman (a person whose sex and gender identity/performance match), I believe this trans student should be able to use all women's facilities. On a federal level, trans students are now protected by Title IX, so why should the local level be any different? There must be a specific clause for trans students in the non discrimination policy because not having one does not cover all students. For example, if a black, trans girl is sexually assaulted there is no protection for her to fight with because the policy only covers sex and race, not gender identity. By not having gender identity in the non discrimination policy, trans students will have nothing to fight with if they encounter sexual violence or harassment. Also, the school board is worried about the rights of parents to express religious beliefs. Why? Is Atherton not a public school? Aren't church and state supposed to be separated in public institutions? And do schools not serve students first? I understand that parents rights must be recognized but those rights should not be the ones to decide if gender identity should be added to the non discrimination policy because it does not affect them. The school board must realize that oppressed groups of people need to have protections because without them violence, harassment, and hatred towards oppressed people will continue. And historically, when a group of people fight to get protected by the law, they typically end up winning. So just do yourselves a favor and be on the right side of history by adding gender identity to the non discrimination policy because it will happen sooner than later if you don't.
- 626** 5/14/2014 16:34 I support title IX's role in protecting transgender students, particularly in terms of allowing them to use the barhroom of their gender identity.
- 627** 5/14/2014 16:31 Just want to express support for the student who identifies as a bisexual transgender female. Clint Elliott's comments (<http://www.courier-journal.com/story/news/education/education/2014/05/13/transgender-controversy-prompts-atherton-rethink-policy/9040585/>) ignore the existence of gay female students and conflates the issue of a trans-identified woman with same-sex attraction. He should be ignored.
- 628** 5/14/2014 16:24 I am in agreement we should include, gender identity in the harassment and discrimination policy.

- 629** 5/14/2014 16:23 Persons born female should use the female restroom and locker room, and those born male should use the male locker rooms and restrooms. I honestly can't believe this is even open for debate! A child with a penis should NOT be in a restroom or locker room with a child who has a vagina! Why would the "rights" of a child who thinks he or she is the opposite gender be more important than the rights of a child who does not have these confused thoughts and ideas? The middle and high school years are often very difficult and uncertain psychologically and emotionally. I've known numerous kids who "thought" they were gay during those years, but realized later that they were simply confused and vulnerable to suggestions from the current culture of our society. Please do not let the rare case of gender confusion be reason to punish the kids who are not confused. It would NOT be fair for a female child to be forced to share a bathroom or locker room with a boy or vice versa.
- 630** 5/14/2014 16:22 If one concern is regards to the self identified girl being attracted to girls and going to the the girls restroom, how is that any different than a lesbian using a women's restroom?
- 631** 5/14/2014 16:16 She should be able to express herself and not be targeted as a person who wants to harrass others. Mothers always think about their children before the one on topic. What if your kid was a Trans*? Wouldn't you want them to have freedom In America?
- 632** 5/14/2014 16:15
- 633** 5/14/2014 16:12 The student at Atherton should definitely be able to use the bathroom of their choice. All students should be able to use facilities that affirm their identities; I am not really sure why people are upset about this situation. It seems like discrimination to not let students use the bathrooms that fit their gender identity.
- 634** 5/14/2014 16:11 I think it is very, very important that you make provisions that allow these children, who identify as the opposite gender, to feel comfortable and not out of place, but it is still within your responsibility to protect other students from situations where this would make them feel uncomfortable or put them in an awkward situation. The gender identity may be different from the physical reality, but the anatomy is not. I'm not sure how this can be accomplished, but I do think it is important for the SBDM Council to consider.
- 635** 5/14/2014 16:10 I agree they should be protected
- 636** 5/14/2014 16:09 I used to be transsexual and used to have gender dysphoria. I have since transitioned but if I would have had the opportunities in high school to come out and have equal protections, my transition would have been easier, safer and other basic needs would have been met. There have been comments about the student's sexuality. Sexuality and gender are not the same thing and don't necessarily go hand in hand. If you had a cis female student that was bi-sexual or a lesbian, would she be denied to use the female facilities or would she be only allowed to use one of the two bathrooms? While there should be peaceful dialog and education about gender and sexuality, a student shouldn't suffer because of under educated individuals or bigots.
- 637** 5/14/2014 16:07 Allow the transgendered student to use the girls facilities.
- 638** 5/14/2014 16:01 i BEL

- 639** 5/14/2014 15:56 People should be able to bring their whole selves to school, work, and activities. If you want a concentration on education, then allow students to feel safe and accepted in their schools. Squash the bullying, and show students and parents that everyone is to be accepted. In making this less of an issue, people can share bathrooms, locker rooms, with little to no incident, if you stop looking at transgender people as a perversion.
- 640** 5/14/2014 15:53 the person in question is a human being, with the same rights as anyone else. i pride myself that Atherton has always been accepting and celebrating the differences that make everyone unique. she cannot help how she feels, or what body part she was born with, just like gay ad straight people can't control who they have feeling for. let her use the girls rooms.
- 641** 5/14/2014 15:53 I am 63, female, never married, and I am fully empathetic to the plight of people with gender identity issues. If a person is born biologically one way but identifies as the other sex, then that is fine with me and I support that person's decision, desire to live life as the opposite sex and if that person living as the opposite sex, happens to be attracted to the same sex, as in this case, a girl who is attracted to girls, then I do not see any problem just because the one girl has not had sex reassignment surgery yet. Most cannot get this surgery under the age of 18 so they are trapped in the wrong body but they are attracted to girls of the same sex they are identifying with. I think this bathroom problem is way too blown out of proportion and I feel the Atherton principal is trying to do the right thing here and should be allowed to. I really sympathize with these kids today who know at an early age they were born in the wrong body parts type of body and I do not feel they need to live out their lives being stuck in the wrong body but should be allowed to change, live the lives they choose, be happy, be supported, be accepted for who they are.
- 642** 5/14/2014 15:52
- 643** 5/14/2014 15:52 Let the girl use the facilities that best go with her gender identity! It's her right and no one should take that away from her.
- 644** 5/14/2014 15:51
- 645** 5/14/2014 15:51 Unbelievable
- 646** 5/14/2014 15:50 Please support the needs of all children, both transgendered and cis-gendered. If possible, you can implement gender-neutral restrooms in the school (with a locking door and singular stall) to allow a safe place for these children to go.
- 647** 5/14/2014 15:48 This is absurd. Students who are NOT unsure of their gender should NOT be imposed or made uncomfortable in a place such as a restroom which is supposed to be of the utmost private of places, by allowing these confused individuals to join them in their chosen bathroom. Make a unisex bathroom for them and be done with it. It's just ridiculous. I'm tired of straight people having to bow down to other's whose lifestyles we don't agree with. Does anyone even care about how straight people might feel discriminated against as well in all of this???

- 648** 5/14/2014 15:48 Gender identity should be respected by allowing students to use the facilities of their chosen gender identity.
- 649** 5/14/2014 15:47 I do believe that no discrimination should be allowed. I also believe in equal rights for all. However, I do not think that rules should be changed. We should provide equal rights, not special rights. In trying to please those who feel discriminated against, we should not alter life for others. Sometimes, life is hard, and we have to deal with obstacles along the way. We cannot expect the world to change in order to take care of our individual needs.
- 650** 5/14/2014 15:45 By allowing this transgender student, who has male genitalia, to use a restroom with students who are female, you are infringing on the rights of the female students. Duh!! You will have to provide a separate restroom for the transgender student.
- 651** 5/14/2014 15:45 Transgender protection is essential to students rights. More so, the concerns over the fact that the student is bisexual is ridiculous as cis gendered girls and boys can also be bisexual and let's remember that you wouldn't kick a lesbian student out of the bathrooms or locker rooms. Her sexual orientation shouldn't come into this at all as orientation is already protected and is a separate issue from her gender identity. Trans people have worked hard to gain rights even though it's still exceptionally dangerous to be out and trans in the US. Don't fail this student and the trans community
- 652** 5/14/2014 15:45 It is critical that school policy supports all children, but especially those that are most vulnerable. I am in full support of non-discriminatory language being expanded to include gender-identity.
- 653** 5/14/2014 15:44 I am proud to be an Atherton Alum. The policy appears to be well thought out. Students have a procedure to identify. (I trust that process is not burdensome or awkward.)
- 654** 5/14/2014 15:41 Transgender students who have exhibited a consistent desire to express their identity as different from that identified at birth and who have been evaluated by a mental health professional trained and experienced with dealing with gender identity issues who has confirmed the child's persistent gender identity expression should be treated in all respects as the gender identity they prefer including clothing, bathroom, gym and locker room preferences.
- 655** 5/14/2014 15:41 The students are accepting, why can't the parents and educators accept as well?
- 656** 5/14/2014 15:41 Please do whatever is necessary to protect the rights of your transgendered students!
- 657** 5/14/2014 15:37 A child with a penis, regardless how they identify themselves still has a penis. He should be able to participate in girl events if he truly identifies as a girl, however, he still has a penis and some high school girls may feel uncomfortable changing clothes or using a restroom that a boy is in. To be fair to ALL is just as important as being fair to one. I would fear, placing restrictions, will make him feel more out of place and alone. It's a sticky situation. Good luck.
- 658** 5/14/2014 15:35

- 659** 5/14/2014 15:35 I believe the student should be allowed to use the restroom of which gender she identifies as. She clearly is meaning no harm and is not trying to harass other women. She just wants to be treated like what she is - a woman.
- 660** 5/14/2014 15:32
- 661** 5/14/2014 15:31 Discrimination needs to be eradicate from our nation. Starting at the secondary level molds the future "norms" of our nation and world.
- 662** 5/14/2014 15:31 Gender identity should definitely be included in the non discrimination policy.
- 663** 5/14/2014 15:23
- 664** 5/14/2014 15:17 I support the proposed change to include gender identity in the school's non-discrimination policy. While it is important for students to have a freedom of speech and religion, those rights should not come before the right of any student to feel safe at their school. As transgender issues are not widely understood, it becomes especially important to protect these students from discrimination.
- 665** 5/14/2014 15:12 Male and Female locker rooms and restrooms are specifically designated for each sex to allow for privacy. Unless strict rules were enforced so that only transgendered individuals were allowed to use either restroom area, then the removal of specific, male-female changing and bathroom areas can remove rights and order for other students. A transgender female/male should be allowed special permission to ultimately determine whether or not they can use a separate restroom. Removing gendered bathrooms is absolutely ludicrous and will open Pandoras box.
- 666** 5/14/2014 15:05 All students should be protected. Trans students should be safe in the school. Trans students should be allowed to go to the bathroom when they need to!
- 667** 5/14/2014 15:04 Make a 3rd bathroom.
- 668** 5/14/2014 15:03 Since there is a concern for this student's well being, allow the student to use the faculty/staff restroom. By allowing the student to use the opposite gender, you may be subjecting the majority of students to an uncomfortable situation. Dressing in the presence of the opposite sex in the locker room regardless of the fact this is a transgender student does not necessarily send the desired message. The issue is respecting others. There may be just as much ridicule in the female restroom/locker room. This is a heart issue. It is always difficult to "legislate" these issues.
- 669** 5/14/2014 15:01 I believe it is important for all youth to be able to get a quality education without fear of harassment or bullying. I applaud Atherton for being a leader in supporting the rights and safety of gender variant students.

- 670** 5/14/2014 15:01 Personally I cannot fathom the idea of identifying differently than my biology dictates, but I have to assume that is how this young lady feels as well. If she feels it is her identity to be a girl/woman then she should live like and have all of the same access any other girl/woman would have. I understand that there is a level of discomfort here for girls/women that were born with the right biology for their identification, but without the threat of sexual violence I see no reason to deny this right
- 671** 5/14/2014 15:00 Be careful of how trans youth cases are handled. Even if you allow a youth to present and use facilities of their chosen gender there are many issues they will have to contend with throughout their entire life- and high school is a critically important learning stage for young people. There are legal issues, identity management issues, life-long hormonal medication, and one issue not fully addressed often times (and its difficult for anyone who has not been down this road to fully grasp) is the post-surgical life long physical therapy requirement for dilations that can lead to many embarrassing, humiliating, and uncomfortable settings as one tries to progress through life. If organizations are going to support these transitions, it might be a good idea to be well versed in all of the challenges that will be faced by these students to help them better understand them. These post-surgical and medication issues are not a direct concern in making a decision on restroom privileges but from an education perspective they are critical factors (I'm not even sure that a high school age person can full grasp the comprehensive impact of these issues on their life). That said, do your best to make the student comfortable, but try to provide a learning environment so that they can come to better understand themselves and most importantly that the grass is not always greener on the other side. Suicidal ideation and mental health problems are a real concern for those persons identifying as transgender (of all ages). In the 21st century and post-911 era, its very important to make certain that trans persons understand that regardless of how well they "pass", their historical records of being their birth origin sex will always follow them. Try to help them understand the influence of stigmatization which is a problem for many societal groups but one that incites fear for those who have had to deal with the issue of transgenderism. Just a few thoughts from a concerned citizen.
- 672** 5/14/2014 15:00 You are forgetting about your female students. Men (humans with penises) rape women - this is why we need privacy. You can protect both females and this transgender student without opening up every private female space to males. Males can and do take advantage of this - look at the homeless women raped in Canada <http://www.torontosun.com/2014/02/15/shocking-case-proves-tobys-law-is-flawed> Women are important too - protect both your female students and your male student who wants to be female -- If that means some all female and some gender neutral facilities that is fine.

- 673** 5/14/2014 14:55 I think Atherton and all schools should have a no tolerance discrimination policy that includes gender identity.
- 674** 5/14/2014 14:53 I applaud the principal and all who support the understanding and sensitivity to transgendered individuals. This subject needs to be approached in a positive and enlightend way as I feel Atherton seems to be doing
- 675** 5/14/2014 14:48 SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Police on Tuesday were investigating the physical and sexual assault of a transgender teen who said he was attacked in a bathroom at a suburban San Francisco public school where another transgender student had reported being the target of bullying. The 15-year-old student assaulted Monday, who is biologically female but identifies as male, told officers he was leaving a boy's bathroom at Hercules Middle/High School when three teenage boys pushed him inside a large stall and assailed him, Hercules police Detective Connie Van Putten said. Van Putten said the attackers reportedly made disparaging remarks to the student, allowing police to treat the case as a hate crime. "He walked himself to the health center, and was obviously very upset when he talked to officers," Van Putten said. "He is doing as well as can be expected under the circumstances." It was the first assault of a transgender student made public since a new California law went into effect on Jan. 1 guaranteeing students the right to use the bathrooms and locker rooms that match the gender with which they identify. But even before the law took effect, the West Contra Costa Unified School District, which includes Hercules Middle/High, gave transgender students their choice of which school facilities to use, district spokesman
- 676** 5/14/2014 14:43 As an Atherton 2008 Graduate, it is important to see that our school is able to place acceptance at a high priority. Transgendered students and staff, have every right to be comfortable and accepted for who they are on the inside. Genitalia does not define an individual. Who the individual is on the inside is what matters, we do not discriminate students based on a disability, or their ethnic background, as this is part of the definition of who they are, it is not a contributing factor to how they should be treated based on such. Allowing a new policy to come into effect allows for all students to feel comfortable in their surroundings and allows for all students to feel safe.
- 677** 5/14/2014 14:39 I am an alumni of Atherton. True to the spirit of Atherton, I am pleased to see this issue being considered and fully support the inclusion of transgender students and faculty in the anti-discrimination policies. I am quite disgusted at members of the community who call themselves Christians, but don't readily accept her, giving her the same rights and responsibilities as other students. It's unclear how a bisexual female student "threatens" other females in the bathrooms - would these groups say the same thing about gay male students or female lesbians in their same-sex bathrooms? Atherton has been historically known as pushing the envelope when it comes to acceptance of different viewpoints - and this should be no different. High school is such an important time to teach and instill tolerance and acceptance - and if Atherton can't do it, who can? I support this student and her family. Go Rebels.

- 678** 5/14/2014 14:39 We live in a world in which 'exceptions to the rule' supersede common sense. Bathrooms are NOT set up to make people 'feel better' about their subjective 'gender identity'. They are set up based on concrete gender norms so person with female anatomy can take care of female needs. Persons with male anatomy can take care of male needs. The overwhelming majority of people are the gender that matches their anatomy and are heterosexual. Therefore it is easiest and makes the most common sense for people with male anatomy to use the men's restroom and people with female anatomy to use the women's restroom. It does not make sense, for the sake of a few, to cause chaos in schools b/c we don't want hurt feelings. Everyone is not going to be happy all the time. Some kids will be cut from teams b/c they're not athletic, some kids will not get the date that they want b/c they are not as attractive to the person and some will not do as well at math and science b/c their brains are more geared for literature and writing. What are the effects of telling our kids and implying to them that they will always be accepted and will never have hardships? I can tell you that one thing I see in our society is suicide. Kids are committing suicide b/c they can not deal with disappointment. Stop trying to make a 'utopia society' at the expense of our kid's education. We do not need young women being harassed b/c young men have changed multiple times on their subjective "gender identity" and are now in areas where others are vulnerable. Stop with the PC games that are at the expense of our youth.
- 679** 5/14/2014 14:36 The student must be allowed to use the facilities which are comfortable to that student. Trans students are NOT a threat to straight students!
- 680** 5/14/2014 14:36 I believe every child has the right to be able to use the restroom in a safe and supportive environment. The reality is that transgender students experience more distress and stigma than their cisgender peers. Despite tropes to the contrary, trans persons are more likely to be victimized n they are not able to use the where they feel the most safe. Students also deserve privacy and dignity and should not be singled out to use a "special" restroom unless that is where the child feels the most safe. The child and their parent(s) should have some freedom to develop a transition plan which best supports them through this process.
- 681** 5/14/2014 14:35 Transgender students need to use facilities designed for their physical stucture- if you have male parts, you use the male bathroom. A persons mental "identity" doesnt change their physical identity
- 682** 5/14/2014 14:33 This doesn't seem to be any different than a male exposing themselves to females. Distinct from how a person identifies their sexual or gender identity, the biological reality is that people are either male or female and separate facilities exist to respect these biological differences. Even within the groups of people that identify with their biological sex, a spectrum exists of "manly" or "womanly" traits. Respecting a person and their choices doesn't involve forcing their decisions upon others when a clear, observational answer is at hand. If a person has male genitals, then they should use the male facilities. If a person has female genitals, then they should use the female facilities.

- 683** 5/14/2014 14:32 It would be imprudent to assume that the student currently identified as Trans is the only Trans member of the student body. Rather, she is the only student, currently, who has chosen to identify herself as Trans, publically. In that regard, it would be everyone's benefit to have policies in place sooner than later, to specifically safeguard the Trans as well as the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual members of the student body. Regarding bathroom use, it is not uncommon nor illegal for man or woman to use a bathroom normally reserved for the opposite sex.
- 684** 5/14/2014 14:29 No child, regardless of gender identity, should be made to feel unwelcomed, unsafe, or shunned in any manner at school
- 685** 5/14/2014 14:25 I do not think a transgender student should be allowed in the bathroom/locker room of the opposite sex. In order to not discriminate against this student, a separate bathroom should be provided. The principal had no right to make a decision like this without checking the legal issues. The entire class should not be sacrificed for one person. This should not be made a district policy.
- 686** 5/14/2014 14:25
- 687** 5/14/2014 14:23
- 688** 5/14/2014 14:22 While I am in no way opposed to being unkind to anyone for any reason, there is a limit to accommodation for the few who make claim to being transgender or any other out-of-the norm claims. Use of restroom & locker room facilities should NEVER allow opposite sex (no matter their "identity" claim) to be accommodated. Children/teens face enough discomfort in these settings without forcing them to be confronted by someone of the opposite gender being present in their state of undress. It is absolutely time to stop the insanity of tyranny by a group of people who demand abnormal behaviors be accommodated to the detriment of society as a whole.
- 689** 5/14/2014 14:21 Atherton High School and Louisville as a community should be leaders in the lgbT movement. At this point it shouldn't even be a "leading" move. It should just be common sense. By forcing a trans girl to use the men's bathroom, we are telling her she's wrong to be who she is. According to a January LA Times article, 41% of transgender students have attempted suicide. We need to make sure that we are not contributing to any suicidal ideation by creating an atmosphere of students not belonging.
- 690** 5/14/2014 14:19 This is an outrageous violation of this girl's rights. If there haven't been any incidents involving her, then those opposed to her using the bathrooms are doing so based purely on her sexuality or gender identity, which is harassment. Are lesbians allowed to use the ladies' restroom? Then she should be too!

- 691** 5/14/2014 14:18 I believe any individual that reports they identify with an opposite gender should shoulder a portion of the responsibility for their action to identify with the opposite sex. In matters that traditionally deal with sensitive areas ie..rest rooms, locker rooms, in public places the individual must realize and adhere to the fact there are the rights of others that are important also. They should at lease dress and conduct themselves in a manner that would not cause alarming attention to themselves. I also believe that if the transformation has been completed the individual should be afforded the rights afforded the gender they subscribe too. Until then they should be considered to be what their outward appearance (sex) say they are and should be treated as such.
- 692** 5/14/2014 14:15 Transgendered students should be afforded the same rights as every other student. However, granting these rights or how they are granted should not single out members of this group. ...i.e. having their own restrooms. You should be able to use the facilities of the gender that you identify as.
- 693** 5/14/2014 14:11
- 694** 5/14/2014 14:11 Support and make safe ALL students regardless of gender, gender identity, class, color, religion, creed, anything - that what schools are for.
- 695** 5/14/2014 14:11 while all safe guards should be taken to prevent any kind of discrimination, use of a restroom should be based on the physical attributes of the person. if person "A" has male "plumbing" then person "A" should use the boys bathroom, etc. This would be fair to all and as long as there is ample measures in place to prevent any kind of bullying from occurring. The use of the restroom normally accounts for less than 1% of the school day and as long as the bathroom stalls have doors for privacy, there should not be any changes to the building or policy.
- 696** 5/14/2014 14:06 I would not want my granddaughter to share restroom facilities with a student of another sex regardless of whether they identified themselves as female or not. I think that this would allow any student to use either restroom & some of the shy students would be uncomfortable. Why not have a unisex restroom like they have in most retail stores. This way would be more comfortable for all the students not just a few.
- 697** 5/14/2014 14:05 If you have a penis you are a male and should use the male restroom. IF you don't have a penis you should use the ladies room..
- 698** 5/14/2014 14:04 No a transgender person in an identity crisis should not be allowed to use the facilities of the opposite gender especially locker rooms where students are required to change clothes and or shower. This in my opinion well cause more problems as "straight" children may use this situation to their advantage and suddenly become transgender to have permission to enter into the locker rooms/restrooms of the oppisite sex.
- 699** 5/14/2014 14:04 Do not discriminate against these students just because they don't fit in to the previously narrow definitions of gender.

- 700** 5/14/2014 14:01 OF COURSE THEY SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED IN THE BATHROOM OF THEYRE CHOOSING. A BOY IS STILL A BOY NO MATTER HOW THEY DRESS. THEY REALLY SHOULD HAVE THEYRE OWN RESTROOMS/LOCKER ROOMS SO OTHER PEOPLES RIGHTS ARENT INFRINGED ON BY OTHERS RIGHTS.
- 701** 5/14/2014 14:00
- 702** 5/14/2014 14:00 JCPS should include gender identity in the non-discrimination policy
- 703** 5/14/2014 13:59 From the information I've read, this student is still an adolescent male. Right now, he may identify himself as a female, but who's to say that decision won't change in the next 6 months. I also have a problem with him saying he identifies as a female but has a girlfriend. Is he then a lesbian? I believe that unless he has gone through a sex change, he should still be considered a male. He is still going through puberty and can't seem to make a decision of what sexual orientation he is at this time. I do believe that the school should make some accommodations for him in order to prevent any type of bullying that may occur, but having him share a bathroom or locker room with other girls is not appropriate, especially if he is still attracted to them. As a parent of three girls, I would be very upset if that was allowed to happen. I don't believe there is a gray area here. He is a male student that is possibly being bullied and there needs to be accomodations made for that, nothing else.
- 704** 5/14/2014 13:58
- 705** 5/14/2014 13:58 Hooray for Pricipal Aberli---he is doing the right thing, and AHS needs to add transgender/gender identity to its list of protections. former AHS parent.
- 706** 5/14/2014 13:53 I support Atherton in trying to be more inclusive and supportive of transgender people. I would, however, be very cautious in going forward with this policy. Education of the students would be of utmost priority. Allowing a female who identifies as a male into a male locker room, or vice versa, could lead to bullying or alienation of that individual by others who may feel uncomfortable with being in such open proximity to them. As a female, I would certainly be uncomfortable with an individual who, even though may identify as a female, has male genitalia being in a locker room with me. I think it would be even more uncomfortable for young girls, who have not had the exposure to the world that I have had, and may very well come from much more conservative backgrounds than I. This fear could very easily manifest in bullying. So again, education of the students and staff would be of utmost importance in order for everyone to feel protected and understood.
- 707** 5/14/2014 13:40
- 708** 5/14/2014 13:39 While things are slowly on the upswing for the "t" in LGBT, transgender students face a horrifying amount of discrimination that very often manifests in the form of physical violence. I ask you to do the right thing- Provide this young woman (and other like her) with the respect & support that she needs in such a difficult time. Set an example for your students & our community.
- 709** 5/14/2014 13:39 Biological boys should use boys restroom. Stop the nonsense!

- 710** 5/14/2014 13:39 Former special ed teacher at Atherton.
- 711** 5/14/2014 13:35 Put in two individual restrooms on each floor and and two individual near cafeteria. Worried about cost? How much will law suits and lawyers cost?
- 712** 5/14/2014 13:35 I see both sides of the situation, but feel that if the principal is going to allow the transgender student to use the female restroom, there should be a "unisex" restroom to ensure his/her rights as well as the rights of the female students in the school are being upheld. If I was a parent of one of the female students, I would be concerned for my child's safety, even though the student is not violent, but what may occur if this continues. Also if I was a female student, I would feel uncomfortable dressing in front of a student of the oposite sex. Good luck on your decision.
- 713** 5/14/2014 13:33 I support the principle's decision. He rocks!
- 714** 5/14/2014 13:32 Transgender students should be allowed to use the facilities that correlate with their identified gender. It would be cruel and dangerous for force a young lady to use the boys' facilities. Not only would it reinforce the wrong gender for the student, it would place her at greater risk for bullying and assault. For other young ladies concerned about privacy, I'm assuming the school has individual toilet stalls and places to discretely change clothes for gym. There is no reason for them to feel like they are being exposed if they do not wish to be. Some may worry the transgender student is doing this just to be closer to girls to spy on them - this underestimates the intense amount of thought and time and commitment that goes in to transitioning to the gender of identity. There is simply more to it than a boy throwing on a wig and a dress. I applaud JCPS for doing the right thing and allowing this young lady to use the ladies facilities and I hope the School Board will continue to do the correct thing and change their policy to reflect the protection transgender youth are due.
- 715** 5/14/2014 13:30 I think all rights should be extended to this student. If we want safe schools, then that means school administration needs to foster an inclusive, respectful environment. Transgender students are at high levels of risk for bullying. It's steps like this - allowed trans students to go to their preferred bathroom - that communicate that level of inclusiveness and respect.
- 716** 5/14/2014 13:29 treat students according to what their physical external sexual organs are. period. Children need to adjust to what nature has given them. If one student in a school is born blind do we need to make all students learn brale so that blind student won't feel different?
- 717** 5/14/2014 13:27 In my opinion the transgender person should be allowed a private facility for restroom and locker room use. I would be uncomfortable with a male student undressing in front of me or my child.
- 718** 5/14/2014 13:24 All students must be equally protected by the law. Trans students face unique challenges that should not be dismissed as 'special rights' or as 'distracting' to their educational communities.
- 719** 5/14/2014 13:24 If a given person (I'll refer to this person as Pat) was born with boy parts but self-identifies as a female, who am I to tell Pat otherwise? I doubt that Pat is going into the girls' room to be a perv--Pat has enough challenges to face in our bigoted society.

- 720** 5/14/2014 13:22 I am very proud of Atherton for making this move to enhance gender equality in our public schools. Transgender people should have the right to use the restroom that they feel most comfortable in, & I would even love to see a school where bathrooms are not sex segregated. Segregating children based on gender magnifies the gender binary that is based in fear, and which contributes to rape culture. Please allow transgender students to be who they are and end the institutional repression of them.
- 721** 5/14/2014 13:22
- 722** 5/14/2014 13:17 One of the most important aspects of a learning community is safety. All our students, regardless of how they identify, must be able to learn in an environment free of violence and fear. It is my sincere belief that the district's policy on harassment and discrimination should include gender identity as many universities and other learning communities do. You don't have to open up all the restrooms to both genders, you can designate certain areas/facilities to be unisex.
- 723** 5/14/2014 13:10 I fully support the change to include gender identity in the non-discrimination policy. When I was a student at Atherton (25 years ago), Atherton was a place where all were welcome and celebrated. I hope that the school continues to remain toward the forefront on these important issues.
- 724** 5/14/2014 13:07 While I believe in equality for all, including gay rights, if a male has male body parts, he belongs in the men's restroom, whether he identifies himself as a male or female. The same is true for females. Until a change has been made to agree with the mindset of gender identity, I don't think a male should be allowed to use the women's restroom and vice versa.
- 725** 5/14/2014 13:07 Crazy to even consider these types of issues with kids. Kids are not mature enough to know about gender identity. If they say they are, they are being influenced inappropriately by an adult. Just more Progressive / Communist takeover and elimination of parental rights.
- 726** 5/14/2014 13:06 Ridiculous. If a male identifies himself as female, he still needs to use the male restroom. This is absolutely ridiculous that it is being considered. What will stop all males from doing so in order to access the female restroom?
- 727** 5/14/2014 12:57 As a woman, I would not feel comfortable using a public restroom facility with an open policy. Please consider the young women (and when girls begin high school they are as young as 14) and their physical changes and menstrual cycle. The thought of an 18 year old transgendered person with male anatomy sharing a restroom facility at school with a 14 year old girl is unacceptable. There must be safe and private space available for women. And would a transgendered person with female anatomy choose to use a men's restroom during menstrual cycle? Doubtful. Please remember the rights of ALL young women and young men in this decision.
- 728** 5/14/2014 12:57 This is undoubtedly a positive and progressive step forward for Atherton, and supports the school's vision of celebrating student diversity and respecting individual integrity. I applaud Mr. Aberli for taking this step and for being a change-maker and a role model in our community. Perhaps the rest of JCPS will follow his lead!

- 729** 5/14/2014 12:57
- 730** 5/14/2014 12:53 I would turned gay in high school if I could have went into girls locker room after there basketball practice And no we don't need unisex bathrooms taxes are high enough
- 731** 5/14/2014 12:43 I agree.
- 732** 5/14/2014 12:42 The student should be allowed to use the restroom to which they identify themselves.
- 733** 5/14/2014 12:38 It doesn't matter at all what a person calls themselves or how they want to dress, speak or style their hair. A person who has a penis should not be allowed to enter a restroom or locker room facility where there are young women. This is not a complicated issue as is stated in your references.
- 734** 5/14/2014 12:37 I graduated in 1997. At that time, even what has become the mainstream LGBTQ community was marginalized. Since that time, especially through social media such as Twitter (yes, Twitter, where far more substantive discourse takes place than non-users believe), I have learned far more about the issues faced by members of the trans community than I ever would have understood living in the Louisville metro area or through my education - including, I regret to say, the University of Louisville, where I earned my B.A. in history. The concern over female student safety is certainly legitimate. The notion that a trans student sharing a restroom and/or locker room with cis-gender female students is a threat to their safety, however, is decidedly illegitimate. The Courier-Journal quoted Clint Elliott as saying: "Imagine this scenario â€” a transgender student, a biological boy who decides that he wants to identify with the female gender, and yet he acknowledges that he has a girlfriend and is sexually attracted to girls," Elliott said. "Are parents supposed to be OK with allowing such boys to use the girls' restroom and locker room facilities?" The ignorance displayed here is appalling in the abstract, much less on the more important issue of affecting a real person's life. It may shock Mr. Elliott and those he represents to learn, but there are already cis-gender female students who have girlfriends and are sexually attracted to girls sharing those same restrooms and locker rooms that he seeks to deny the young trans student in question. I'm sure he's in denial about this, just as I suspect he chose to be oblivious to having shared a restroom and locker room as a student himself with male students who were sexually attracted to boys. The issue then shifts to whether this trans student might be some kind of sexual predator. Mr. Elliott would do well to learn about the issues facing the trans community. Statistically, they are the most at-risk group in any community - yes, even in Louisville - for being sexually assaulted and abused. The notion of trans students having access to restrooms and locker rooms as some kind of "loophole" for predators is more revealing about how Mr. Elliott views males than it illustrates any understanding of the trans community. Consider that the student's girlfriend remained involved with her even after coming out as trans. The relevance of that cannot be overstated. Even as adults like Mr. Elliott are distraught at the notion of this trans student urinating in a stall adjacent to a cis-gender female student, her own girlfriend has seen so much in her that their romantic relationship has continued. Additionally, the Courier-Journal article quoted a friend of this young student, as well as the friend's mother, in support of her. If we're to leave this matter to one of passing judgment on the student's character - which itself is a dubious and asinine approach to such an issue - then surely we should defer to the respect and trust that the student has earned. rather than surrender to the

- 735** 5/14/2014 12:35 I am a graduate of Atherton High School Class of 1985. I believe that the student in question should be allowed to use the facilities that best suit the gender identity, not the biology. I strongly believe that today's young people are generally better equipped to accept the fluidity of gender and sexual orientation than we give them credit for. I also strongly believe that this is NOT a religious issue. I would equate it more with an ADA issue. Though the student is not disabled, she requires accommodations to meet her special needs and those accommodations should not be denied. Thank you.
- 736** 5/14/2014 12:30 Allow transgender students to participate in school as the gender they identify including the bathrooms, sports, and clubs. It is a basic human right.
- 737** 5/14/2014 12:27 As the parent of a former student, and as a Clinical Social Worker who has worked with transgender issues and with adolescents for 35 years, I support Mr, Aberli 100% in his efforts to treat this transgendered student with fairness, allowing him to use the girls' restroom. I appreciate Mr. Aberli's integrity and stand for justice in society. --
- 738** 5/14/2014 12:13 This is a violation of the female students' privacy. Once again, women are being required to forfeit our own needs (in this case for privacy) for the needs of a male.
- 739** 5/14/2014 12:10 These people should absolutely not be allowed to use the opposite sex bathroom. How uncomfortable for a female student if a male, who thinks he is a female, is in there as well!
- 740** 5/14/2014 12:10 It is very simple people. If you are born with a penis, you use the boys bathroom. If my daughter is disciplined because she speaks out about a boy in the girls room I will be making a trip to the school. Letting boys who claim they have a gender identity crisis in to the girls room opens up the door for hormone driven boys to make young ladies very uncomfortable. High school only lasts 4 years. I'm sure these young people who are confused about their gender will survive until graduation.
- 741** 5/14/2014 12:09 Atherton High School should include gender identity in their anti discrimination policy. Religion should not be a deciding factor in a public school. It's time we start educating instead of discriminating
- 742** 5/14/2014 12:08 I applaud the principal and his approach. This is a teaching moment for the students and our community. Thank you for providing the opportunity for input from community members. I value our schools.

- 743** 5/14/2014 12:05 I personally had this same mind set when I was a teen. I thought about being a girl and then I realized that God made me to be a boy. Therefore, I started to except who God intended me to be and now I am happy. I am saying, if you are a girl be a girl and if you are boy be a boy. God created males to be men and females to be women. therefore, life will be much easier for those who are confused about who they really are. I disagree with a person can be born with a different mind set of his or her sex. We must realize there is a spiritual battle going on in this world. It has been going on since the beginning of time. Adam and Eve disobeyed God and it caused sin to enter the world. I love all people of all races and ethic groups, but when it come to the sexual life of a person God made him or her to be who He wants them the be. I think our community needs to realize that we the people are being attacked by evil spirits and we need to get back to allowing God's Spirit manifest its power over this spirit of perversion. I feel if a person starts thinking he or she needs to be like the opposite sex they need spiritual counseling. "For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead: so that they are without excuse: Because that, when they knew
- 744** 5/14/2014 11:51 A student should be allowed to use the appropriate restroom based upon their gender identity.
- 745** 5/14/2014 11:48 As an alumnus of Atherton I am proud of the school's reputation for being progressive and diverse. Have compassion for trans kids. They are having just as tough a time as any other kid in high school, compounded by the fact that they are struggling with gender identity in a world that is largely not prepared or willing to accept them or help them. These are kids. Kids who belong to a group with an alarmingly high suicide rate. One act of compassion and kindness could mean the difference between life and death. This is a chance for the parents, students and faculty at Atherton to show either overwhelming compassion and acceptance or ruthless disregard for kids in need of a little extra help and understanding. Lead the way.
- 746** 5/14/2014 11:48 Let them use the staff's restroom
- 747** 5/14/2014 11:45 1982 Atherton alumni. I understand that these are new times & we all face new hurdles. The only way I can voice my view is by example. When a person of let's say Muslem religion states that it is discriminating against them when a Christian is allowed to pray in school. It seems this country is too focused on looking politically correct. By saying no more prayer in schools, they are actually now discriminating against the Christians by not allowing them to pray. I understand that we need to somehow allow everyone to live life as they choose but we need to find a way to do so WITHOUT taking away the rights of someone else in the process. Maybe schools should have a mensroom, womensroom & unisexroom. At least that way you are not taking away someones rights while trying to give equal rights to others.
- 748** 5/14/2014 11:43 Not comfortable for a student, who has decided to switch his/her gender, to use the facilities according to what he/she has chosen to become. If born a male, stick to the male facilities. If born a female, stick to the female facilities. Maybe there needs to be a school built specifically for those that "choose" to be the opposite gender!

- 749** 5/14/2014 11:41 I believe the transgender student should be able to use the facilities for girls. We need to consider what the fear is. Are parents afraid the student will harass girls sexually? This is not any more likely than a gay girl using the same facilities. And we don't base the use of those facilities on which gender students are attracted to. The student identifies as a girl, not a boy just dressing up for the fun of it. No one would ever choose to face ridicule for such a thing unless they truly believe that it's who they are. I say this as a heterosexual mother of two heterosexual children. Allowing my daughter to use the same facilities as a transgender student would not bother me in the least.
- 750** 5/14/2014 11:40 I believe it is fear that is causing this so-called "problem." Simply put, a transgender student should be allowed to use the proper restroom THEY feel comfortable using. It is truly amazing that a bunch of adults and their hateful teenagers don't understand it. Please do not cave in to ignorance and bigotry. Thank you.
- 751** 5/14/2014 11:38 Boys belong in restrooms/locker rooms designated for boys and girls should only use facilities designated for girls. Any crossover use of facilities, no matter what any individual claims concerning their identity identity, is a disaster waiting to happen! Sports teams are gender specific so certainly restroom and locker room facilities should be as well. Any school administrator who puts more focus on allowing the inappropriate use of such facilities rather than on the academic development and success of the students should be removed from such a position of authority!
- 752** 5/14/2014 11:37 I believe that the Atherton High School SBDM should allow trans students to use the bathroom of their choice.
- 753** 5/14/2014 11:33 Let the students use the restroom of their gender identity.
- 754** 5/14/2014 11:32 The girl should be allowed to use both restrooms. There is no question. I applaud the principal of my former high school for his ruling and taking this stand. It's about time.
- 755** 5/14/2014 11:30 As an AHS graduate of 1995 I whole heartedly believe that AHS should lead the way yet again in setting a policy that will allow individuals to live by their gender identity in a safe and respectful environment. Thank you for considering the policy and I hopE that this passes and I can continue to be a proud graduate.
- 756** 5/14/2014 11:29 trans students should be allowed to use whatever bathroom they feel fits their gender identity, full stop. no prior approval from administration should be needed. all students should also receive accurate and appropriate information about gender identity.
- 757** 5/14/2014 11:28 The privacy of the normal students should take precedent over the needs of a psychotic individual.
- 758** 5/14/2014 11:19

- 759** 5/14/2014 11:18 Atherton should provide a reasonable accomodation for a transgendered student in each situation in which such a student is required to mingle with other students whose gender is opposite from the gender with which the transgender student identifies, most notably for example, restrooms, in order to protect the transgender student from discrimination and potential violence. In the present situation, the ability to use one female restroom may or may not be, depending upon all of the facts regarding the locations of the restrooms (which I am not fully familiar with) such a reasonable accomodatrion. Further, Atherton (and all JCPS schools) should adopt the proposed nondiscrimination policy regarding use of space. Such a policy, as I interpret it, would have the effect of requiring a reasonable accomodation as outlined above.
- 760** 5/14/2014 11:18 I actually went to Atherton for high school, and any time I speak to someone about the high school I went to I always share how everyone was allowed to be themselves. Students were more accepting of each other, and the teachers and staff were just as accepting. I personally salute Atherton, once again, for letting EVERYONE at that school be exactly who they are. You won't find another school that would allow or even accept that. It is true, LGBT individuals don't chose to feel like they do. Do you honestly think that someone would chose to live a life, that sends people in uproar, simply because they want to go to a bathroom where they are more comfortable? No! Transgenders literally feel like they are trapped in the wrong body. By schools and staff being more open and accepting, teaches students to be open and accepting, therefore strongly lowering the rate of suicide in young teens. Do we not notice the amount of young people taking their life because people are so cruel?! It's time to stand up for these kids! I am behind Atherton and their decision 10,000%!! I will send my kid there, because I want them to understand the impotence of equality, and I know that Atherton will then back me up on that. We should all find comfort in the fact that this school genuinely cares about our kids! I salute you Atherton. Thank you!
- 761** 5/14/2014 11:13 Keep up the hard work protecting fairness and equality. So proud to be an alum of the school that promotes fairness of sexual and gender indentity!
- 762** 5/14/2014 11:12 Are you out of your minds?
- 763** 5/14/2014 11:09 I believe anyone under the age of 18 is a child and a parent is responsible for any decisions for that child. With that said, if the true sex of that child is a male, it should use the male facilities.
- 764** 5/14/2014 11:09 Yes the school should adopt a non-discrimination policy that includes kids with gender identity questions.

- 765** 5/14/2014 11:07 I went to Atherton (class of '05). I was proud to read about the decision the new principal has made. That this student is biologically male and identifies female is much more difficult and complicated for her than it is for the female students sharing the restroom with her. I applaud Atherton for supporting her (unlike the idiot lawyer who suggested that she "decided" to be a girl now). Trans issues are pretty taboo and I'm not surprised some students and parents are uncomfortable. I would suggest those folks are in need of education; this student may be the first trans person they've met. One last thing -- Go Rebels!!
- 766** 5/14/2014 11:06 A very difficult place to be compassionate and protect the rights of all students and parents. I truly don't think the facilities (toilets sinks) can tell the difference! How many times have I found the "girls" bathroom engaged and used the one for "boys", or "men"? Or the ones marked both as in hospitals If there are doors on the toilets then how does it really matter? Perhaps add a gender neutral restroom?
- 767** 5/14/2014 11:05 As a parent of a recent Atherton graduate I support Atherton's addition of a non-discrimination statement into SBDM policy on use of school space that includes protection of discrimination based on gender identity.
- 768** 5/14/2014 10:59 Fairness to all students, to all people, is part of the American way of life. It is important to recognize the rights of oppressed minorities, to which transgender people belong. It is also important to protect the rights and the safety of all. The most important and timely aspect of this situation is that it is being brought out into the open and being publicly discussed. We also need to be careful to not let a "mob mentality" develop. I admire the courage of the transgender student who is standing up for herself. That cannot be an easy thing to do.

769 5/14/2014 10:58 I believe in the Bible and the Bible says "God created Man and Woman" (paraphrase). If a person wishes to change their "gender" that is their choice. God did give us "free will" but that doesn't necessarily make it correct or even real. In the research provided prior to this section the researchers used the words "their sex assigned at birth" and "we understand it to be" and "perhaps someone is...". I'll have to see the evidence on these statements. Just because someone "thinks or feels they are the other sex, doesn't make it accurate. And the statement that a trans girl who was born male and is attracted to men, but isn't gay is ludicrous. When an obstetrician helps deliver a baby their sex is determined by their anatomy, that is the law. Obstetricians don't say "we are assigning this baby the gender male or female based on an assignment quality. This isn't rocket science. With that being said, can a person as they grow up, mature and make decisions about who they are, why they're here and what type of person they want to be. Of course they can...once again "free will". But free will doesn't necessarily make something right, accurate or correct. Okay, so let's go to the bathroom. (Sorry about the pun) This is a necessary function for everyone regardless...we have to urinate or defecate, not a lot of choice here. With the current age of being a minor under the age of 18, I believe that males should use the mens room and females use the ladies room. Even in my church, there is a "family" restroom that is individual and private. There are other private and public buildings with "unisex" or private restrooms. So...if the JCPS is going to spend time on this subject, build all private, individual restrooms and be done with it. There are unisex port-a-potties at every outdoor public event and we've been using them for years. Finally, the port-a-potties brings up another subject. What if someone decides that they are not human but some other species? Do we let someone go to the restroom outdoors because they think they're a dog or a cat...the evolutionists will love this idea. Come on folks, we're using the restroom here. Our society is making too many accommodations for reasons that haven't even been scientifically verified. People that claim they are the gender they claim to be. Either leave it the way it is males in mens rooms or females in womens rooms or build all "unisex" restrooms and give us some privacy while we "go to the bathroom" and get on with your life. It's the only decent thing to do...

770 5/14/2014 10:44 Our U.S. and state courts decided many years ago that individuals can--and should--use the facilities matching their gender presentation. In other words, transgendered people are already using bathrooms and locker rooms all over Louisville and the rest of the nation. In fact, there are quite a few transgendered teachers and other staff people already employed by JCPS. Would you ask someone presenting as female to use the male facilities, or someone presenting as male to use the female facilities? Would that really be a better solution? Or, would you have businesses and organizations build a completely separate facility for transgendered people? I lived through the era of "colored" water fountains, bathrooms and seating areas. Would a giant step backward requesting separate facilities be a better solution? A transgendered person has just as much of a right to breathe the air all in and around Atherton as any other citizen. Occasionally such people need to relieve their bladders and their bowels. I would suggest that many people confuse transgendered people with pedophiles. If they would do their research, they would discover that the vast majority of pedophiles are heterosexual males. Should you keep heterosexual males out of Atherton because some are pedophiles? The concerned parents and teachers of the Atherton community should ease up and realize that, just as some people are born with disorders creating autism, epilepsy, learning disabilities and cortical blindness, some people are born with a birth defect where the gender identification portions of their brains do not match the physical sex they were assigned at birth. Being transgendered in our society is a terribly debilitating condition. Will you be among the groups that make their lives worse or among the groups that accept this birth defect as just another part of the human condition? For what it's worth, I am a transgendered teacher employed by JCPS. I have been married for 37 years with four grown children and nine grandchildren. I have never even thought about molesting a child in my life. However, I do think about using the bathroom several times a day...and I always do. On two different occasions, I have visited Atherton. Both times I used the bathrooms free of concern by anyone present. That's the way it should continue.

771 5/14/2014 10:31

772 5/14/2014 10:29 Please stop the insanity. If they have boy parts, then they should use the boy bathroom. There isn't a need to expand the already burgeoning discrimination language.

773 5/14/2014 10:28 please allow the transgender student to use the bathroom of her choice.

774 5/14/2014 10:21

- 775** 5/14/2014 10:19 I'm a former student of Atherton and think this discussion is absolutely ridiculous. Someone with a penis uses a male restroom and someone without uses a women's restroom. You would be opening the doors for all sorts of bad things and problems if you allow anything besides that to happen. It's sickening that you are even considering this. These are high school students and they need guidance and to be told what to do sometimes. Tell them while a student of JCPS they will use the restroom they were created to use. Once they graduate and are an adult, then they can fight society on whatever they want. But in school they are there to learn the school curriculum.
- 776** 5/14/2014 10:06 If the student has a penis, he should use the men's restroom. If the student has a vagina, she should use the women's restroom. It's a matter of utility, not gender identity. I'm not religious. It just seems practical.
- 777** 5/14/2014 10:02 Gender identity disorder is a mental illness. Please keep this mentally disturbed male student away from the female students.
- 778** 5/14/2014 9:56 I support the principal in honoring the individuality of each student. These are tough decisions we must face to teach young people how complex decisions can be resolved fairly. I also trust that the administration and school board can come up with clear guidelines that will ensure everyone's safety. I do not believe the decision to allow trans individuals to use opposite sex restrooms and locker rooms will be taken lightly. Careful guidelines must be put in place to prevent those that might want to abuse the policy for inappropriate reasons. Civil rights are human rights and we must teach young people that all are equal in order for violence against those we disagree with to subside. I applaud the principal for standing up and bringing this issue forward. He is a hero in my book.
- 779** 5/14/2014 9:54 Clearly define the condition of being transgender, then draft a policy that provides equal access to accommodations. "Separate but equal" is not acceptable, and one student using the facilities for their intended purpose does not detract from the privacy of other students using the same facilities.
- 780** 5/14/2014 9:54 Students should be able to use the facilities based on their gender identity. No discrimination!
- 781** 5/14/2014 9:52 I'm a community member and former student of Atherton high school. I believe everyone has the right to an education, and for individuals to receive such they must feel comfortable, and feel as if they can be themselves. Let her use the restroom and on a second note, JCPS needs to ensure that transgender students are protected!!
- 782** 5/14/2014 9:39 Transgender students and staff should be included in Atherton's, and the district's) non discrimination policies. The young woman in question should be allowed to use any female facility. Any issues of sexual harrassment or violence can be addressed through current policy protecting students against sexual violence. Former parent and coach @ AHS
- 783** 5/14/2014 8:20 Add gender identity to the clause.
- 784** 5/14/2014 8:03

- 785** 5/14/2014 7:53 Transgender students should be allowed to utilize the facilities of their gender expression and identity. It is not the fault nor the choice of a person to be born into the body they are and it should not be held against them. The legal ability to use a bathroom of your gender is something that cisgender people take for granted. You will never understand what it's like to walk around in a body that feels alien and wish to change it every day. Allowing transgender people to use the bathroom of their gender is a simple step towards providing them with the comforts and equality that they should have. If we continue to put forth the stereotype that trans people are more likely to harass or make cisgender people uncomfortable then you will do nothing but perpetuate an already hurtful and inaccurate stereotype. There are no grounds on which to deny a trans man or woman their right to use a bathroom. It was not your decision to be born straight or cisgender. You don't have heart-crushing anxiety every time you walk into a bathroom, wondering if a woman will stalk up to you and announce, "This is the ladies room. The men's room is next door." But you are a lady. You are a woman. It isn't your fault that you were born with this foreign, unwanted body part. It isn't your fault that you can't walk down the street without overhearing whispered, "Is that a boy or a girl? I think it's a boy. But it's wearing a dress." It isn't your fault that you can't leave a restaurant without the hostess saying, "Have a good night, sir! I mean, ma'am." You didn't do anything wrong, you didn't do anything to deserve this. Going to the bathroom should be easy. You're a woman, you should be allowed to use a woman's bathroom. You aren't even attracted to women, you're attracted to men. Yet the women still stare at you, conscious of where you're looking, prepared to defend themselves from your inevitable flirtation. You don't understand why everyone is so harsh towards you, you're just trying to live your own life. You're just trying to get through every day, one minute at a time, hoping someone doesn't point you out in a crowd, hoping you don't have to explain your body, hoping you don't hear snickering when you walk down the halls of your school. You should be able to go to the bathroom and check your phone and relax like every other woman. You shouldn't have anyone reminding you every day that you were born differently than them.
- 786** 5/14/2014 7:25 Discrimination is wrong. Kids/people at this age are finding out and expressing their sexuality. And for our school system, that is supposed to educate and encourage our youth, to discriminate and shun them will keep them from developing. And as vulnerable as they are, they need someplace to go in order to feel safe.
- 787** 5/14/2014 7:21 The girls in the locker room might feel very uncomfortable changing in front of him/her. Maybe they could use the staff restroom.
- 788** 5/14/2014 7:15 Trans women deserve access to women's restrooms just like any other girl.
- 789** 5/14/2014 7:08

- 790** 5/14/2014 6:52 It is a form of discrimination to not allow a transgender student to use the bathroom they prefer. If "she" feels safer using the girls facilities rather than the boys, then she should have that right. Times are changing and we need to respect everyone for who they are instead of passing judgement! I understand the concern for the student being male, but there have been no harrasment complaints so far and it seems that most of the girls are comfortable with it. Plus, theres not much that can be done in th e girls bathroom, there are stalls which gives every individual privacy.
- 791** 5/14/2014 6:50 I support the principal's decision to allow the transgender child to use the girl's restroom. Thank you for that decision. It must help immeasurably as she goes about her day and enables her to learn more easily by not creating extra stress or concern. Thank you.
- 792** 5/14/2014 6:25 I support the extension of the AHS and JCPS non-discrimination policy to cover gender identity and expression.
- 793** 5/14/2014 5:43 I am an LGBT alumnus of Atherton, and I think it is very important that the school continue to be a progressive place that is accepting of all students. A trans woman is a woman, and needs to be able to use the women's restroom. I applaud Principal Aberli's original stance, and I hope the SBDM will support him.
- 794** 5/14/2014 5:41
- 795** 5/14/2014 5:26 If she, and other transgender students for that matter, sincerely identify as being a female, they should be allowed to use female facilities. One parent voiced a concern that this female would try to interact sexually with other female students in the restrooms. What about lesbians and bisexual females? Should they be denied access to female restrooms because they're sexually attracted to women? Obviously not. This student clearly does not identify as male, and isn't trying to use female facilities to harass other women. Being transgender is difficult enough, as she has "fought to be accepted," and even her wish to use a women's bathroom has been made local news. How humilliating for this poor girl. Just give her the right that she is entitled to, as she should not be discriminated along with others who should not be discriminated for their sexual orientation. Thank you Dr. Aberlei for handling this so well. Proud to be a rebel alumnae.
- 796** 5/14/2014 5:12 Gender identity is a real thing and needs to be recognized.
- 797** 5/14/2014 5:01 This is incredibly wrong. There is NO SUCH THING as a female trapped in a male's body. Please don't fall for this nightmarish nonsense. Do you see how much debauchery is already going on in society, the media, entertainment etc.? Well, you ain't seen nothin' yet. Start letting men in dresses claim to be women, and having this be normal -- and you'll see a demonically debauched America beyond anything you ever dreamed of. Don't give in to pressure from the transgender activists -- they are insane people.
- 798** 5/14/2014 5:00

- 799** 5/14/2014 4:50 As an alumni, I remember the year the lgbt club was formed. Atherton has always been a place where students could express themselves and not feel judges for doing so. Please continue to allow the youth of our future to express their feelings and learn self acceptance as well as tolerance for those with different views. I entered my freshman year at AHS with a very closed mind but I left with an openness that guides me to this day.
- 800** 5/14/2014 4:41 I very much appreciate the delicacy of the issues facing our schools and our culture as we become more informed regarding gender issues. This clearly is one of those matters where anyone who thinks it is simple obviously does not understand. The letter from Alliance Defending Freedom speaks of protecting students from danger, but the situation described does not demonstrate anything even approaching prurience, and certainly not danger except perhaps to the transgendered student who experiences being in the wrong body and having nowhere safe to belong. It is imperative for us to have open discussion and compassionate exploration of however many sides of an issue there may be. I believe that people deserve privacy, and also that people deserve a place where they can feel like they belong. When these are pitted against each other it is tragic. However, when it comes to safety—a major concern of the Alliance Defending Freedom—in almost eighty years, I am aware of countless cases of suicides because of being treated as an outcast, but never have heard of a case of suicide because of voyeurism (which is highly unlikely in the case at hand). As uncomfortable as we have been taught to be about being seen naked, it is still nowhere close to the damage of being ostracised into having to lead a double life. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of all concerned parties.
- 801** 5/14/2014 4:40 I don't wish to waste keystrokes expounding on why I do not agree with the lifestyles of homosexuals and transgenders. Doing so would label me a "homophobe" or "transgenderphobe". Those who use words like that are the intolerant ones. Accomodations should be made for the majority, not for a few confused young people who need some serious counseling, but also should be treated with respect and compassion. Basically we have 2 sexes....male and femaile. Most people still believe that. So let the restrooms reflect that fact. .
- 802** 5/14/2014 4:38 I find it sickening that a trans student would face controversy in wanting to use their desired genders restroom. The fact that people are including sexuality as a factor is even more absurd due to the fact that there are and have been many cisgender lesbian and bisexual female students at atherton. I feel it necessary to note that I went to atherton for four years very recently and while I was there, I was never open about the fact that I consider myself a bisexual trans female. Now I'm glad that I made that choice. I feel bad for all this student has to endure, but a big thanks to Aberli and the rest of the staff for making the right choices. I'm proud to say I attended Atherton just because of the admirable decision making by the administration regarding this issue.

- 803** 5/14/2014 4:38 Students should be supported in feeling comfortable with who they are. Ultimately at this age, that kind of support is paramount in making sure kids have ample confidence in themselves.
- 804** 5/14/2014 4:37 High school is hard enough for young people without feeling alienated by staff for an identity they were born with. We need to do everything we can to make schools safe and accepting environments for youths who may not find acceptance anywhere else. I suggest that transgender youths be allowed to use the restroom that makes them feel the most comfortable.
- 805** 5/14/2014 4:37 We live in a country where we have the freedom to be who we are, even if someone else or someone else's religion doesn't agree with who we are. Gender identity discrimination is very common throughout America, especially in conservative places like Kentucky. But isn't Louisville a bit more progressive? The goal is not to convince everyone to think one way and agree with everyone else on issues like these (though it would be nice!) The goal is to COEXIST.
- 806** 5/14/2014 4:30 Transgender students should be able to use the restroom that they identify as, or there should be a gender-neutral restroom for these individuals to use that allows people of all genders to use these facilities without feeling pressured or unsafe. It is the job of the schools to accommodate the needs of students, and transgender students need these accommodations for their own well-being and safety.
- 807** 5/14/2014 4:27 I am a scholar in the field of transgender studies. The student has the right to use facilities that correspond with her gender identity. If the student is presenting her gender as a woman/girl, I cannot see how parents would suggest she should use the men's facilities. She will always be the one at risk as a trans individual, not the cisgender students that parents are so worried about.
- 808** 5/14/2014 4:25 I support the extension of the AHS and JCPS non-discrimination policy to cover gender identity and expression.
- 809** 5/14/2014 4:21 Thank you for supporting all young people as they struggle to become adults. When I was a student at Atherton I felt safe to be myself. I hope that it continues to be that sort of place. As adults these young people will work with the most diverse work force that has ever existed. Those who are uncomfortable with people who identify as transgendered need to learn to accept them and the transgendered can also learn how to navigate a world that doesn't always understand them.

- 810** 5/14/2014 4:19 As an AHS alum, I find it disgusting that this is even an issue, but it's exceptionally disheartening to know that her sexual orientation is being used as ammunition against her rights. It does not matter at all that she is attracted to women. Will you ban all non-straight students from using the bathrooms? Because otherwise her sexual preferences are entirely irrelevant. What about who is attracted to her? Should she have to fear being beaten up or raped in a school bathroom? The bathrooms shouldn't be gendered. Have a bathroom with urinals and a bathroom without urinals. No discrimination. Trust me, the students act inappropriately outside of the bathrooms already. Have a monitor (which we often had unofficially because of smoking issues) watch the restroom between classes. Removing genders from the bathrooms will not encourage inappropriate behavior but it may encourage acceptance. At the very least, these students should be protected and cared for just like any other student. The restrooms have stalls for individual privacy. She should not be penalized because of the narrow minds of parents and extremists.
- 811** 5/14/2014 4:19
- 812** 5/14/2014 4:14 Students should be allowed to use the restroom and locker room assigned to their gender identity, not their biological sex. The education of a school and community around differences in gender and sexuality will ultimately inform a thoughtful, fair, and more open minded community, whereas the discrimination of forcing a transgender girl to use the boys restroom will only cause harm to the trans student and reinforce the outdated and misinformed opinions of a small group of protestors.
- 813** 5/14/2014 4:11 students should be able to use restrooms and locker rooms that match their true gender identity regardless of status of transition Pre-Ope or post-Ope (before or after gender-conforming surgery), keeping in mind that gender identity is different than sexual orientation .
- 814** 5/14/2014 4:09 Discrimination is just that, no matter what fashion it is in. As a former Rebel, and future Jcps parent (hopefully someday a Rebel parent), I took great pride in the great diversity that was Atherton. I stand wholeheartedly behind the decision that the discrimination policy for not us but for all Jcps schools include gender identity. It seems to me that the real issue is not the student identifying as Trans but that she identifies also as bisexual. I too was a female that was sexually attracted to both sexes. d never walk into a public restroom our that I am a threat? not. I avenues to feel comfortable should be able
- 815** 5/14/2014 4:08 Students should be allowe to use the bathroom of the gender they identify with and school teachers/monitors should monitor those spaces to ensure students aren't harassed or attacked when in there.
- 816** 5/14/2014 4:02 This is a step in the right direction.

- 817** 5/14/2014 4:01 The child is who they are. Let them use the restroom/locker room of their choice. The girls rooms have doors, just as the boys rooms should have doors too. They still have the privacy to do their business. As old student of Atherton I say let the use the one that makes them feel comfortable.
- 818** 5/14/2014 4:01 add a small bathroom for them or let them use which ever bathroom that makes them comfortable like all the other students.....
- 819** 5/14/2014 3:54 Thanks for openly struggling with this issue.
- 820** 5/14/2014 3:52 I highly disagree that this should be permitted.
- 821** 5/14/2014 3:49 I support the addition.
- 822** 5/14/2014 3:49
- 823** 5/14/2014 3:47
- 824** 5/14/2014 3:46 I used to go to atherton and very proud everyone needs to be more open minded and understanding about who people are
- 825** 5/14/2014 3:45 A Transgender Woman in transition IS a WOMAN, and a Transgender Man IS a MAN. They should have the right to use any available restroom appropriate to their public gender presentation, with no restrictions, and any student or faculty who treats them disrespectfully while doing so should be disciplined.
- 826** 5/14/2014 3:37 If you don't a safe space for all including transgender students what are you doing on the council?Everyone deserves the right to use the bathroom of the gender in which they identify with and be able to use these facilities with the assurance that they will be safe and free from harassment and discrimination.

- 827** 5/14/2014 3:35 It should be the hallmark and pride of a school to create new ideas that are informed by a careful and comprehensive review of research and scholarship. In one of the first pages of this survey, an excerpt from Bowers and Lopez (2012) is presented as fact when it is, instead, one theory of gender development. In psychology, there are numerous theories of gender development. Lawrence Kohlberg, Albert Bandura, and Sandra Bem, renowned psychologists, have been prolific in their commentary on the development of gender. Their work and findings, which are empirically supported and call into question the claims made in the literature cited here, are not represented - not here nor anywhere else in public discourse on gender. If you are going to present the popular view of opinions about gender - that it is an innate identity - then do so, but as an educational institution, it is your responsibility to do so by accurately informing your audience that it is popular opinion, and not fact. I do not have an "innate gender identity." When I was born, I was determined female - and people based their perceptions of me and their behavior towards me based on that alone, long before I could coo the words "pink" or "blue." There is a wealth of research out there that shows how our perceptions of a person's gender affect how we see them - and even how we treat them. I do not have an innate gender identity, just as I do not have an innate racial identity, an innate religious identity, or an innate age identity. I find the idea of segregating bathrooms on the basis of gender "identity" to be offensive. Gender is not something we can elect or decline to participate in, it happens to us, it is not a property of who we are "on the inside." I will do my best to shield my child from harmful gender stereotypes, but short of complete social isolation, there is only so much that I, alone, can do. I do not want Atherton to be instilling in any child the idea that their sex is supposed to be associated with anything - no manner of personality, no clothing or toy choices, nothing and I do not want my child to come to believe that who they are is so simple as to be summarized as "girl." I do not want my child to see dresses as "girl clothes" and pants as "boy clothes," or Iron Man as a "toy that boys play with" or kitchenettes as "toys that girls play with." I feel sorrow for the male child who has come to believe that because he likes dresses and long hair and dolls that he must "really" be a girl. The feeling must be awful, but it is not surprising that a male child would come to hate his body if he was told that everything he liked was "for girls." Children need to be taught that their genitals are just one of many facets of who they are, and that it does not dictate what they can or should like or who they can or should be. If Atherton continues on with "gender identity" based bathrooms, and should my child go to Atherton, then I may elect to
- 828** 5/14/2014 3:29 I firmly believe that the initial policy of allowing transgendered students to use the bathroom and other facilities appropriate to the gender with which they identify was the correct decision. The privacy aspect of bathrooms (ie feeling uncomfortable using the bathroom in the presence of transgender or any other students) is resolved with the use of stalls, which should be present in all bathrooms. As for concerns about the sexual orientation of the transgendered student, they hold no weight, as they should be considered exactly the same as any other student, and no one would reasonably expect a student who's physical and self - identified genders aligned to change the bathroom they used based on who they were attracted to. I can accept that there are some people who are uncomfortable with the idea of sharing these spaces with a transgendered person, but to place their discomfort over the rights of any person to be treated as a human being, equal to all other human beings, would be bowing in the face of bigotry.

- 829** 5/14/2014 3:25
- 830** 5/14/2014 3:23 Transgender students have a right to safely use all restrooms available to their true gender. It is harmful and discriminatory to restrict something as basic as bathroom access. I am appalled that a young girl at Atherton is being accused of being a potential sexual harassment threat to other girls. She's just trying to use the bathroom like everyone else.
- 831** 5/14/2014 3:22 I speak as a 2001 alumna of Atherton, if I were attending school during this time, it would be my preference that the female and male restrooms/ locker rooms continue to be defined as they are now to the trans child and all other members of the student body that they are limited in use to only designated facilities per each gender. That policy would inable the students of each gender who identifies with their male/ female anatomical birth to choose between using the shared facility or the restricted restroom/ locker room based off of their personal comfort of the transgender issue. As a parent of a son and a daughter both under the age of 18, I would desire for them to have the oppportunity and the right to choose which restroom to use based off if they feel comfortable in the event of sharing the bathroom at the same time as the trans child. I feel this is the best of both worlds. The transgender child is given the opportunity to use the facilities of the gender they identify with, while at the same time the anatomical males and females are given the oppportunity to choose based on their comfort level. Thank you for your time and consideration of this sensitive issue. --- A.H.S. class of 2001
- 832** 5/14/2014 3:22
- 833** 5/14/2014 3:19 I think it is wonderful that Atherton has validated this students gender identity and it trying to make her corner of the world a little more welcoming. Good work. We can only hope that other schools will make the same change after seeing Atherton take the charge.
- 834** 5/14/2014 3:17 Transgendered individual deserve the right to be supported and protected the same as any other student regardless of sexual orientation. If someone is bi-sexual, do you ban them from both bathrooms? Don't the stalls have doors on them to provide privacy? Let's support the principal that knows his student body best and hope that our school board is strong enough to do the right thing as well. Stop sexual descrimination for everyone, not just a select few.
- 835** 5/14/2014 3:17 I graduated from this school in 2010 and I believe what they are doing is great. If she has the appearance of a female and acts as such then she should be allowed the same privileges as all of the other females in the school. I know for fact there are other lesbians and bisexuals that attend this school as well as many others throughout JCPS, so the fact she has a girlfriend is irrelevant in this case. If this is a reason they do not want her using the women's restroom, then they would have to make all of the students who are lesbian and bisexual do the same. Just because this student is transgender does not mean she should be treated differently than any other student.

- 836** 5/14/2014 3:17 I am an Atherton alumnus, and I believe that the best thing about Atherton (and one of the top reasons I attended Atherton) is its all-inclusive attitude. I felt like I could grow as a person, free from constraints and worries of anyone else's thoughts about me and who I chose to be. While I myself am not LGBT, I know and have known LGBT youth and adults for years (a large number of which were at Atherton.) They are people just like anyone else, and deserve to have a say in who they want to be. A transgender person deserves just as many rights as any other person. And, their choosing their own gender does not impose on the rights of any other student, parent, or faculty member, regardless of their religious, sexual, or gender decisions. This is just like any other civil rights case, in which some people will have to realize that a person that is "different" from you is just as much a person as you are, even if they're a minority. I hope that the student in question, and all other students who may follow in her footsteps, gets the freedom she deserves as a human being.
- 837** 5/14/2014 3:15 I think it is wrong on so many levels, states like California I would expect this because everybody in that state is nuts.
- 838** 5/14/2014 3:12 As a parent of a future Atherton student, the spouse of a JCPS teacher (Highland Middle School), and a member of the community, I support Atherton's decision to give equal access to all school facilities to LGBT students, including the recent decision to allow a transgendered school to use a restroom that matches her gender identity. I also understand the concerns parents have expressed over a biological male who identifies as bisexual having access to the women's restroom facilities, and/or locker room facilities. Clearly, there is nothing explicitly sexual about using a bathroom, except the necessity to partial undress. As long as the women's restrooms have private locking toilets, there is nothing inherently objectionable for any student who shares the women's restroom with a transgendered student. Regarding locker rooms, many students, both LGBT and straight, have issues with privacy when it comes to changing around other students. Atherton should provide private changing areas to ANY student who feels uncomfortable. This will likely result in a reduction of locker room bullying as well.
- 839** 5/14/2014 3:11 Atherton has always leaned toward progressiveness, and this is no different. As an Atherton alumni, I am so proud that my school has chosen, at least for the time being, to respect people as they are. I pray that we continue to do this. I hope that Atherton continues to push the boundaries of what has been, in order to make Atherton a safe environment that teaches and pursues justice. Great job, Dr Aberli. You continue to impress daily.
- 840** 5/14/2014 3:09 I believe that this young woman should be treated as a female and given the same rights as the other female students at the school.
- 841** 5/14/2014 3:08
- 842** 5/14/2014 3:08 A bathroom is primarily a place to excrete waste. People are people and should be given the right to excrete waste in whichever facility they feel most comfortable.

- 843** 5/14/2014 3:06 I am a former student of Atherton. I know change is tough. I work in the Information Technology field and anytime we change our systems, it is very difficult for some to maneuver and use the system. This type of gender identity issue is a major shock to some, and I understand the changes that follow might be hard to swallow. Its unconventional, its strange and it flies in the face of tradition. But you know what? I kind of feel like that is what Atherton represents. Atherton used to be an all girls school and is named after someone who completely spat on tradition in helping to abolish the Kentucky Trustee laws which had allowed rampant local control with little regulation in favor of a school board. Even in the community, Atherton is seen as this hip and happening place where its okay to be weird. In that regard, Atherton has a chance to be a mover on this issue. Atherton has a chance to show the rest of the city that they are open to the best solutions for children even if that means change once in awhile. I understand the fears regarding allowing a person who is biologically one sex but wants to be and believes they are a different one. However, the fear is baseless. If it were so easy and attractive for a boy to use gender identity issues to use female facilities would there not have already been cases as such at Atherton or even other schools? Perhaps I simply haven't been paying attention, but a story like that I feel would have made the front page of every news site in the city. In the end, the only thing stopping a person from supporting our students who may have different gender identities is fear. Fear of the unknown. Now, I am not a parent but I would not want to tell my kid that the reason why I did something was solely because I was fearful. Certainly I would want to tell him the opposite, that when it was time to stand for something I stood courageously with a full breadth of the issue in my left hand and an open mind in my right. Finally let me say to those who would be wholly unaffected by the statements made in favor of transgender students, that it really doesn't matter what you decide to do. While it would be really fantastic if you decided to change your mind, it isn't the end of the world. One day, just like every other issue regarding challenges to the status quo transgender people will be recognized and treated equally and fairly under all eyes and the law. Its not a question of if, its a question of when. So I suppose you have to ask yourself if you want to be a pile of dust when the change goes through and history writes of your position or if you want to be the one writing history.
- 844** 5/14/2014 3:04 Each student should be allowed to use the restroom of the sex they identify with. I understand any guy can say he's a trans woman just to get into the females locker room/restroom, but if the child has a letter from their therapist, they should be allowed to use the restroom that they identify with.
- 845** 5/14/2014 3:02 As a graduate of Atherton High School I am proud to see that it's being led by an open minded and fair principal who recognizes that trans students need to be added to groups protected from discrimination. Please don't let your fellow Rebels, past and present down, SBDM. Thank you

- 846** 5/14/2014 3:00 Everyone should have the right to use the bathroom in peace and with safety. Transgender people should not have to choose between the using the bathroom that completely negates their identity and using the bathroom that affirms their identity while risking the possibility of physical harassment. The reality is, it is incredibly dangerous and the risk for physical harassment is a real concern for transgender people in both instances. The National Transgender Discrimination Survey (the largest survey on transgender individuals and their experiences with discrimination) showed students in K-12 settings experiences harassment at alarmingly high rates (78% of respondents), were physically assaulted at school (35%), and even experienced sexual violence (12%; Grant et al., 2011). When transgender students experience such high rates of discrimination, school no longer is a safe place for them which is why so many transgender students drop out of school. It is also no surprise that transgender individuals, particularly transgender youths, have the highest rates of suicide among all populations. The National Transgender Discrimination Survey revealed that a staggering 41% of its respondents had attempted suicide (Grant et al., 2011). Transgender people around the world are murdered simply for being transgender.
- 847** 5/14/2014 2:59 The transgender issue is an issue of basic human rights and dignity. Please uphold these students rights. Transgender people are being who they are authentically and deserve the same respect as everyone else
- 848** 5/14/2014 2:59 I think that to achieve true equality in our school system, we should not force any student to subscribe to the ideas of others. I support GENDER based bathrooms, according to whatever gender the person identifies with.
- 849** 5/14/2014 2:58 I am an Atherton Alumni and have always been proud of my schools diverse environment, however this is a step too far. The student in question, although identifying personally as a female, is not anatomically one. Therefore should be made, as every other anatomically male defined student is, to use male bathroom and locker room facilities- NOT the female facilities. Again, as an Atherton alumni, a recent one too might I add, I am NOT in support of this decision by the school's administration. I respect Mr. Aberli's decision to bring the debate out in the open, but I strongly advise the Atherton SBDM council to not allow the student in question to use female facilities on the school's campus.
- 850** 5/14/2014 2:57 Unisex bathroom is needed.
- 851** 5/14/2014 2:53 I feel that Atherton High School is doing the right thing by allowing students the freedom to express their gender identity and should be a model going forward. High school age children are just coming into their own and have enough problems to cope with without having to feel constrained and stressed out by gender identity. I am an Atherton grad in 1982 and had a horrible time with my sexual identity because nothing like this was available in my era. I wish it had been, it would have made my transition to adulthood much easier. How sad that people can't understand and support Atherton and Principal Aberli in this great step forward. Surely in a more comfortable environment the students will be more open to the education they are actually attending school for.
- 852** 5/14/2014 2:52 Feelings does not make someone female. Protect girls rights to privacy.
- 853** 5/14/2014 2:50 Go with what a person is assigned at birth, send them to counseling to get their head straight

- 854** 5/14/2014 2:48 This is a great opportunity for JCPS to mark its advances in inclusivity. This is a teachable moment for people who are new to trans issues---and is a moment that school officials can really show its trans students that they are there to support them. High school is a stressful enough time for students. Adding anxiety about what bathroom a trans student can or can't go to, only makes them aware that they are "different" or "Other." For the parents who are concerned about this---it will not be a high priority years from now. Those people will surely forget about this moment...but the trans students who have to exist in spaces that can be at times hostile, will not forget if this measure isn't taken. Thanks so much for asking for community feedback!!
- 855** 5/14/2014 2:44 I completely support being progressive about LGBT rights. That said, being transgender is exactly what the term implies, and nothing more. Bathrooms are meant to be a binary separation between two sexes. Not genders. To support the LGBT community means to recognize them for who/what they are. Trying to make them conform to the current options (boy vs girl) only takes away their identities and assimilates them into popular culture, thereby defeating the need for the term "transgender." If it is to be a term worthy of distinction, and worthy of pride, then it must stand on its own. Just as gay pride is a form of accepting that there are more than two options (again, liking males vs. liking females), transgender pride should mean that one has pride in the fact that they are more than just male or female, but a category worthy of its own distinction. Without that pride, there would be no LGBT, there would only be LGB and then either males or females, no other options. For that reason, I propose that transgender be recognized as something above and beyond the two choices presented by popular culture. There must be provisions made for all life choices, especially ones as basic and essential as the issues of sex and gender. However, after allowing a biological male into the girl's facilities, what would follow? Gender identification takes many forms, it is not a dichotomy. The issue is not one of sexual preference, but of sexual distinction. Would a gay, biological male be allowed into a girl's bathroom? Would a biological male identifying as a female attracted only to females be allowed? If the answer to either of those questions is "no," then policies concerning facilities divided by sex, should remain facilities divided by sex, rather than ones that attempt to quantify each position along a spectrum, or to homogenize people who identify somewhere within. True fairness is found in sexual distinction, and certainly not some imposition that states "you may/may not go here, because you only identify <X> amount with <Y> gender."

- 856** 5/14/2014 2:42 I believe this girl should be allowed to use the facilities for female students, and that transgender students and employees need to be protected under the antidiscrimination policies. Whether this girl is attracted to other girls is completely separate from her gender identity, and is just as irrelevant in this discussion as it would be for a cisgender lesbian or bisexual girl. As an educational institution, it is your duty to help other students understand the world around them, including individual differences and the struggles that individuals such as this girl must face. It is your responsibility to promote an environment that will allow the students to grow into adults that will be respectful of others and dedicated to promoting fairness. To disallow her to use the female facilities would only foster ignorance, which goes completely against the purposes of our educational system.
- 857** 5/14/2014 2:36 It should be the hallmark and pride of a school to create new ideas that are informed by a careful and comprehensive review of research and scholarship.
- 858** 5/14/2014 2:35 Transgender students should be allowed full access to the restrooms that coincides with their gender presentations. Thank you for asking.
- 859** 5/14/2014 2:31 A boy should use the boys restroom. A girl should use the girls restroom. Period.
- 860** 5/14/2014 2:30 Build them a gender neutral rest and changing room.
- 861** 5/14/2014 2:30 I think it should be up to other females at the school . If they are uncomfortable with him in there then he should have to wait until they are out and if he can't wait long enough then a staff restroom or the boys.
- 862** 5/14/2014 2:28 I am an alumna of Atherton High School, and I graduated in 2003. Even though LGBT issues have little bearing in my own personal life, I am in full support of equal rights for everybody, and I am proud to see that the high school that I can claim as my own is willing to act to ensure that promise within the school. I hope that the SBDM makes the right decision to make all students feel welcome in their own school. I fully support allowing students use the restroom that they feel is correct for their own needs.
- 863** 5/14/2014 2:25 I cannot believe that you would allow the perceived right of one or two children to override the rights of all other children and their parents.
- 864** 5/14/2014 2:24 I feel that allowing a student who is physically of the opposite sex into the restrooms and locker rooms is unfair to the other students. It may make a lot of them feel violate or very uncomfortable. As a teenager, it would have made me very uncomfortable.
- 865** 5/14/2014 2:24 You will cause more problems splitting hairs regarding this particular individual rather than focusing on simply what is right and fair. Transgender individuals should have the right to use the restroom of their identified gender, regardless of what their sexual preference is, which is a totally separate issue. What is next? Will you not allow gay men and women to use the restroom with straight men and women? Sounds ridiculous because it is.

- 866** 5/14/2014 2:24 All students should be allowed to use the bath room they wish. However this is risky and will make many parents mad. I believe that what it comes down to is perhaps a letter of recommendation. For many things in the transgender community you need a letter from a registered gender therapist that says that the individual is in fact transgender. If the policy required a letter, then it would shoot down concerns that it is just a confused student that wants into the other gender's bathroom.
- 867** 5/14/2014 2:23 the boy is still a boy. the locker room situation proves to all the girls that he is a boy, not a girl. this is an outrageous thing to do to the girls' privacy and safety, and it doesn't help a boy deal with his identity issues. he needs to deal with reality instead of the pretend world in his head.
- 868** 5/14/2014 2:21 A bathroom is for urinating or defecating. Men and women's bathroom are designed according to needs of the gender and the way the body is created. A woman does not need a urinal " she doesn't stand up to urinate. She needs privacy for her monthly needs. I don't care how much that boy wants to be a woman, until he gets surgery and gets parts taken off, he doesn't need to be in the women's bathroom! Nor visa versa for women going into a man's bathroom. Her body isn't made to stand by the man and pee on the floor because she doesn't have anything to point! Get some common sense. Ignore the man who says he's a woman. If he wasn't born a woman, he's not a woman. I don't want a man, gay or straight, in the same bathroom I'm using. Make another bathroom if they can't stand the thought of using a man's bathroom. We could have men, women and other. We have men, women and family bathrooms. Just add other for those who think they are not what they were born as.
- 869** 5/14/2014 2:21 Transgender people need to be included in every aspect of our society. Especially in our schools.
- 870** 5/14/2014 2:21
- 871** 5/14/2014 2:12 It would be embarrassing to assign separate bathrooms for trans individuals, but it is important that everyone feels comfortable in the restroom. I would not want to use a locker room with anyone that might be attracted to me. Might be time to construct single use facilities. Smh
- 872** 5/14/2014 2:11 As an alum of Atherton, I am proud of the steps the school is taking to raise awareness of the plight of trans students. I believe that institutions of education should do all they can to help students through the troubling years of adolescence, which can only be made worse when said student does not feel comfortable in a public bathroom.
- 873** 5/14/2014 2:10 I'm so glad to hear about a high school considering trans students' needs. I'm a 28-year-old Assumption grad, and it was never a consideration even when I was in high school, 1999-2003. Any environment where trans people are accepted is going to help them IMMENSELY. It will drive down suicide rates and help them accept themselves. Thank you!!!

- 874** 5/14/2014 2:08 I believe the students should be permitted to use facilities of their gender identity. The Supreme Court deals with constitutional religion cases by reference to a person's sincerely held beliefs. I know it's a murky area for school administration to get into, but allowing students who sincerely identify with the opposite gender to use those facilities would not open the floodgates for boys to use 'gender identity' to spy on naked girls. That seems to be the concern of many- that such a policy would be abused.
- 875** 5/14/2014 2:07 As a former student of Atherton High School, I believe it would be anything but just to not allow this student the rights afforded to them by being a human in general in an effort to protect the comfort levels of those who are not only uneducated but are actively participating in their own ignorance by not attempting to understand this problem at its root. If they did, they would understand that even by referring to this transgender student as their sex, and not their gender, they are committing an act of hate; by doing something as isolating as not allowing them to use the bathroom of their gender, they are effectively committing an act of violence. I think it is useful to contextualize this argument within the broader spectrum of insecurity with LGBTQ issues; the argument that she shouldn't be allowed to use the bathroom because other students will feel uncomfortable follows similar reasoning to the same argument that merely being around people of other sexualities is justifiable reason to be uncomfortable. Both are deeply rooted in ignorance, a sort of ignorance that comes with lack of education but is perpetuated by intentional choice to not attempt to understand. I applaud Dr. Aberli's handling of this issue thus far and urge you to consider not what makes you comfortable, but what is most fair for this student and to students like these who have made a very important decision to come out as transgender. Keep in mind that these are high school students we are dealing with and though Atherton is a generally very accepting student body, coming out as transgender, or even LGBTQ in general, is not an easy feat for somebody at such a complicated time and formative age. Moreover, I truly doubt than any student would begin to self-identify as transgender merely to "sneak a peak" at restrooms of the other gender/sex; this is a foolish and harmful assertion to make, and deeply devalues the experience of all other transgender students, especially the young woman who's controversy sparked this debate. Let's not act like we are preserving the rights of those who are uncomfortable/ignorant/uneducated by refusing the rights of transgendered youth; instead, let's take this for what it really is - discrimination - and change how we think about the matter at hand so that all are treated fairly; again, by placing the rights of those who are uncomfortable with the idea of a transgendered student using the bathroom of their gender above those of these transgendered students, we are communicating to these transgendered students that their identity is not valid, and to these other students that these outdated ideals are fair and just. This is not justice, this is ignorance, this is cruelty, and this is violence. We need to prevent both of these mindsets from occurring and afford our transgendered peers the same rights as others and have Atherton High School remain as a place of safety for those of all genders, sexualities, races, and religions.
- 876** 5/14/2014 2:07 Please allow transgender students use the restroom that coincides with the gender they identify. Thank you.
- 877** 5/14/2014 2:04 Students should be allowed & encouraged to use the restroom that affirms their gender identity. Doing otherwise seems to be in violation with Title IX

- 878** 5/14/2014 2:04 LGBT rights need to be protected. Please include transgender in your protected group. You will be on the right side of history.
- 879** 5/14/2014 2:00 I fully support Dr. Aberli's original decision to allow the trans student to use the girl's locker room and restroom. She deserves complete support from the community and school. Thank you for providing her with initial support and I am so sorry to hear of the incessant bullying and systemic discrimination she faces. Please continue to allow her the basic rights granted all other students. Transgender people need and deserve our complete support, acceptance, and encouragement. Especially trans children and adolescents. High school is difficult enough already.
- 880** 5/14/2014 1:59 I think that the only solution that wouldn't make anyone uncomfortable is having a unisex bathroom with a shower. I don't see how the school can draw the line between a student who is truly transgender and a student who would like to pretend that they are in order to gain access to the bathroom and locker room of the opposite sex. While I appreciate the difficulty of the situation from a legal standpoint, (as the school certainly doesn't want to get sued for discrimination), I also think that allowing a student who was born male into the girl's bathroom (and vice versa) could potentially set the school up for lawsuits as well.
- 881** 5/14/2014 1:58 I think if you identify as a girl, then you should be able to use women's bathrooms. Anyone can harass another person regardless of if you're transgendered or not. If a harassment situation arises it should be dealt with at that point. It doesn't make any sense to assume a student is doing something wrong because he or she is transgendered.
- 882** 5/14/2014 1:55 Trans teens should be provided a private bathroom where they can be comfortable and safe and alone. The female bathrooms should be for female students who identify as female. The male bathrooms should be for male students who identify as male. This is in the best interest of safety for all involved. We must protect all students. Safety is of highest priority--safety of ALL students. This is a safety issue.
- 883** 5/14/2014 1:55 As a former JCPS student, I faced difficulties because of my gender identity, including feeling unable to safely use bathrooms at school. This was a contributing factor when I decided to leave JCPS. I support the extension of the AHS and JCPS non-discrimination policy to cover gender identity and expression.
- 884** 5/14/2014 1:52 People should be able to use whichever restroom are more comfortable in. There is no threat in allowing trans men or trans women in their respective bathrooms, as what people do in the stall is their own business. We allow lesbians and gay men to go to the bathroom in their same-gender bathrooms, and we don't see them attacking people out of uncontrollable lust. If a person is really determined on sexually assaulting someone, they won't pay any attention to the stick figure on the door. We need to be accepting and welcoming of gender variant students in our community.
- 885** 5/14/2014 1:51 If a person has a penis, he or she goes to the boys restroom. The privacy, safety and dignity of the entire female population should also matter.

- 886** 5/14/2014 1:42 As a transgender individual myself, the ability to safely use the restroom is one that is always on my mind. The support shown by the principle has been encouraging and I hope that the school board will recognise that it should support this student as well. Gender identity is not a made up idea but something that we all develop over our lives. I hope that you will not punish this student for having a gender identity that is not the one assigned to her at birth by a doctor. I understand the need for all students to feel safe is important but the danger posed to the transgender student by forcing her to use a restroom that differs from how she presents herself is substantial. If this student is under the care of a therapist, they can provide a letter to support this students active transition. I urge the school board to honor her identity and allow her to use facilities that will be safest for her.
- 887** 5/14/2014 1:42
- 888** 5/14/2014 1:41
- 889** 5/14/2014 1:41 As an alumnus of Atherton I have always enjoyed the inclusion of AHS. That being said, gender confusion with a boy claiming to be a girl, but dating a girl isn't a discrimination topic. There are lots of 16 years olds who are confused. The rest of the school does not need to adjust to one student in this case. Is it more traumatic to have 25 traumatized girls with a male in their bathroom than it is to have one anatomically correct male use a bathroom with his peers? Sometimes life isnt fair, that is part of growing up, but it doesnt mean it's discrimination.
- 890** 5/14/2014 1:41 What about the students that are girls and would be forced to use the restroom with a boy, even if he does identify as a female? We shouldn't sacrifice the rights of the many for those of a very small minority. As a woman who was sexually assaulted as a teen, I would be horrified at the thought of using the bathroom with a male no matter the situation. We all have difficulties in our lives and injustices we must face. The fact of the matter is these students are physically male and female, and until such time as that is changed they should use the appropriate restroom. The students need counseling and guidance on how to deal with life as a transgendered individual and the student body as a whole need safety, security and stability.
- 891** 5/14/2014 1:40
- 892** 5/14/2014 1:39
- 893** 5/14/2014 1:38 Discrimination in all forms is harmful to communities as a whole. Transgendered people, regardless of sexual orientation otherwise, should be allowed to use facilities designated for their gender identity. Education about gender identity issues should be provided in communities where issues arise. I believe Dr. Aberli's response to this situation is appropriate but limiting. The young lady in question should have access to all female facilities.
- 894** 5/14/2014 1:38 How many transgendered students can their possibly be? Seems like a sledge hammer to kill a fly
- 895** 5/14/2014 1:38 I am very happy to see Tom Aberli and (hopefully) the SBDM take a stand against discrimination. Tolerance and acceptance are the key to a productive instructional environment.

- 896** 5/14/2014 1:37 This is ridiculous. As the mother of a teenage daughter, I would never want her in the restroom with a penis. I don't care if the penis is wearing girl's clothing. You are born male or female with those body parts. Use the appropriate facilities.
- 897** 5/14/2014 1:37 Bathrooms should only be for the gender you were born. Whether that student identifies as a different gender or not it violates all the other young students. Leave bathrooms same sex only in public schools!
- 898** 5/14/2014 1:37
- 899** 5/14/2014 1:35
- 900** 5/14/2014 1:34 As a member of the community, and a 35 year neighbor of Atherton high school, I totally support equal rights and fair treatment if ALL students attending Atherton High School. As an educator myself, in the public school system, it is my responsibility to make sure ALL students are treated with equal respect. I work with children who have learning and behavior disorders; ranging from the common "ADHD" to autism. I know firsthand how discrimination, disrespect, and unfair treatment can have detrimental impacts on the school community, individuals, and the culture of a community. Please consider allowing all students to be treated fairly and with respect. After all, this is 2014.
- 901** 5/14/2014 1:34 So happy I left Jefferson County and JCPS is the reason why. You're all idiots.
- 902** 5/14/2014 1:34 This is a biological male. Restrooms are sex-segregated spaces for the safety of biological women and girls- safety from male attention, assault and rape. Sex segregated spaces have nothing to do with someone's internal feelings about gender roles. Title XI was a hard won gain for women an opening up women's restrooms, locker rooms, and sport teams to biological males is totally antithetical to Title XI. Transgenderism is a social ideology that seeks to erase the rights of biological females in favor of those who "feel like a girl" because of some superficial preferences in how they dress and express themselves. Biology is real and the transgenderists call it transpobia. Insanity. This young man has every right to express himself in any way he chooses, but hair and makeup and clothing do not negate biology. Being a female is not a feeling, it is a biological reality for women and girls who have the right to safe, sex-segregated spaces, away from males.
- 903** 5/14/2014 1:33 This is not ok. If a student identifies as different from what they were born that is fine. When you give them the ability to go in the same bathroom as opposit sex then you are making that gender uncomfortable. There should be a seperate bathroom for transgender. I know that if i was to walk into the bathroom and there is a man dressed as a woman i would be very uncomfortable and i would walk out.
- 904** 5/14/2014 1:32 Do the right thing...add transgender to your anti - discrimination policy...It would be fantastic to see Louisville do the morally right thing now instead of waiting twenty years and then realize it is okay not to discriminate against transgender students.
- 905** 5/14/2014 1:31
- 906** 5/14/2014 1:31

- 907** 5/14/2014 1:31 As a former student at Atherton, I believe that one thing that I took away after graduation was that I was definitely a part of an amazingly diverse group of people. Atherton provides a warm, friendly, and non-discriminatory environment that should make any student feel comfortable. With that being said, I believe that Atherton reflects what our society ought to look like, that is, a society that is fair, just, and constantly open to changes that may come about. Gender is performative, and not tied to biology. People will see of this student what this student allows them to.
- 908** 5/14/2014 1:30 No one should be bullied or made to feel insecure for who they are or what they feel they are. I fully support Atherton in this and I would have loved to be apart of such an amazing school. Don't let this girls right to express herself be taken away. She is transgendered she's not someone out to harm your children just because she can't control her physical aspects of her life right now. I say this without a care of what anyone else thinks but that girl and the council of the school. People will always make controversy but that doesn't always mean you should change how things are done at your school. Please don't change your policy. You are doing something good and we need the acceptance that your school provides. I am a supporter of the LGBT community and proudly so. Let her have her rights. No one will be harmed by it. All she wants is to be free to be herself and that's not something to stop from happening. If more people were accepting then I bet suicide rates would be much less than what they are today. Kids in high school need acceptance until they grow and they learn that they don't always need it. Don't push this girls freedom to express herself away. Especially not when everyone else in that school has it. Most without judgement. We don't need more inequality when people are fighting to achieve the opposite.
- 909** 5/14/2014 1:26 Standing up for the rights of marginalized people is always right even when it's risky or upsets some. I was a student at LPTS when we passes a nondiscrimination clause for the seminay including trangender persons. Some worried about the liability of being responsible for fulfilling that claim, but we looked at data showing positive outcomes for companies who had done the same and ultimately stood on the side of fairness and justice. The school was only better for it. I pray Atherton will do the same!
- 910** 5/14/2014 1:25 Trans gendered individuals should be allowed to use the restroom of the gender with which they identify. A person should not forfeit that right because of their sexual orientation.

- 911** 5/14/2014 1:24 I believe that the policy should be expanded to give equal protection to transgender students. Special consideration, and protection, needs to be considered especially because of the minority status of transgender people. This is a challenging, confusing subject for many who have had little exposure or experience to transgender people. Education is key. I would ask each of us to think about what we would want for ourselves or our own child if we are put in a situation like this. Would we want to be told which bathroom we can use? Does that feel inclusive or exclusive? A child who is going through the amount of confusion I am sure this child has experienced needs love and acceptance. She is very brave. I am thankful for her courage.
- 912** 5/14/2014 1:20 I believe that the student should not be able to use the female facilities. To grant this special privilege to a single student, or minority of students, violates the rights of the majority population, in this case the female population of Atherton High School. With regards to the scenario in question, I believe that it is not a discriminatory issue as the student in question has not undergone physical gender reassignment.
- 913** 5/14/2014 1:19
- 914** 5/14/2014 1:17 people, young old, middleaged, who define themselves as transgendered, are in no way looking to get closer to a certain gender. they have honest feelings of being in the wrong body. im lost as to why this has to be such a huge issue. treat ALL students as the gender they identify with, not as freaks or aliens!
- 915** 5/14/2014 1:17 Transgender students need our support and protection. This is a very vulnerable group of kids and they need every effort of protection afforded to them. NO ONE CHOOSES to be transgender! When did YOU choose to be male or female?...you didn't, you were born with an innate sense of self and gender. So are these kids, their bodies simply do not align with their gender!!! PROTECT THIS CHILD and AFFORD HER EVERY RIGHT that is afforded to all other students! In the article in the CJ, Elliott said. "Are parents supposed to be OK with allowing such boys to use the girls' restroom and locker room facilities?".....Is Mr. Elliott not aware that lesbians share the same "sacred" womern's bathroom and women's locker room with other females? Would Mr. Elliott purpose seperate bathrooms/locker rooms for "straight" kids, "gay" kids, and "transgender" kids? What about Bi sexual kids? where would they go? This student IS A FEMALE and should have all the rights and privileges that ALL other females have in that school.
- 916** 5/14/2014 1:09
- 917** 5/14/2014 1:09 Please add transgendered youth to the non-discrimination policy. This is a step in the right direction.

- 918** 5/14/2014 1:07 I believe that the rights of all students should be considered fair and equal, in the eyes of the students themselves. Without the equality as perceived by the student body, by all contingent members, we are no better than the lawmakers who instituted segregation policies at the end of the Civil War, in the act of excluding certain groups of people from basic human rights. In this instance, should the girl be not allowed to identify the way she feels, then we become nothing more than a society that breaks and belittles us into nothing more than numbers, because we are stripping her of her ability to express herself in the way she feels she needs to. While biology may seem to label this as "wrong," in her mind, she has always been female, and the biology got it wrong. To deprive her of the ability to express herself in the way she sees herself, she has lost some power to dictate her own future, and we as a community can not be the arbiters of her fate. Thus, she should be allowed the right to be who she is, with all of the basic human rights associated with that gender that biologically born members are entitled to.
- 919** 5/14/2014 1:04 As I am transgender myself, after having fought with it for several years, I feel that the rights for this girl to use the facilities that are given to her gender are hers, as well as any other girl who attends your school. Those who think that this is just a cry for attention or a way for her to get closer to girls to harass them, they don't understand the amount of self-reflection that it takes to come to an understanding about themselves that most people won't ever get to. They fear because they do not understand. Ask those parents their stance on gays. Should gay men be allowed to use the same restroom/locker room/classroom/building/etc? They use their ignorance to try to force others to conform to their narrow views, because they can't learn to widen them with the wealth of information that is available. I feel that your choice is a good one and I hope that you will continue to support any and all STUDENTS who come to you for help, be they gay, straight, christian, muslim, trans*, black, white, whatever. Our differences make us who we are. They shouldn't be shamed.
- 920** 5/14/2014 0:59 As an alumni of Atherton High School, I believe that Atherton should include transgendered people into their non-discrimination policy. Atherton has, since I can remember, promoted equality and acceptance of everyone. High school years are all about figuring out yourself, discovering your likes and your dislikes, finding out who you want to be in your life. Atherton has always, in my mind, been the greatest place for people to figure out who they are in a safe and welcoming environment. I have a family member coming into Atherton this upcoming fall, and I am incredibly excited that she gets to go to a school as open and accepting as Atherton. Seeing this change would make every Rebel alumni incredibly proud.
- 921** 5/14/2014 0:57 I am glad to see Dr. Aberli taking a stance on an issue that is still taboo in our society. I believe that if a person identifies as a female, they should use the female restroom, not dependent upon their biological status. This country was founded on freedom, and we need to uphold that ideal.

- 922** 5/14/2014 0:57 The Fairness Law in Jefferson County provides an excellent example of what should be present in all of JCPS. Please stand up for what is right - and include gender identity in your anti-discrimination policy. JCBE chickened out seven years ago... As a community member - and the mother of an Atherton alumnae, I urge you to do what is right.
- 923** 5/14/2014 0:48
- 924** 5/14/2014 0:44 I am a former student of Atherton(graduated 2010). I would just like to say how proud I am that Atherton and its principal are making efforts to respect all of the students. I fully support Aberli's decision to allow students to access the restroom that is appropriate to their gender regardless of sex. The biggest argument I can see from the letter from Alliace Defending Freedom to JCPS is that "there is no legal requirement" for Aberli's decision. If that is the case I would like to thank Aberli for going "above and beyond the call of duty" to respect those who the law has overlooked(keep up the good work 'Skittles'). I am certainly in support of changing the official policy to include protection of transgender students.
- 925** 5/14/2014 0:43 That student may be anatomically male, but SHE is neurologically female. While the sex of the body can be changed, the neurology of the brain cannot be changed so drastically. She may have a boy body, but that doesn't make her not a girl. Besides, bathrooms have stalls, so what do a person's genitals matter? Here's a scenario: this girl needs to pee. She goes into the girls bathroom, enters a stall, closes the door, urinates, opens the door, washes her hands, and leaves peacefully. I fail to see how this infringes on the rights of anybody in any way.
- 926** 5/14/2014 0:42 By allowing a biological male into the female restrooms and locker room facilities, a situation lending itself to harassment is being created. Who in the school's administration is qualified to decide whether or not a student is straight, homosexual, or transgendered. Dangerous things happen when you exchange legal rights for an oral statement of sexuality. Especially in such a volatile age group. I am an undergrad at a local university familiar with JCPS. I remember what it was like to be in high school. It is a tumultuous time that is largely spent finding an identity, an identity that may change multiple times during 4 short years. I do not think that a transgendered student should be allowed to use facilities of the gender he/she identifies with, I think that a student needs to use the facilities of his/her born gender. However I think the SBDM Council should look to the post-secondary educational and professional world as a model in making this decision. AND
- 927** 5/14/2014 0:41 If gender neutral facilities cannot be established (the safest and most fair option in this circumstance) you should work with the individual student to find what she finds most comfortable. If allowing her to use one specific facility so that students who are uncomfortable with her presence can use the other is a suitable solution then that should be how it is handled. The safety and comfort of all students should be considered, and a survey and general discussion will not solve everything. Instead, work with the students who have issues individually.

- 928** 5/14/2014 0:37 Students should be allowed to use whichever facility matches their preferred gender identity. Anything else is discrimination which should not be tolerated. Transgender students' rights need to be protected and forcing them to use facilities that don't for their identity is harmful and discriminatory.
- 929** 5/14/2014 0:34 Lets break down the gender gates yall
- 930** 5/14/2014 0:34 As a heterosexual, new teacher who supports the LGBT community I feel that is only fitting for students to be a part of a learning community where they are safe. As educators we are to protect our students and mold them into powerful contributors of a diverse society. Atherton is piloting ideas and concepts that in few years will be mandatory for the whole district. Protect all students and provide them with an accepting learning environment!
- 931** 5/14/2014 0:32 I understand why this is a tough issue. I don't want any child left out of anything because of personal qualities they did not choose but were born with. I also believe the uniqueness of all people should be celebrated. I am not answering based on religion. A person's 'sex' is protected, not their 'gender identity'. This will not be popular opinion given but legally based thought. I personally am of the mind that unisex bathrooms are more fair than to allow the gender lines to be blurred in individual cases at a principles discretion. This is not equality either... Unisex or this student should be placed in the bathroom their genitalia dictates. I don't want my daughter to use a bathroom that says it is for girls only and then see a person who has a penis granted access. Is that PC? No. Is it real yes. The question becomes, then why can't her boyfriend enter the ladies room? Why indeed? Fairness is an illusion and it is boldly unfair to put a sign on a door that is not true for all. Unisex bathrooms for all of the bathrooms or this female identifying male should use the bathroom for males. (this is my opinion and I am sorry for any hurt feelings)
- 932** 5/14/2014 0:31
- 933** 5/14/2014 0:31 I think you should let her use the girls' restroom because she will be like any other regular girl if that's how she feels.If other students don't like it, they can wait to use the restroom after she has used it.It is no big deal.
- 934** 5/14/2014 0:31 She identifies as a girl and therefore should be treated as such. Simple as that. What she is going through emotionally and physically is difficult enough, she does not need uninformed bigots making her life more difficult than it already is. Also, I am very confused by Elliot's argument that we shouldn't allow a boy who "decides" to identify as a girl and still date girls to use the same facilities. First, transgenders don't "decide" anything, they're born the way they are and they cannot help but identify with the gender their brain is wired for. Is his issue that she cannot use the bathroom because she likes girls? Using the same logic, is he suggesting that lesbians shouldn't be able to use the same bathrooms? Because that just sounds downright absurd.

- 935** 5/14/2014 0:30 I am 100% in support of Atherton having policies that protect the rights of transgender students and staff. Thanks for leading the way for schools in our community!
- 936** 5/14/2014 0:29 Trans people should be able to use the bathroom of their choice. Would it be acceptable to make black students use a separate bathroom because their presence makes a few (bigoted) people uncomfortable? Of course not. The same goes for gay students. Some people are different, being trans (or gay) is as much of a choice as being black. No one chooses to be treated subhuman. Please stand up for trans rights and let trans students use the bathroom of their choice.
- 937** 5/14/2014 0:28 I do not want my daughter sharing a bathroom with boys. It's wrong.
- 938** 5/14/2014 0:28 The rights of all should be protected. The 'sex' of a transgendered person is what they feel and identify with. If a genetic male identifies as female they should be treated as such. That means using female designated facilities. It is not a sexual thing it is an identification issue.
- 939** 5/14/2014 0:22
- 940** 5/14/2014 0:21 As an Atherton graduate and a community member, I would expect the school to use its discrimination policy to protect transgendered students. The core mission of the school is to educate, and the best way to do that is by modeling equitable/compassionate behavior. Transgendered students should be able to use the facilities that align with their gender identification.
- 941** 5/14/2014 0:12 Accept trans students and give them the support they deserve!
- 942** 5/14/2014 0:11 I think that the one restroom makes sense. Personally, I support this student and believe there is no reason she shouldn't be able to use the same facilities as other girls. She's not peeking into their stalls, trying to harass other students. Allowing on restroom lets her feel accepted while giving the students who have a problem with her privileges the option to stay away. Sometimes, majority doesn't rule. Just because some students feel uncomfortable doesn't mean we should make this student feel uncomfortable instead. A solution that has a compromise where we don't isolate this student and don't make other students feel uncomfortable is ideal here. Atherton is known for being a progressive school, why take that idea away for her? This school was probably her first choice due to the openness. Let's not let that change because of close mindedness.

- 943** 5/14/2014 0:10 You have a choice to deal with, the safety of parents or safety of the youth. Parents are afraid this is an act just to harass the female students. I personally feel that is out of fear. Regardless, if you allow the transgender and issues do arise, youth will come forward with the information. From there proper actions with the youth can be taken. if this isn't an act like parents feel that it is, you will have changed the life of one student and possibly many more. Now let's say you decide not to allow this student to use the female restroom this can cause a large amount of problems for the youth. Putting a out transgendered female in a male restroom could cause harassment to the youth. As a gay male I was spit on, had rocks thrown at me and was called fag on a daily basis. Imagine that kind of harassment bring done to a youth who is already having body dysmorphia. Long story short I say allow the youth to use the women's restrooms and if you get word of the youth harassing female students, handle it with actions that would if a female student was sexually harassing another female student. Because just saying No to this issue is playing to the parents safety. And I feel from school administration, you should be working towards student safety.
- 944** 5/14/2014 0:10 I am a 1996 graduate of Atherton High School and applaud the principal for letting the transgender student use the girl's bathroom. It shows care and respect for this student's well being and comfort at school. Keeping the use to one bathroom, while not always easy given the campus layout, seems like a fair compromise in regards to protecting all students. Well done!
- 945** 5/14/2014 0:08 This no different than a race issue....remember when blacks and whites had to be separate. Do the right thing Atherton!!
- 946** 5/13/2014 23:59 Gender Identity should be included in the policy.
- 947** 5/13/2014 23:59 A non-discrimination clause would be helpful and important and would help out so many kids--kids who might be afraid to show who they are (currently) because they are afraid they'll be discriminated against. I want all our youth to feel safe and protected, and trans rights are worth protecting!!
- 948** 5/13/2014 23:57 She should have access to any of the women's restrooms. I don't understand the concern from those parents and students who point out that her presence in the women's restroom might make others uncomfortable because she has a girlfriend. What about cisgendered lesbians? Are we going to ban them from the women's restrooms too? Besides, all women's restrooms have stalls for privacy.

- 949** 5/13/2014 23:57 I feel as if protection and support should be extended to all students, regardless of their gender identity. Maybe instead of deciding if this one student should be allowed into the female bathrooms, there should be gender-neutral bathrooms. Of course some students would not be comfortable with using a gender-neutral bathroom at first but maybe keep one female bathroom, one male bathroom, and two gender-neutral bathrooms. This could solve the problem at hand and also open people up to the discrimination that trans-gender students and community members are faced with.
- 950** 5/13/2014 23:49
- 951** 5/13/2014 23:49 My concern is that many of the comments opposed respecting the gender a student identifies as show a misunderstanding of the nature of transgender individuals. I strongly support an individual's right to identify their own gender and use the facilities associated with their identified gender. This is not about "lying" to gain access to a restroom for illicit purposes. This is about respecting our students as individuals. Thank you.
- 952** 5/13/2014 23:45 I support the extension of the AHS and JCPS non-discrimination policy to cover gender identity and expression. I believe that discriminating against transgender individuals is just as demeaning and oppressive as discriminating against an individual for their race, religion, sex, orientation, age, disability, or any other currently protected status.
- 953** 5/13/2014 23:45 The issue of which bathroom a person uses is strictly that of one's anatomy or sex. One's gender or sexual persuasion should not be a factor in the decision of which bathroom to use. If the student does not feel safe using the bathroom associated with his or her sex or anatomy, then appropriate measures should be taken to help the student feel safe (i.e., using a faculty bathroom). All students need to feel safe at school no matter whether it is in the classroom, lunchroom, or bathroom. To address the issue of abuse of such policies, students should be required to provide a note from a mental health professional to affirm the need for an alternative solution. This should not be a problem since school psychologists should be able to conduct a thorough assessment of the student's needs.
- 954** 5/13/2014 23:41 I am currently a filmmaker in the process of making a documentary film about masculinity and femininity.
- 955** 5/13/2014 23:40 Students should be treated as they identify. Trans* students should be supported using the bathroom that corresponds to their professed gender identity. All students should be safe in the bathroom at JCPS schools. Addressing appropriate behavior in the bathroom is a winning strategy that is not dependant on the gender presentation or perception of gender of those involved.
- 956** 5/13/2014 23:38 I think the use of one bathroom is fair and allows girls the opportunity to not share if it makes them uncomfortable.

- 957** 5/13/2014 23:36 I am an Atherton graduate, class of 1996. There is no reason to bR this young woman from using athe girls bathroom or locker room. Like all teenagers, she is struggling with growing up and becoming an adult and she should not be punished because she has the courage to be herself. It seems to me that she is taking a great risk by standing up for herself, and likely is harassed by both boys and girls. Why have that harassment at the school level too?
- 958** 5/13/2014 23:33 As an alumni of Atherton and someone who knew and still knows people that go to Atherton that this policy for fair treatment regardless of identity would benefit, I think it is a shame that a small group of reactionary people can prompt the school to even consider changing its stance. I know people at Atherton who have to sneak around when they go to the bathroom because they are forced or feel they are forced to use a restroom that does not represent their actual gender identity. This is unfair and psychologically harmful for transgender people who face enough discrimination as it is. Please remember what century we live in and don't turn back to a more discriminatory period of our history.
- 959** 5/13/2014 23:31 Trans people need to be protected in society and especially in our schools. The parents and students against allowing this child to use the girls restroom need some education and empathy training. I hope the school board will do the right thing in this regard. Change is hard, but children who don't fit the mold need all the help, love and support we can give them.
- 960** 5/13/2014 23:25
- 961** 5/13/2014 23:21 I am a transgender person who was maliciously bullied by staff and students at my high school in Lexington. I could have really used some protection. Any really. Make this happen - please.
- 962** 5/13/2014 23:18 Of course there should be protections for trans* students. Please don't cave to the bigots and fear-mongers.
- 963** 5/13/2014 23:17 She should be allowed to use all female facilities. It's insulting to that student to say "you're only good enough to use one bathroom." As someone who knows the student, I'd be more worried about her being harassed in a male bathroom than her harassing girls in a female bathroom. I say "grow up" to the people who can't accept her.
- 964** 5/13/2014 23:16 Transgender students should be treated with respect and dignity, which includes allowing them to use the facilities of their choice in adherence with their gender identity.
- 965** 5/13/2014 23:14 I feel strongly that adding inclusive language to the school's policy will only strengthen the policy to be as fair to all students as possible and will help educate other students on the importance of recognizing and respecting people's differences, regardless of what they may be. Creating a safe environment for all students should be a top priority for the school, it's administration and leadership; adopting inclusive language would only advance that mission.
- 966** 5/13/2014 23:11

- 967** 5/13/2014 23:10 The student should be allowed to use the restroom facilities of her choosing, AND parents, teachers, administrators, and other students should be educated on why this is not a threat to them. The burden of change/accommodation should be on the school community and not on the transgendered student.
- 968** 5/13/2014 23:10 Gender identity is deeply personal. No administration should dictate the manner in which trans people are permitted to express their identity. Inclusion and equality should be the primary focus of any changes to rules and guidelines.
- 969** 5/13/2014 23:08 I think the student in question should be allowed to use the girls restrooms. If that individual identify sad a female than they, to me, are a female.
- 970** 5/13/2014 23:06
- 971** 5/13/2014 23:00 As an alumna of Atherton High School, I think it is very important that gender identity be added to the non-discrimination policy. Atherton, for me and many others, is a place that accepts students for who they are and encourages them to accept themselves. Atherton is a place that is filled with people who care, and to whom students feel comfortable confiding, and if this isn't added to the non-discrimination policy, the administration of Atherton will be going against their beliefs, and we would run the risk of losing this essential environment for growth. I greatly admire Dr. Aberli's steps thus far, and urge the committee to support him. The teachers and students of Atherton empowered me to speak up for myself and be who I really am, and I hate to think that any student could be robbed of that empowerment for any reason.
- 972** 5/13/2014 22:58 I believe the transgendered student in question should be free to use the public restroom that she pleases without discrimination. This goes for all transgendered students in the future as well.
- 973** 5/13/2014 22:57 Transgendered students should be allowed to use whatever bathroom they identify themselves most with. I know we're faced with the fear of wondering if people will pretend their transgendered to get into the other sex's bathroom but in the end I'm sure people will stay true to what they believe is right. Atherton is a family full of welcoming individuals, although there are the occasional members of said family that act as though this is an abomination to everyone, majority of the school is accepting of everyone despite their beliefs, cultures, race, sexual orientation, sex, or gender identity. Maybe we should state that there is a certain bathroom only transgendered should use just so that anyone who has a problem with this can avoid it causing less confrontation with nonsupporters. We need to keep Atherton safe in the bathrooms too.
- 974** 5/13/2014 22:56 Allowing the student to use one female restroom is acceptable. It protects those girls who are uncomfortable with having a transgendered students in the bathroom with them. We must think of all involved, not just one.
- 975** 5/13/2014 22:54 My daughters will not attend any school where male students are allowed to use the girls restroom.
- 976** 5/13/2014 22:53

- 977** 5/13/2014 22:52 I support the extension of the AHS and JCPS non-discrimination policy to cover gender identity and expression.
- 978** 5/13/2014 22:52
- 979** 5/13/2014 22:45 I am a recent graduate of Atherton (Class of 2012) and no longer live in Louisville. However, if you still value my input, here it is: The student in question should be allowed to use whichever restrooms she wishes -- she shouldn't simply be limited to using one of the female restrooms. (I also think JCPS should change its non-discrimination policy to be inclusive of trans* students, but that's another issue entirely...)
- 980** 5/13/2014 22:42 Bathrooms should be gender neutral to avoid this ridiculous issue in the first place. I'm not clear on what the reasoning is by which a female student is endangered by peeing in a stall next to a male student or vice versa. If the concern is improper behavior (as though it takes members of two sexes to commit such), well, they're presumably already breaking rules to do it so I don't know what force would keep them out of the "wrong" bathroom.
- 981** 5/13/2014 22:42 She should have the rights of any other female student. Why is the bathroom and locker room even an issue? If we are deprecating children based on their sexuality and this student- as a transgirl with a girlfriend- is being told no because she likes girls... Then should the gay students be forced to share locker rooms and restrooms with the opposite sex? Gender and sexuality are separate. Fair is fair.

- 982** 5/13/2014 22:40 As a community member and a mentor at the Louisville Youth Group, the city's organization for LGBTQ teens, I sincerely hope that Atherton votes to include gender identity and expression in their non-discrimination policy. School is one of the most difficult areas for LGBTQ teens. As a queer youth myself, I experienced a great deal of bullying and harassment in a space that was supposed to be safe and intellectually stimulating; this is the same for a large number of people in my community. What we hear from our trans youth is that these actions are often even taken to the next level. They are ridiculed, asked inappropriate questions by peers, made to feel isolated, and even have their personhood questioned. One of the greatest areas in their struggle involves bathroom usage. Most are made to feel afraid to enter the bathroom that fits their gender and are forced to use single stall restrooms, completely separating them from the rest of their class and marking them as too different to manage. Other times they are continuously questioned about their right to inhabit the space that is designated for everyone use by everyone of their gender. In order to raise happy and healthy youth this needs to change. By including gender identity and expression in their policy, Atherton would show that they support all youth across whatever barriers of difference. When discussing this at work today a student from Atherton overheard and chimed in that the student "was really a guy, right," completely discounting the identity of the young woman in ways that I'm sure she hears every day. By changing their policy Atherton can begin to reshape dangerous attitudes like those, which lead to so many bashings and suicides a year, and really start to make school the safe and enlightening space it is intended to be. I thank you for your time and hope you make the right decision.
- 983** 5/13/2014 22:38 I support transgender rights, and I skipped over the education section of this survey to get to the "voice your opinion" section. People who do not support transgender rights certainly skipped over it to get here. This is not an issue that should be decided by students, parents, or the community, because the decisions of the afraid, disdainful, and uneducated will never create a just world. Please do what is right for these transgender kids--people may be angry, but no one will be hurt by treating a handful of kids with understanding and fairness.
- 984** 5/13/2014 22:37 Every student should be allowed to use restrooms that match their gender identities. I think everyone in the school should be educated on trans issues so that they'll no longer harass trans students, misgender them, or try to stop them from using certain restrooms.

- 985** 5/13/2014 22:23 It is important to realize that allowing students to be who they are, without fear of being ostracized, will not only aide in their mental well-being but will allow them to focus on the task at hand, which is learning. Atherton is taking a step in the right direction with moving to include transgender youth under their protection clause. Many people are speaking out against this young woman being able to use the ladies restrooms, however few may give thought to what it would be like if she were to have to use the male restroom. It's potentially dangerous to place her in a situation like that. Not just for fear of physical violence against her, but the mental stress transgender youth bear is already great enough. We should do everything we can to help protect an already fragile group of youth during a very pivotal point in their personal and social development. Based on national statistics, the Youth Suicide Prevention Program (yspp.org) tells us that "More than 50% of Transgender youth will have had at least one suicide attempt by their 20th birthday." Make no mistake, we have the opportunity to save lives through setting standards of respect and equal protection for ALL students. We have been given the chance to take a stance, staunchly against discrimination, and be on the progressive forefront of society by doing so. This is about much more than a simple trip to the bathroom. I challenge you to do what's right for the life that hangs in the balance here. Respectfully, K B
- 986** 5/13/2014 22:22 The transgender child should be allowed to use all facilities provided with which gender they identify
- 987** 5/13/2014 22:21 It's important that a student feel safe and accepted in school, and a measure to prevent discrimination based on gender identity will allow many students who are trans or outside the gender binary to feel good in school. Making discrimination unacceptable will create a welcoming learning environment and a safe place for students to develop into young adults.
- 988** 5/13/2014 22:18 Gender Identity should be included in the policy.
- 989** 5/13/2014 22:18 I fully support the extension of the counties non-discrimination clause to transgender students, complete with access to "opposite-sex" bathrooms and extracurricular activities.
- 990** 5/13/2014 22:17 Trans people deserve equal rights and access
- 991** 5/13/2014 22:16 It's the right thing too do.
- 992** 5/13/2014 22:09 Please allow the student to use both restrooms
- 993** 5/13/2014 22:08 I completely support and applaud the efforts of the principal and community at Atherton High School to protect the rights of transgender students.
- 994** 5/13/2014 22:07 Artherton's principal made the correct decision.
- 995** 5/13/2014 22:05 I strongly support this policy. I am sure parents and students will have questions and what better place to engage those questions and educate ourselves about transgender issues than in our schools. Bravo!

- 996** 5/13/2014 22:02 I think acceptance and accommodation of trans students is a great step in the right direction. Kudos to Atherton!
- 997** 5/13/2014 22:01 We must let our youth be themselves, and be proud! Life is hard enough with all the labels put upon them.
- 998** 5/13/2014 22:01 People should be allowed to use whatever bathroom they decide fits their gender identity, biological bits don't matter. It's who the person decides they are that's important.
- 999** 5/13/2014 21:58
- 1000** 5/13/2014 21:55 I strongly support the transgender student's right to identify herself as female and be permitted to use female facilities on that basis.
- 1001** 5/13/2014 21:55 I am parent of two children that JCPS. The policy implemented at Atherton could impact my children if adopted by other schools. I am in support of language to be included that protects transgender individuals, which would included gender identity as a protected population.
- 1002** 5/13/2014 21:50 Atherton and all of JCPS must add gender identity to its non-discrimination policy and must treat transgendered students fairly and equitably. The student currently being discussed should be allowed to use both women's restrooms.
- 1003** 5/13/2014 21:46 I believe that students should continue to be able to be identified based on their gender IDENTITY.
- 1004** 5/13/2014 21:42 I think it is vital that Atherton change their policies to include gender non-conforming students and trans students into their non-discrimination policies. These students deserve a safe learning environment just like cis gender students. As a gender non conforming individual, I know the struggles that these students undergo at school, at home, and in the community. Discrimination, at it's core is deplorable, but against a group that's historically been ignored, is even more condemnable. There is no reason to not include these students. Please make the right decision and help these marginalized kids who just want to learn like their peers.
- 1005** 5/13/2014 21:39 Trans students should be allowed to use the corresponding restroom of the sex that they consider thier gender identity. Hopefully in 5-10 years this will be a social norm and a sexuality spectrum will continue to be further supported. I applaud you, Atherton HS SBDM Council for being ahead of the curve on this issue and I urge you to make the school environment comfortable and welcoming to every student, regardless of the sex they were born or the sex they identify with!
- 1006** 5/13/2014 21:38 I am a 69 year old Postop Transgender Woman. I am an attorney, evangelist, served as a Special Justice on the Ky. Supreme Ct. , and a current member of the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education Committee on Equal Opportunity (the Diversity Committee). I would love to come and speak with you and have you ask me questions about Transgender.

- 1007** 5/13/2014 21:36 Schools are a controlled environment not a microcosm of the world, where free will reigns supreme. Schools should not attempt to fill this void. At first glance it is easy to permit what seems to be socially acceptable, but schools are not social institutions but rather educational ones. Focus on getting that right first. At the end of the day this child's access to education is not hindered she is phenotypically a male and has been provided equal facility based upon that designation. Thank you for opening this decision up to comment.
- 1008** 5/13/2014 21:33 I definitely feel this young woman should have the rights and access to resources and facilities which would be granted to any biologically female individual. By singling her out through the creation of rules or policies aimed specifically at her and other who may present a similar sense of identity AHS is tacitly stating that she does not belong to the group of young women make up the student body, that she is different, or an outsider. Young adulthood is a challenging time, and LGBT youth have a very different set of problems which they must face in addition to those associated with adolescence. AHS needs to do the right thing and allow this young woman to have access to all of the things that other girls at the school do, including bathrooms, so that she can focus on more important things like her education and her future.
- 1009** 5/13/2014 21:33 I believe that the transgendered student at your school should be allowed to use all of the "female" student facilities on your campus. The idea that she is a threat to other female students because of her sexual orientation (as bisexual) is merely a perpetuation of a stereotype against members of the LGBT community. Being bisexual does not make someone a sexual predator!
- 1010** 5/13/2014 21:32 A trans female is still a female and should be treated as such. The student's sexual preference should not even be a factor.
- 1011** 5/13/2014 21:29 Forcing a trans person to use the wrong bathroom puts THEM at greater risk for torment and violence as well as invalidating their identity which inflicts further emotional harm. Deal with bathroom misconduct on an individual basis not by barring an entire group of people from their rights on the basis of harmful stereotypes.
- 1012** 5/13/2014 21:28 There should be no restrictions placed on student use of bathrooms. Students should have the right to use restrooms that correspond with their gender identity and not their sex. If their gender identity is fluid or otherwise not binary, they should be free to use whatever restroom they choose, or there should be an individual restroom for private use, irrespective of gender identity.
- 1013** 5/13/2014 21:28 Who does it harm allowing someone who identifies as a girl use a the women's bathroom, besides the ignorant?
- 1014** 5/13/2014 21:26 I know as a former student and teacher at Atherton that we are a school of acceptance and inclusion even if it is difficult. I trust that hate and fear will not drive the decision. Transgender individuals should be respected and treated with dignity. ----

- 1015** 5/13/2014 21:24 It is crucial that students have the opportunity to use facilities that align with their gender identity safely, comfortably, and without exception. As a trans* person myself, I know how difficult it can be when I am misgendered, and how validating it is to be called my name (not the name assigned to me at birth), with the right pronouns, and to use facilities that align with my gender. These spaces must also be comfortable and safe spaces, as trans* students and trans* people do sometimes face harassment in bathrooms, locker rooms, etc. If there are single user bathrooms around, I typically use them, as I feel most comfortably there. If this is also an option (don't force students to use them, but could give them that option), that is great too.
- 1016** 5/13/2014 21:24 I'm totally with the students. Atherton is a school that can handle taking care of all students.
- 1017** 5/13/2014 21:22 I think the non discrimination policy should be updated to include gender identity and that she should be able to use both bathrooms because she has just as much of a right to use them as any other student who identifies as female.
- 1018** 5/13/2014 21:21 I believe that all individuals should be treated equally, and in the case of a child needing to use the restroom, I vote we should embrace the LGBT community and allow the transgender student to use the bathroom they feel comfortable using.
- 1019** 5/13/2014 21:18 This is a complex issue but it is important to remember that gender identity and sexuality are two different issues.
- 1020** 5/13/2014 21:16 The gender identity of all students (and faculty) should be respected including use of the facilities in which they are most comfortable.
- 1021** 5/13/2014 21:15 I am a fairly recent Atherton alum. I am saddened to think that the girl was only allowed to use one restroom. That's like telling her she's only sort-of accepted. The Atherton I knew and loved was an accepting place. I would hope that Principal Aberli apologizes for initially handling the case so disrespectfully and for not fully accepting his students. She should be allowed to use any women's facilities in the building. I've been in Atherton's restrooms, they are private stalls like any other public high school. The protesters act like Aberli would be allowing a boy to see biologically female girls in a private way. This is so far from the case. The bathrooms are private stalls. She, like any girl her age, just wants to be able to go to the restroom without feeling embarrassed. This is about having respect for all of the students at Atherton and I would like to see Principal Aberli support all of his students. If the parents of the girl are reading this, please know that Atherton has a great support system of teachers who will respect your daughter fully even if Principal Aberli does not. They will fight for her. She has a community of people who will fight for her. I will fight for her. If the girl is reading this, I apologize for referring to you as "the girl". If I knew your name, I would use it. Understand that you are not alone. This gets better. Go to Mr. Prince if you ever need anything. You have so many people who have your back.

- 1022** 5/13/2014 21:07 I believe that students should be able to use the facilities that are provided for the gender with which they identify (regardless of others' perceptions of what their gender identity should be). There should not be an assumption that transgender students have any motive other than using the facilities in which they would feel most comfortable (e.g., trying to be close to students they are attracted to). Please do not let such wrong assumptions fuel policy decisions on this matter. Let the student use the bathroom s/he wants to use and then educate students and families in an effort to reduce fear and misunderstanding.
- 1023** 5/13/2014 21:06 Gender identity is something innate within an individual. The more we separate out transgender individuals, the more the community will see them as "the other." Discriminating against people in how they choose to display their gender is just as discriminatory as discriminating based on sexual orientation. I am full support of including the transgender population within the class of protected individuals and including them in the anti-discrimination policy.
- 1024** 5/13/2014 21:05 Under the current law of sexual violence/discrimination in schools, all individuals are protected, including trans students. Therefore, to be congruent with federal law, the Atherton High School SBDM Council should consider adding trans students under its scope of protection and allow the presentation of transgender identity.
- 1025** 5/13/2014 21:03
- 1026** 5/13/2014 21:03 I believe that the student in question should be allowed to you the women's bathroom. If we are going to Restrict one student because she was born a male but identifies as a female because she has a girlfriend. In order to be fair we would have to restrict all bisexuals and gays as well, in my personal opinion that is outrageous if the student idenfies herself as a female she should be treated as a female.it is only fair she gets the same right as every other fenale student.
- 1027** 5/13/2014 21:02 Transgender youth should feel safe and protected in their school and also have their gender respected.
- 1028** 5/13/2014 21:00 This girl should be able to use both female bathrooms. It is important to teach children to accept differences in individuals and this is a perfect teaching moment. When they at grown and on their own they will be better equipped to handle interaction with all people. All people deserve respect and we must teach them now.

- 1029** 5/13/2014 20:59 I just want to say as someone who experiences the world through a genderqueer lens, meaning I express my gender through masculine and feminine characteristics, but I see my gender identity as transmasculine, not to be confused with transman, I can really empathize with this kid. I'm 25 and I'm still trying to figure it out. My gender and for thousands of other people don't experience a one-size fits all gender. I will give you a concrete example of various instances where one answer does not fit. In airports, we have to use the restroom. On the occasion I have to go and my appearance is heavily masculine, I get awkward stares at my entrance to the women's restroom. But, my appearance changes and sometimes I can't hide my chest and get called lady at a restaurant. My gender isn't fixed. In spaces where I do feel safe, I use the men's restroom if I'm going in with other transguys or the women's restroom is too risky to enter because of the size or some other nuanced reason. It's just really tricky all the time to decide where you're going to pee and that's silly, isn't it? Allow this kid and others like them to pee in peace. I recommend all school council members read the resource guide below--it has talking points, examples of educational activities, and a gender neutral bathroom survey done in San Fransisco. Finally, thank you to opening the floor to community members. Though I am not a parent, I care deeply about policies that impact students' well-being and I think the challenge to including gender identity as a protected group is appalling. <http://srlp.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/2010-toolkit.pdf>
- 1030** 5/13/2014 20:55 Adolescence is such a critical time in a young person's life. I would rather assist in making what could be a difficult time easier, than harbor ill judgement and prejudices. The argument for the safety of other girls is nothing else but prejudice. The same could be argued for homosexual students among their peers, but it is not brought up because laws now protect students from being isolated like that. Unfortunately, that same isolation is happening to this student at Atherton right now. This is an opportunity for a community to make a lasting difference in not just one person's life but the potential others to come after. Wouldn't it be better to be remembered as forward thinking? Besides, the arguments against this students sexual preferences come down to individual delinquencies. Policies should exist for the good of everyone, with good reason. This argument asserts that an individual such as the student in question would have perverse intentions toward everyone around them. This is a place of learning. Blatant prejudice and blind judgment has no place here. Move on. Help her find herself.
- 1031** 5/13/2014 20:54 People should stop worrying about where this student uses thebatroom. It's hard enough coming out as trans....now all of this attention is focused on this child. We should be congratulating them on being brave enough to be who they are, not sexualuzing their use of a facility.
- 1032** 5/13/2014 20:52
- 1033** 5/13/2014 20:50 JCPS's non-discrimination policy needs to be updated ASAP to include gender identity. Students should be able to use facilities based on the gender with which they identify, or the school should move towards gender-neutral restrooms.

- 1034** 5/13/2014 20:50
- 1035** 5/13/2014 20:49 I very much support Dr. Aberli's initiative to include trans students in Atherton's LGBT discrimination policy.
- 1036** 5/13/2014 20:47 Gender identity should be added as a protected category in the school's non-discrimination policy. Violence and harassment prevention research clearly demonstrates that the best way to ensure student safety is to allow students to use restrooms corresponding to the gender with which they identify. I believe safety, if nothing else, should be a baseline standard used by the school in making a decision on this matter.
- 1037** 5/13/2014 20:44 I agree that only certain facilities should be opened to transgender students. This provides both a safe place for them among the group they identify with as well as a safe place for the students that are not comfortable sharing facilities with transgender individuals. This is the best way to protect all parties' best interests. I am an Atherton alum as well as former Atherton staff and this is how I would have felt both when I studied as well as worked there.
- 1038** 5/13/2014 20:40 The transgendered students should be allowed to use the bathroom consistent with their gender identity.
- 1039** 5/13/2014 20:38 I think all children should be treated equally. If a student identifies as a female they should be allowed to use ALL female bathrooms available.
- 1040** 5/13/2014 20:38 This teenage girl identifies as female. She should be treated as a woman in any and all ways possible. To deny her this is to deny her the same human rights that everyone else takes for granted. Her sexual preference does not matter when it comes to this situation. If she has dealt with the harassment that results from identifying as transgender and has stuck with her identity, then she clearly is not doing this for attention or for some physical gain. Treat her as the woman that she is.
- 1041** 5/13/2014 20:38 Assumedly, the girls' bathrooms at Atherton High feature lockable, individual stalls. If this is the case, I'm not sure that the privacy argument holds much water. As to safety, it would be important to obtain statistics on incidents of violence and bullying in high school bathrooms. How many times has a female student been assaulted by a transgender student in a girls' bathroom? On the other hand, how frequently are transgender students assaulted in the bathroom? If the primary concern is for student safety, as I'm sure it rightly is, collecting and analyzing this data would be critical to making an informed decision that is explicable to all parties. School is a place for children to learn, not only how to write essays and do geometry, but how to be a compassionate and thoughtful human being. I realize this is a complicated problem and that people on both sides are trying to do what they think is best for the students at Atherton. The world is changing fast, and issues that seemed black and white 20 years ago are not so anymore. Sometimes just because we are uncomfortable with a change doesn't mean that change is dangerous. I think the best course of action is to collect the data on student safety and proceed accordingly with respect and compassion.

- 1042** 5/13/2014 20:36 Please allow this student to use the bathroom of the gender she identifies herself as. It is time for acceptance of all sexual identities to be accepted and treated as equals. Help Louisville stay on the right side of history in this fight.
- 1043** 5/13/2014 20:34 Not allowing a trans person to use a bathroom which corresponds with their gender is discrimination. Any argument to the contrary is rooted in irrational fear and stereotyping. The assumption that a trans girl is more likely to harass other girls in the bathroom than her cisgender (not trans) counterpart is unfair and comes from inaccurate stereotypes seen in the media and in our society which send the message that trans women are dangerous. They aren't and in fact if you look at the statistics they are themselves IN danger. Forcing a trans person to use the wrong bathroom puts THEM at greater risk for torment and violence as well as invalidating their identity which inflicts further emotional harm. Deal with bathroom misconduct on an individual basis not by barring an entire group of people from their rights on the basis of harmful stereotypes. As for the argument that lesbian or bi trans women should be allowed in the women's bathroom due to the fact that they are attracted to other women, I remind you that cisgender lesbian and bi women are ALSO attracted to other women. Barring trans women from using the women's bathroom with this argument is the same as barring lesbians and bi women from using the women's bathroom and act which is clearly discriminatory.
- 1044** 5/13/2014 20:32 My brother is an alum, as is my father, aunt, grandmother. I went there 2 years and left bc I felt the environment was not welcoming, not because of the students, but the teachers. This was the early 90s and it's so sad to see that this school has not fully evolved. Being different from the norm in such a fundamental way is already alienating, don't make it worse. If nothing else, teach tolerance by allowing ALL students to be the people they are in a safe environment.
- 1045** 5/13/2014 20:32 In my opinion, I think it is okay to let a boy who wants to be a girl use the bath room or locker but it is still the fear of that individual who you are afraid will get bully if that person goes into the place and do what that individual needs to do. That is why people say it is okay and that they don't mind but they fear of that individual who may or may not get bully is a problem.
- 1046** 5/13/2014 20:32 Provide unisex bathrooms and private locker room areas
- 1047** 5/13/2014 20:31 We must uphold the rights of trans* students of all ages to feel safe in school. Teachers and students should be educated about trans* rights, and we must create a space where trans* students can use the facilities they feel are appropriate for them (restrooms). One important way to help transitioning students is to offer non-gendered restrooms. Most importantly, there should be no question about how trans* students will be supported if they come forward about any bullying or mistreatment from other students, staff, or community members. We must make it clear that we are on the side of all students, especially the most marginalized.

- 1048** 5/13/2014 20:30 As a transgender graduate of a Catholic high school, it is important to me both politically and personally that transgender students, and any person, should be able to use the bathroom of their gender identity and not receive any form of punishment/ retribution for it. Nobody would be making the fuss if we were all born "with the right parts".
- 1049** 5/13/2014 20:30 I believe you should allow the student to use the girls' bathroom.
- 1050** 5/13/2014 20:27 She should have access to both restrooms. This is ridiculous. The transition of transgendered students in school systems is difficult enough as it is, and now she can't even have privacy with her bathroom decisions?
- 1051** 5/13/2014 20:27 Please protect and respect all students. Our city/county chose to protect transgendered individuals in housing, employment and public accommodations almost 15 years ago - our school system should protect LGBTQ folks as well with policies that allow them to be their full selves - in this case the student should be allowed to use all of the girls restrooms.
- 1052** 5/13/2014 20:27 I support adding gender identity to any non-discrimination policy and believe doing so will be valuable to all students. I applaud Atherton for protecting every student and providing a safe learning environment.
- 1053** 5/13/2014 20:26 Yes! include trans students. We should not exclude any child. I hope other schools follow your example
- 1054** 5/13/2014 20:25 I think the days of single gender facilities are long over and believe a lot of bullying and just plain old mean things happen in restrooms as they are currently designed. Why not transform all restrooms into spaces with individual "stalls" with doors (real doors - not stall doors) and then open common space with sinks (no mirrors - or just a few - not whole walls) with open entry to the hallways (like at airports)?
- 1055** 5/13/2014 20:24 As a parent, I can understand and sympathize with the goal of keeping our children safe in schools. But there is no logic in the arguments that gender determines dangerous behavior. Boys are not inherently predators who are incapable of controlling their sexual urges and girls are not innately harmless to each other. The argument that trans students are somehow unsafe in sex segregated spaces has no basis in fact and largely appeals to xenophobia - fear of an Other who is unlike me. Segregating those who are "other" to us does nothing to insure safety, and brings the possibility of increasing fear and contempt. It is my belief that we will create a far more safety by teaching respect for and acceptance of those around us, whether they seem similar or different from ourselves. As well, educating students about the differences between sex, gender and sexual orientation will serve them well throughout their lives.
- 1056** 5/13/2014 20:23 This should not be allowed. He is biologically male and should have to use male restrooms. This is putting others at risk and making them uncomfortable and his gender crisis should not be everyone else's problem.
- 1057** 5/13/2014 20:23
- 1058** 5/13/2014 20:23

- 1059** 5/13/2014 20:22 She should be permitted access to both restrooms, the girl's locker room, and any other space available and open to any other girl. Transgender people have more inner awareness and self-knowledge than do most cisgender people. For this young woman to make the decision to live openly as a woman, she has had to consider the possible outcomes involved in doing so. She knows herself better than does anyone else and she should be supported by school officials. I have friends who are transgender; I promise that she is and will be a gift to the students, teachers, and administrators if everyone else opens their minds and hearts as much as hers is. God bless you all. She, and you, will be in my prayers.
- 1060** 5/13/2014 20:22 I believe in a safe learning environment for all, including LGBTQ students and teachers.
- 1061** 5/13/2014 20:21 The inclusion of gender identity in protective policy is essential to the overall well being of the student body. I encourage this policy change.
- 1062** 5/13/2014 20:19 I am the Executive Director of a social and support group for LGBTQA young people from 14 to 20. We have been serving young people in Jefferson and surrounding counties for 24 years. We currently have 2 meetings each month specifically for Trans* youth. My experience is that the Trans* youth go through a great deal of mental and emotional internal struggle before they can "come out" as Trans* and once they do it is a very brave thing to live their lives as different then they have in the past. Some are fortunate to have supportive parents and families and they generally learn quickly how lucky they are. Others, whose families are not as supportive of their wish to live an honest life struggle with family and community prejudice. I hope that this young person at Atherton will be allowed to live her honest life in peace.
- 1063** 5/13/2014 20:15 Transgendered people should be included in this policy and able to use facilities.
- 1064** 5/13/2014 20:14 Allow trans students to use the bathroom that matches their gender identity! Perhaps Atherton should also consider installing gender neutral bathrooms.
- 1065** 5/13/2014 20:14
- 1066** 5/13/2014 20:14 I support the current policy which protects students from discrimination based on gender identity. I think it would be a very dangerous move to change the policy and will send a message to students and parents that not all students are equal or deserving of the same opportunities which lens us all up to bigoted behavior. In addition I think that by changing a policy that already creates equal opportunities for all students Atherton and JCPS would be taking a step backwards rather than forward which would be an embarrassment to our community that will receive far reaching negative publicity.
- 1067** 5/13/2014 20:12 Unless you can identify all other lesbian couples and have them use only one restroom, the only fair thing to do is allow this student to use both restrooms. Trans students deserve equality. Thanks for putting this out to the community. These are important matters.
- 1068** 5/13/2014 20:12 Kudos to the principal for doing the right thing in allowing the transgender student to use the restrooms of the gender with which she identifies and presents. Protect Trans students by adding them to the non discrimination policy!

- 1069** 5/13/2014 20:11 The transgender student should be allowed to use the female restroom and should not be discriminated against. If there is a problem about the rights of the other students being taken away bc she like woman, its really not different then a born female student liking females and using the girls bathroom. Get over it. These students are not five and should be treated like the well educated adults they are.
- 1070** 5/13/2014 20:08 I think this is a great idea! Thank you Atherton for working hard to make ALL students feel welcome.
- 1071** 5/13/2014 20:07 Freedom from discrimination based on gender identity should be a right for all students, faculty and human beings. Thank you for trying to make the right decision in this matter and for attempting to educate people.
- 1072** 5/13/2014 20:03 I am a former atherton student (class of 2010) and I believe that including gender identity in your anti-discrimination policy is not only a good idea but a necessary one. Atherton was the most inclusive environment while I attended and was a home away from home while I was coming out of the closet (I truly felt safe there). I say march forward and continue blazing paths as one of the most open-minded and inclusive (not to mention one of the best best secondary educationa) schools in the district and state. So proud to call Atherton my high school.
- 1073** 5/13/2014 20:03 Why in today's society is discrimination of any type allowed? These student are there for an education and to be a part of their community. The message sent by discriminating against transgender youth send a message of intolerance and bigotry that cannot be allowed to continue. As adults, we should be setting the appropriate standard for our children, community and society as a whole.
- 1074** 5/13/2014 20:01 Separate sex and gender. Let her use the women's restroom.
- 1075** 5/13/2014 20:01 I think the individual should be allowed to use BOTH female restrooms. Atherton has the opportunity to show the community and nation their support and acceptance of all students, including individuals who identify as transgender. In order for schools to state that they are a supportive environment for the growth of all students, it is important that their policies and guidelines reflect such a statement.
- 1076** 5/13/2014 20:01 I fully support the students' use of facilities based on their gender identity, not their sex. As someone with a transgendered partner, I know that forced adherence to one's sex and societies expectations of that instead of one's gender can be extremely damaging emotionally. With a situation that is already rough, especially for a young adult who is going through so many other life changes, we as adults need to be as understanding and supportive as possible.
- 1077** 5/13/2014 20:00 Choosing to force transgender students to use a bathroom in accordance with their body parts is simply setting these children up for added depression and confusion about who they are.
- 1078** 5/13/2014 19:58 Please allow students to use the restroom that best corresponds with their gender identity.
- 1079** 5/13/2014 19:58 As a Transgender woman, who had to leave high school at 16 because of discrimination and abuse that was allowed by staff and teachers in my school. A policy must be in place to ensure ALL American youth have a fair chance at an education.
- 1080** 5/13/2014 19:58

- 1081** 5/13/2014 19:56 Transgender people, whether anyone understands their identity or not, should be able to access any space that their peers can access. Specifically those spaces that validate their identity and support their well being. It's a shame that folks cannot let a child use the restroom in peace. The "male" and "female" signs on bathroom doors will do nothing to keep out those who legitimately intend to do harm in those spaces. They shouldn't use those signs to keep out people who need to use the facilities. You would think that the extreme measures this particular student has to take in order to take care of themselves would convince folks that no one would choose to identify this way if they could find another way to be. I'm deeply disappointed that adults and parents of other students at their lack of empathy. I am glad that Atherton is seeking to educate the community.
- 1082** 5/13/2014 19:56 I applaud the principal's handling of this student's situation. School should be a place where students are free from harassment and discrimination, and most importantly are free to learn. It seems that expanding Atherton's already excellent non-discrimination policy to include gender identity is completely in line with Atherton's values. Thank you for your attention to this important matter, and allowing the community to have a voice in the process.
- 1083** 5/13/2014 19:55 Chris Hartman Fairness Campaign 502.640.1095
- 1084** 5/13/2014 19:55
- 1085** 5/13/2014 19:54 I support the rights of Transgender students. They should be allowed to use the restroom of their gender. The argument that a transgender female who dates another female cannot use the same restroom is problematic. What about lesbians who date? Or gay males who date. Should they also be separated? No. They are identifying as a gender and are dating the same gender. That's all. Transgender individuals want to, and should, be treated as the gender they identify. Think about your own gender right now. Now imagine being forced to use the bathroom of the opposite gender. It would be miserable, and piled on top of already navigating through a world that is not very accepting of you. Life is tough enough as it is. PLEASE, put yourself in her shoes for a minute. Then give this girl the respect and rights she deserves. Thank you for allowing me to contribute my opinion! I appreciate that. Way to go Atherton and Principle Aberli!
- 1086** 5/13/2014 19:53 Let her select which bathroom corresponds to her gender identity.
- 1087** 5/13/2014 19:52 If the child identifies as a female, she should be allowed to use the Girls facilities. As I recall there are doors on the stalls in the girls restrooms which should allow ample privacy to both the girl in question and the other girls. I think the problem is with the parents more than the kids. (FYI - this was a storyline on the Lifetime channel's Drop Dead Diva finale.
- 1088** 5/13/2014 19:48 Are you going to ask all the gay male students and lesbian female students to use a different restroom than the straight students?? That is basically the same argument that Elliott has and it is absurd. She should be able to use the female restroom as she is female. What would parents be saying if SHE was using the boys restroom?? If it's not one thing, then it's something else. Let the girl live her life.

- 1089** 5/13/2014 19:48 I believe that the student in question should be allowed to use the restroom that best aligns with the gender with which she identifies.
- 1090** 5/13/2014 19:48 Why does she/he have to use a girls bathroom? If she/he still has male genitalia then she should be using the boys rooms.
- 1091** 5/13/2014 19:47 The fears being brought up by the group opposing this girl are unfounded and ridiculous. To date there are exactly 0 reported cases in the country of a trans female sexually, or otherwise, attacking a cis gender female....what is documented however are the numerous attacks and murders of trans females all over the country and the world. Makes you wonder who exactly needs protection from whom!? And she being bisexual, as the group points out, makes no difference either.....do they honestly think there aren't other gay or bisexual girls in the school? The groups argument is predicated on the assumption of fear, fear this girl will attack one of their daughters.which is so much hogwash; but don't take my word for it there is plenty of documentation to be found! Thank you, John N. Shouse.
- 1092** 5/13/2014 19:45 I am a therapist who works with the LGBT population. I think it is important to allow students to use the restroom of their gender. Students who identify as trans should be allowed to use the restroom that aligns with the gender they identify as. Studies have shown that trans persons do not assault or harass people in the restroom of their identified gender, but that if forced to use the restroom of their assigned at birth gender they face harassment and possible violence.
- 1093** 5/13/2014 19:43 Allow the student in question to use both bathrooms.
- 1094** 5/13/2014 19:38 Transgender people should be treated equally and with respect.
- 1095** 5/13/2014 19:38 Please advocate for a bully-free school for every child, regardless of their gender identity, and allow each child to use the bathroom of whichever gender they publicly identify with. Having a unisex, single-stall bathroom would be extremely helpful both for this student and for other students who do not feel comfortable in more public bathrooms.
- 1096** 5/13/2014 19:38 The girl should be able to use the restrooms she chooses. It's 2014 people, this shouldn't even be an issue anymore.
- 1097** 5/13/2014 19:33 To the people concerned that this young lady is 'faking it' in order to use female facilities: would a biological female who is a lesbian be kept from using the women's room? No. If she says she's a girl, she's a girl. She just wants a place to pee and poop and change clothes. Get over yourselves and give this young lady free access to every restroom and the locker room.
- 1098** 5/13/2014 19:30 I fully support Atherton moving forward with including gender identity protections for their students.

- 1099** 5/13/2014 19:30 Dear Principal Aberli and members of the SBDM Council, My name is Harper Jean Tobin though it wasn't when I attended Atherton High School, from 1995-1999. At the time, I didn't know anyone else who was transgender. At the time, I didn't have the words to tell people who I was, but people could tell I was different by the way I looked, dressed, and acted. Occasionally, after school or on the bus, I would be harassed or get things thrown at me because some other student decided I looked too feminine for a boy. When I held hands or kissed my girlfriend we both had long brown hair sometimes people would see two girls and harass us for that. For the most part, though, I found Atherton to be a supportive place where diversity was respected. While I was occasionally warned for not having my shirt tucked in, I was relieved that administrators never gave me trouble for experimenting with makeup. I hung out with the theater kids and the punk kids and the tiny handful of students who were out as gay or lesbian, and the guy who wore the Atherton Rebel outfit. I was the star of Greg Hemaseth's history class, and "Most Intellectual" in the yearbook. I rode the bus from Crescent Hill every day, but as far as I was concerned, the Highlands was my home. Still, I knew I wasn't bringing my whole self to school. It wasn't until I got to college and learned more about transgender people that I understood my own identity and came out to my friends and family as a transgender woman. It's difficult to describe the relief, the sense of peace and possibility that come from finally being fully seen by those around you. From that point on, I would hear many stories of transgender students whose high school experiences were far more difficult. I have lost count of the stories I have heard of students who are afraid to go to school after coming out, because their school did not accept them. A national survey by the Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network (GLSEN) found that 80% of transgender students reported feeling unsafe at school. It was in large part because of those stories that I followed in the footsteps of my mother, father, grandfather, and sister by going to law school, and that I now advocate for the more than 700,000 transgender people in our nation in my position as Director of Policy for the National Center for Transgender Equality. While I've lived my entire adult life as a woman, it has been a wonder to see a growing number of transgender youth courageously sharing who they are with their families, and transitioning in high school or earlier. It broke my heart to read in the Courier-Journal that, though a young transgender woman, probably much like myself, had courageously come out, transitioned, and been supported at school, without incident, some outside the school community were coming in to demand she be singled out. I cannot imagine how it would have affected me as an Atherton student to have my identity, and the propriety of my being accepted at school called
- 1100** 5/13/2014 19:29 We all have to work to ensure that our students feel comfortable and safe.
- 1101** 5/13/2014 19:27 I strongly support Atherton High School making sure that its SBDM provides for the protection and respect for transgender students. If such discrimination is to be eliminated and the schools made safe for everyone, it is critical that school leadership set the strongest possible example of inclusion and dignity for all students.
- 1102** 5/13/2014 19:25 If the student identifies as a female, let her use the girls bathroom. From the article and the information provided, the student should be able to do so.

- 1103** 5/13/2014 19:14 I believe we need to fight for the rights of the trans student, respecting their right to use whatever bathroom they identify with. The student is incredibly brave for being out and fighting for herself. As an Atherton graduate myself, I know that that is the Rebel spirit coming through. We must respect our students and protect them from harm. In this case, harm includes misgendering the student, not allowing them to access bathrooms and locker rooms that match their identity, and by not supporting the student in the midst of harassment, bullying, and misgendering. Teachers and staff need to be the biggest allies here, and the student needs to be able to use the restroom.
- 1104** 5/13/2014 19:10 Please allow those youth who identify as trans to use the restroom of their preferred gender. In my experiences as a trans individual, single stall restrooms or those with plenty of lockable stalls are most comfortable. Trans people are not trying to trick their way into a restroom to "catch a peek" or be inappropriate. They are trying to use the restroom just like the rest of the world. Privacy is important for all individuals and should be respected for all.
- 1105** 5/13/2014 19:09 Please, we must understand and respect the rights of trans persons to be treated with dignity and to have access to all facilities that comport with their gender identity. It's a matter of basic fairness.
- 1106** 5/13/2014 18:58 Please allow students to use which ever facilities align with their gender identity, regardless of their biology. Please take whatever steps are necessary to ensure adequate privacy in changing/locker rooms, and to educate students, staff, and teachers about respect for persons, consent, and safe personal space. School should be physically and socially a safe space for all children to develop and grow without fear. Creating a culture of respect and safety is the responsibility of the adults, and it is up to all adults in the school and community to take a proactive, affirming stance and teach by example to 'do unto others' as we would wish ourselves.
- 1107** 5/13/2014 18:57 Please make necessary accommodations for this and other students. ALL students deserve an environment free from harassment and discrimination in order to learn and develop to their full potential. Also, this is a great opportunity to educate all student body and their families. Often times fears of others based in misinformation fuel exclusion, mistreatment and ultimately violence. I commend the principal's leadership in supporting students of all gender identities. this is not only the right thing to do but the best thing to do for ALL students, families, staff and teachers, and our community. Let's make Louisville a true compassionate city. --
- 1108** 5/13/2014 18:51

- 1109** 5/13/2014 18:51 My name is TG and I am a resident of Louisville, Jefferson County. I commend Atherton High School for taking steps to becoming a more welcoming and equitable school for all students. I encourage you make good your practice of allowing students to use the appropriate restroom and locker facilities by including a non-discriminatory statement into your SBDM policy. As adults in this community, we must do everything in our power to make sure our children can go to school free of discrimination and bias about who they are and create environments where we are always taking steps to reduce barriers to learning. By including gender identity in your non-discrimination policies, you take great steps to create the type of environment that honors who all of our young people. When we take steps to reduce discrimination we create spaces that allow for greater learning and understanding--these certainly must exist in our school. I encourage you to extend your non-discrimination policy. I thank you for the work you are doing everyday to teach and care for our young people. Thank you for your consideration.
- 1110** 5/13/2014 18:49 I think that she should be entitled to use the women's restroom. I understand the school's decision to limit her to one of the two restrooms at this time. That gives those who are not comfortable with it the opportunity to use alternate facilities until the matter can be resolved, but I don't think it's a long-term solution. That would be like only having one handicap accessible restroom and offering someone in a wheel-chair access to only that one bathroom. Restrooms come equipped with stalls that have doors, so technically you still get your privacy while using the restroom. I think using her sexual preference as bi-sexual is also ridiculous. If you included that in your decision-making, then you are basically saying any male whose sexual preference is 'gay' wouldn't be able to use the men's restroom and any female who is 'lesbian' couldn't use the women's room.
- 1111** 5/13/2014 18:48 Atherton should support this transgender student 100%. By only allowing her to use 1 restroom you're saying that Atherton only supports 50% of her sexual identity.
- 1112** 5/13/2014 18:48 IMHO, the person is a male by birth. Until a gender reassignment has been completed he should be only allowed to use the boys restroom. I understand the possible issues with that, but this could open the door for a lot of other students to do the same thing. Why not make all bathrooms communal. Then everyone can use them!
- 1113** 5/13/2014 18:46 Atherton should include gender identity fully in the non-discrimination policy. The student should not be marginalized by only being allowed to use one restroom. For people who think she's "faking" it, education on how gender and sexuality fall on spectrums would be helpful.
- 1114** 5/13/2014 18:44 Let her use the restrooms. Saying she can't because she likes girls is an awful argument. There are many girls that use those restrooms that like girls and many boys who use the men's room that like boys. Are you going to tell these students that they are not allowed in one of the two restrooms? It is 2014 in America. It is incredibly sad that we still have second class citizens. All men are created equal. Time we see that threw.
- 1115** 5/13/2014 18:35 Make transgender bathrooms an option.

- 1116** 5/13/2014 18:32 I am against transgendered individuals utilizing restrooms that are not opposite their anatomical make-up. If there has been surgery, then okay, if not they should use the restroom that is for their gender.
- 1117** 5/13/2014 18:29
- 1118** 5/13/2014 18:27 He has a girlfriend and wants to be able to use her bathroom. What if she wants to use his bathroom? This is just so wrong and immoral to expose young children to this sort of thing while they are trying to develop and find themselves in society. May God help these children not to become more confused than they already are!!!
- 1119** 5/13/2014 18:22 This is ridiculous! It should be black and white - boys and girls use separate bathrooms!!!
- 1120** 5/13/2014 18:18 The privacy of the biological females should be considered. Some girls may be embarrassed to have a biological male in the bathroom with them even though that biological male is transgender. This is a sensitive time for all involved.
- 1121** 5/13/2014 18:02 Not allowing the student to use the female facilities because she is attracted to females is the same as not allowing lesbians to use female facilities. The student identifies as a female and should be treated as such.
- 1122** 5/13/2014 17:51
- 1123** 5/13/2014 17:06 Let them use the restroom they want to use.