

May 13, 2014

Atherton Students and Parents:

You are invited to attend the Atherton High School Site-Based Decision Making (SBDM) Council meeting this **Thursday, May 15, in the large auditorium at 2:45pm**. The topics for this final, regularly-scheduled meeting of the school year will include reports on staffing, budget and our school's Program Reviews (*Writing, Practical Living & Career Studies and Arts & Humanities*). We will also complete the second reading of the proposed *Wellness Policy*.

An agenda item the SBDM Council will also be discussing is *Policy 500: School Space*. You may have read about the issue of gender identity in our school newspaper. We will discuss the addition of a non-discrimination statement to our policy on the use of school space that will include 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.*

This statement in our school policy will align our recognition of transgender students with the April 29, 2014, Title IX release by the *United States Department of Education Office for Civil Rights* protecting the rights of transgender students. There have also been multiple recent court rulings across the nation addressing equal access for transgender students.

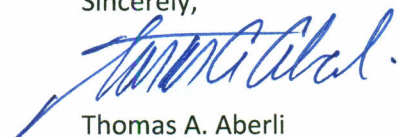
Currently, transgender students at Atherton High School may use the restroom and locker room of their gender identity with prior approval and parameters set by the school administration.

Please take a moment to inform yourself on this issue; we would appreciate having everyone's feedback on the addition of a non-discrimination statement to our school policy on the use of school space. Feedback must be received by noon on Thursday, May 15, and all responses will be printed, provided to SBDM Council members and submitted into record:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Atherton-Gender-Identity>

The school year is closing quickly- we're almost there. Finish the year strong!

Sincerely,



Thomas A. Aberli  
Principal

J. M. Atherton High School