Tips to create a more gender inclusive classroom

A simple guide by the GSA

1.

Use gender neutral terms in class!

Use	Avoid
- Students	- Boys & girls
- Scientists	- ladies & gentleman
- Historians	- Ms./Mr. when talking about students
- Folks	- "Boys on the left girls on the right"
- Everyone	
- Friends	

2.

Never assume pronouns!

Don't assume anyone's gender or sexuality! Gender expression≠Gender
Ask ALL students their pronouns
Use those pronouns when you know them

3.

Display your own pronouns!

Displaying your pronouns, even if you're cisgender, can help normalize this and make it less awkward when someone does request specific pronouns

Add your pronouns after your name in google classroom, email signature, top of papers, syllabus, etc.

Include a link or hyperlink to info on why you're displaying your pronouns (guide to this later)

4.

Inform yourself

If a student asks to be called something you don't recognize (many neo-pronouns will likely be new to you) or asks for something you don't know how to provide, inform yourself.
(If you're comfortable doing so)

Your student likely has to explain this to many people, and making it easier on them would be appreciated.

Ready?

Follow these tips and listen to your students when they correct or inform you! There's no shame in being wrong, as long as you work to correct yourself!

Additional Questions?

Email Mr.Vacanti at tvacanti@albany.ny.us
Text "@gsaevents" to 81010
Research! I suggest glsen.org

Important Vocabulary

Androgynous
  An expression of self that is neither feminine nor masculine.

Cisgender
  Identifying as the gender assigned at birth- for example, born female and identifies as a woman

CisHet
  Cisgender and heterosexual

Gender expression
  How a person publicly expresses or presents their gender.

Gender identity
  How an individual experiences their gender in relation to social and cultural roles.

Intersex
  A sex that is neither fully female nor male. This can be a non-male/female mix of chromosomes, secondary sex characteristics, hormonal amounts, internal reproductive organs, or more.

Neo-pronoun
  A category of new pronouns that are used in place of "she," "he," or "they" when referring to a person. Examples include: xe/xem/xyr, ze/hir/hirs, and ey/em/eir

Non-binary
  A gender outside girl/woman or boy/man. This can be an umbrella term or a specific gender (like gay is for many sexualities)

Pronoun
  A pronoun is a type of word that replaces a noun, for example: "She likes apples" "Xe is tired"

Sex
  The anatomical classification of people as male, female, or intersex, is usually assigned at birth.

Trans/Transgender
  A person whose gender does not correspond with their birth sex.

Androgynous ≠ Nonbinary
Feminine ≠ Woman
Masculine ≠ Man

How to add your pronouns to your email signature

Kristen Majkut | 'Mike-it'
Albany High School Library | Librarian
she/hers | what's this

How to edit your email signature in Outlook:

www.albanyschools.org→ Staff→
Email login→ Outlook→
Settings wheel in upper
right-hand corner→ options→
Layout→ Edit email signature→ Save

How to edit your email signature in Gmail:

Open Gmail→ At the top right, click settings
→ See all settings→ General→
Signature→ click the signature you want to edit→
click edit→ save changes