

## QRC Resolution in Support of Trans Students v.2

**Whereas** Santa Rosa Junior College has no current policy regarding transgender students and has received a score of 2 out of 5 on the Pride Index<sup>1</sup>, a national benchmarking tool that identifies eight factors that can be modified to create a safer environment for LGBTQ+ students, faculty, and staff;

**Whereas** the QRC was recently targeted in an attack by a local hate group<sup>2</sup>, and while there has been an increase in anti-trans rhetoric and violence throughout California and locally in Sonoma County causing trans students at SRJC to report being isolated, targeted and disrespected by faculty and staff, being unsafe in dorms and criminalized when in crisis, and SRJC has no effective process to address discrimination complaints;

**Whereas** trans students face additional burdens such as being responsible for educating staff and faculty around gender pronouns, having to search for limited gender-neutral bathrooms, and having to deal with current California Community College Athletic Association participation policies which require trans student-athletes to self-identity and undergo invasive processes that can reproduce trauma;

**Whereas** SRJC's Queer Resource Center (QRC) is being denied access to the local data needed to provide outreach and support to students who identify as LGBTQ+;

**RESOLVED** that the SRJC Board develop policies and the SRJC Superintendent/President develop procedures that support trans students, such as recommending LGBTQ+-specific training for Resident Assistants (RAs) in dorms; requiring professional development for faculty and staff that supports the design of equity-centered and trans-affirming classrooms and pedagogies; revising the student complaint and grievance process; developing a Gender and Sexualities Studies academic program; and developing procedures for crisis intervention that prioritize mental health over disciplinary and/or carceral measures across District sites;

**RESOLVED** that the Superintendent/President establish procedures to provide QRC leadership with data needed to support LGBTQ students;

**RESOLVED** that SRJC Athletics reach out to collaborate with the QRC to navigate anti-trans policies and procedures, and to ensure that trans student-athletes can safely and fully participate in competitive athletics.

1. The Pride Index was launched in 2007, and the index's instrument is reviewed yearly by its Advisory Board, which includes university researchers and LGBTQ campus leaders. It is supported by the Campus Pride Q Research Institute for Higher Education. Their evaluative instrument focuses on LGBTQ inclusion in the following eight areas: 1) Policy Inclusion; 2) Support and Institutional Commitment; 3) Academic Life; 4) Student Life; 5) Housing; 6) Campus Safety; 7) Counseling and Health; and 8) Recruitment and Retention Efforts. They compiled a report for SRJC in 2016.

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2. As one of several examples, The Press Democrat reported on group called Redwood Holler in the article “Local businesses, Santa Rosa Junior College, vandalized with ‘straight pride’ flyers over LGBTQ+ art” on June 12, 2023.