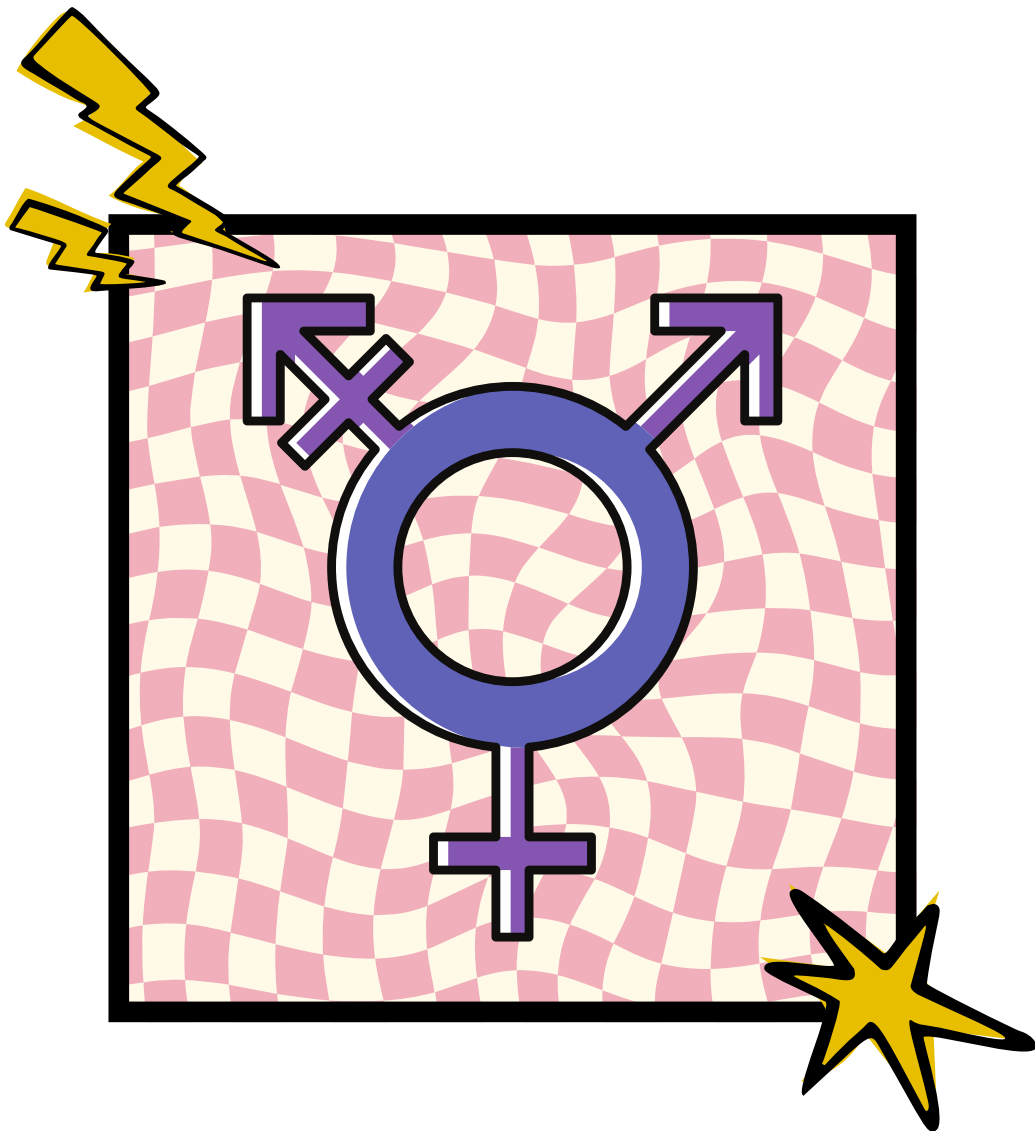


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**A RESOURCE FOR TRANS STUDENTS  
IN THE JUNEAU SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**MIDDLE SCHOOL EDITION**



This resource guide was created in the Summer of 2022 and will be updated regularly. Contact Ty at the ZGYC to make sure you have the most recent copy.

ty.shae@juneau.org  
(907) 586-2635

# Hey, you!

So glad you are here. Welcome to a resource for trans youth in the Juneau School District. This resource was made with love by trans adults in your community for you and your peers. We know that the world is a tricky place and as trans people, we have to face some particularly unique challenges when we encounter places that may not be quite ready for us.

School is hard enough as it is without having to worry about things like where to find a bathroom and who to talk to about changing your name. This zine will answer some common questions about your specific school and provide you with information that will make your experience a little easier.

We have also included some additional resources for support groups, scholarships, and social spaces, just for you.

The information you'll find here about JSD schools was gathered from a survey we conducted in 2022. This survey was sent to the JSD superintendent, principals, and some staff at each school. When creating this resource we aimed to stay as true as possible to what JSD staff wrote in their surveys. Some information may not feel complete, and some information may not be what you want it to be. We want to express our gratitude to the JSD staff who completed this survey. We also recognize there is more work to be done to make school both safe and easy to navigate.

The world is a better place with you in it. You are worthy of support and deserve to be able to be safe and comfortable at school and everywhere. Don't forget you are powerful, brave, and full of magic. You are not alone.

Sincerely,  
Ty and Meryl

# DID YOU KNOW?

The Juneau School District has a policy specifically protecting trans students and staff from discrimination!

Reading through this policy can help you know your rights and the ways in which the district is required to protect you.

It can also be a little confusing, so don't hesitate to reach out to someone you trust for clarification.\*

## People to know:

### ***Bridget Weiss - Superintendent***

bridget.weiss@juneauschools.org - (907) 523-1702

## What is a grievance?

A Student Grievance is the formal procedure you can use to report violation of the non-discrimination policy. You have the right to file a grievance if school staff is not following the policy. If you think you might need to file a grievance, get a trusted adult\* involved to see if it's the right next step for you. A parent, guardian, or advocate can file a grievance for you, if you want. You deserve to have your rights respected!



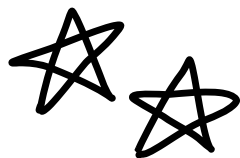
**Read the policy here!**



**Find the grievance policy here!**

\*Refer to page 11 for more info about supportive adults

# DZANTIK'I HEENI MIDDLE SCHOOL



**School Phone Number:** (907) 796-5800

## People to know:

**Molly Yerkes** - Principal, [molly.yerkes@juneauschools.org](mailto:molly.yerkes@juneauschools.org)

**Laura Scholes** - Vice Principal, [laura.scholes@juneauschools.org](mailto:laura.scholes@juneauschools.org)

**Laura Clark** - Mental Health Clinician, [laura.clark@juneauschools.org](mailto:laura.clark@juneauschools.org)

## Name Changes

If you legally change your name, the vice principal, Laura Scholes, the registrar, Maria Kappler, or a counselor can help you update it in PowerSchool. This will require parent consent.

If you would like to change your name without changing it legally, you can talk to a counselor, the mental health clinician, Laura Clark, or any staff you feel comfortable telling. A school counselor will communicate the change to your teachers, add a note in PowerSchool and follow up with teachers if they do not begin to use the correct name for you. Staff should be using your preferred name regardless of parent support.

## Gender Neutral Restrooms

There is a gender neutral bathroom in the gym that is unlocked and available when the gym is open. The gym is almost always open during the school day. There is also a gender neutral bathroom in the nurses office that is available when the office is open. Staff from the front office or the counselors can let you into this bathroom if the nurse is not there.

## Locker Rooms

If you have questions or concerns about locker rooms or other activities that are separated by gender, such as sports teams, you can talk to the vice principal and athletic director, Laura Scholes, or your coach.

## WHO SHOULD YOU TALK TO IF...

### Another student is disrespecting you?

Any adult including the counselors. Staff will notify the vice principal, Laura Scholes, and provide support.

### A teacher is disrespecting you?

Any adult, including the counselors, principal, Molly Yerkes, or vice principal, Laura Scholes, if possible.

### The counselor, principal or other school staff is disrespecting you?

The mental health clinician, Laura Clark, any other school staff or your caregiver at home.



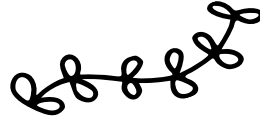
## Grievance

Any staff will do their best to assist you with the grievance process. You or your caregiver can also reach out to the superintendent, Bridget Weiss.

## The Alliance

The Alliance is a drop in, social space for LGBTQ2S+ students at DHMS. The group meets on Wednesdays from 3:05-4:25 in the BAM Afterschool room, C204.

# FLOYD DRYDEN MIDDLE SCHOOL



**School Phone Number:** (907) 796-5300

## People to know:

**Kristy Germain** - Principal, [kristine.germain@juneauschools.org](mailto:kristine.germain@juneauschools.org)

**Luke Gunkel** - Assistant Principal, [luke.gunkel@juneauschools.org](mailto:luke.gunkel@juneauschools.org)

**Kelly Reed** - Counselor, [kelly.reed@juneauschools.org](mailto:kelly.reed@juneauschools.org)

**Amelia Hanrahan** - Mental Health Clinician,  
[amelia.hanrahan@juneauschools.org](mailto:amelia.hanrahan@juneauschools.org)

## Name Changes

If you would like to go by a new name, you can talk to the counselor or any teacher. They will share this change with other staff with your consent. Your parent or guardian can fill out and sign a form to change your name in PowerSchool. To do this, you or your parent should talk to the Principal, Kristy Germain, or the school counselor, Kelly Reed. Staff will honor your name preferences in school regardless of parent or guardian preference and will ask you which name you prefer to be used when calling home.

## Gender Neutral Restrooms

There are two gender neutral bathrooms in the main hall, next to the gym that are always unlocked and available. If you have questions or concerns about bathroom access, you can contact the principal, Kristy Germain or the counselor, Kelly Reed.

## Locker Rooms and Activities Divided by Gender

You can use facilities and participate in activities based on the gender you identify with. If you have questions or concerns about this, you can talk to the counselor, Kelly Reed, or the principal, Kristy Germain.

## WHO SHOULD YOU TALK TO IF...

### Another student is disrespecting you?

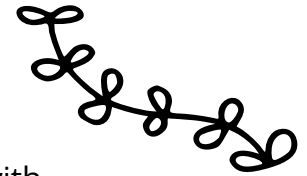
A trusted adult such as a teacher, counselor or the principal. These adults can help you fill out an incident report, if needed.

### A teacher is disrespecting you?

A trusted adult such as a teacher, counselor or the principal. These adults can help you fill out an incident report, if needed.

### Your counselor, principal or other school staff is disrespecting you?

A trusted adult\* in the building.

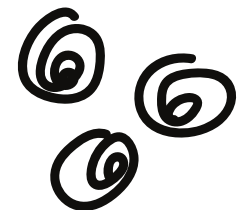


### Grievance

The school counselor or principal can help with the grievance process. See page 3 for more info on the grievance process.

### The Alliance

The Alliance is a drop in, social space for LGBTQ+ students at FDMS. The group meets weekly from 3:05-4:25. Keep an eye out for flyers posted at your school. You can contact the ZGYC or Amelia Hanrahan for more information.



\*Refer to page 11 for more info about supportive adults

# JUNEAU COMMUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL

**School Phone Number:** (907) 523-1679

## **People to know:**

**Adrianna Northcutt** - Principal,  
adriana.northcutt@juneauschools.org

**Melissa Dale** - Counselor, melissa.dale@juneauschools.org



## **Name Changes**

If you would like to go by a new name, you can speak to your teacher, the counselor or the principal. They will communicate your name change to other staff. You can change your name in PowerSchool by talking to the counselor, Melissa Dale, or the principal, Adrianna Northcutt. They will set up a meeting with the principal, counselor, you and your family to fill out the required form.

## **Gender Neutral Restrooms**

There is a gender neutral bathroom in classroom 101. This bathroom is locked, but staff can unlock it for you anytime. If you have questions or concerns about this, you can talk to your teacher, the counselor, Melissa Dale, or the principal, Adrianna Northcutt.

## **Locker Rooms and Activities Divided by Gender**

JCCS does not have locker rooms. You can talk to the principal, Adrianna Northcutt, if you have questions or concerns about other activities separated by gender.

## **WHO SHOULD YOU TALK TO IF...**

**Another student is disrespecting you?** A trusted adult\*

**A teacher is disrespecting you?** The principal, Adrianna Northcutt

**Your counselor, principal or other school staff is disrespecting you?** The principal or someone on the charter school board.



\*Refer to page 11 for more info about supportive adults

# MONTESSORI BOREALIS PUBLIC SCHOOL

**School Phone Number:** (907) 523-1848



## **People to know:**

**Kristin Garot** - Principal, kristin.garot@juneauschools.org

## **Name Changes**

Your name can be changed in PowerSchool even if it is not changed legally. To do this, you can talk to the counselor or the principal. The principal will meet with you and your guardian to sign the form and go over it in detail to explain what will change and what is unable to be changed. The form is then submitted to district staff who will make the change in PowerSchool. If you would like to change the name that students and staff use for you, you can tell your teacher or the counselor and they will communicate this change to the rest of the staff.

## **Gender Neutral Restrooms**

There is one gender neutral bathroom that is designated for staff, but can also be used by students as needed. This bathroom is unlocked and available throughout the school day. If you have questions or concerns about this, you can talk to your teacher, the counselor or the principal, Kristin Garot.

## **Locker Rooms and Activities Divided by Gender**

Montessori does not have locker rooms. You can talk to your classroom teacher, the counselor or the principal if you have questions or concerns about other activities separated by gender.

## **WHO SHOULD YOU TALK TO IF...**

**Another student is disrespecting you?** A classroom teacher, the counselor or principal.

**A teacher is disrespecting you?** A classroom teacher, the counselor or principal.

**Your counselor, principal or other school staff is disrespecting you?** A supportive adult\* or the superintendent, Bridget Weiss

# SELF ADVOCACY TIPS

## Know Your Rights

There are certain protections you are entitled to. That means that ***there are things the school district has to do to protect and support you.*** Read, and have any supportive people in your life read, the Juneau School District's ***Nondiscrimination: Transgender Student's and Employees Policy.*** Refer to this policy when you are asking for things you need at school.



Read the full policy here!



**RECORDS** On non-permanent school records or documents, the school will use the name and gender preferred by the student or employee...student ID cards should use the student's preferred name.



**NAMES/PRONOUNS** Administrators/staff should respect the right of an individual to be addressed by a name and pronoun that corresponds to their gender identity, including the use of gender-neutral terms. Legal changes aren't required.



**GENDER SEGREGATED SPACES** Upon request, the District will work with transgender students and parents (if applicable) to determine appropriate accommodations with regard to bathrooms and locker rooms...considerations can include safe and non-stigmatizing alternatives such as the addition of a privacy partition or curtain, use of a nearby private restroom or office, or a separate changing schedule.



***Students shall be permitted to participate in any such activities or conform to any such rule, policy, or practice consistent with their gender identity.***

## Make A Plan

Self advocacy is about standing up for yourself and asking for, and sometimes fighting for, what you need. It can be hard, and it helps to make a plan. Write it out first!

1. What is the problem or issue?
2. What do I need to ask for? Can I pull something from the policy that relates to my need?
3. Who do I need to ask? That answer might be in this zine!
4. Who can help me ask (see notes below on trusted adults)?
5. What will I do if my need gets met? What will I do if I don't get the answer I was looking for?

## Take Care of Yourself

***You deserve to have support!*** Utilize the resources in this zine to find peers and supportive adults who can help you get what you need at school. Take care of yourself by ***finding spaces where you feel safe and comfortable being yourself-*** that might be in an in person support group, an online space, or at the ZGYC. ***There are many trans adults and youth who want to connect with you and support you.***

## Lean on Adults That You Trust

Not everyone has supportive adults in their families or homes. It's important to find supportive adults who you can trust. You might find those supportive adults at your school, in the Teen Health Center, or at ZGYC. ***A supportive adult is someone you feel safe with, and someone who respects you.*** A supportive adult might go with you to a meeting at school, help you write an email, fill out a grievance with you, or talk to you about how you're feeling and be a good listener.

If you're not sure where to start, start with us! We wrote this zine and would love to help you get connected with resources.

Ty: [ty.shae@juneau.org](mailto:ty.shae@juneau.org) 907-586-2635  
Meryl: [meryl@namijuneau.org](mailto:meryl@namijuneau.org) 907-463-4251





# LOCAL RESOURCES

## The Zach Gordon Youth Center

A free, drop-in center for youth. The center has a gender neutral bathroom and will ask for your name and pronouns when you sign in. There is also a pool table, foosball, art supplies, a library of free books, an Xbox, a variety of board games and a bunch more. Staff will always check in to see how you're doing, cook you food and cheer you on in life. After 6pm, you must be 14 or older to be at the center so the evenings are reserved specifically for teens. The center also hosts some LGBTQ specific groups and programs:

-**Queerspace**, a social group for LGBTQ+ teens, Thursdays at 6pm at the Zach

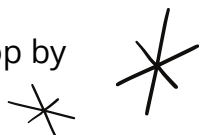
-**The Alliance**, a drop-in, afterschool activity for LGBTQ+ middle school students to connect, weekly from 3-4:30pm, at FDMS and DHMS. Check out your schools page for more info. (DHMS pg. 5 and FDMS pg. 7)

-**Trans Youth Support Group**, this interactive psychotherapy support group is for individuals ages 12-19, who identify as transgender, gender expansive, genderqueer and non-binary. It will provide a safe, affirming space to explore, process and grow as we examine different aspects of our gender identity. Registration is required. 3rd Thursday of the month from 5-6 at the Zach

## -Gender Affirming Scholarship Fund

This fund can provide gender affirming items to any youth. This can be for clothing, binders, makeup etc. Requests can be made through the ZGYC or the Teen Health Center

For more information about any of the resources, stop by the Zach Gordon Youth Center or call 586-2635.

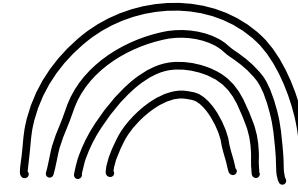


## Identity Alaska (Virtual)

Q Club, teens 13-18, Thursdays from 5:30-7:30pm  
[identityalaska.org/calendar](http://identityalaska.org/calendar)

## The Teen Health Center

The Juneau Teen Health Center offers convenient, confidential, and free health services in school-based clinics to high-school aged teens. Services are provided by scheduling an appointment with limited drop-in or same day appointments. Find out more at 907-523-1634  
[juneauteenhealthcenter.weebly.com/](http://juneauteenhealthcenter.weebly.com/)



Did you know that if you go to DHMS or FDMS you can meet with a Mental Wellness Clinician at your school? These adults can provide support for you and your mental health. You can talk to a supportive adult\* in the school and they will connect you with the Mental Wellness Clinician, or you can email them directly using the contact information below.

**DHMS:** Laura Clark - [laura.clark@juneauschools.org](mailto:laura.clark@juneauschools.org)

**FDMS:** Amelia Hanrahan -  
[amelia.hanrahan@juneauschools.org](mailto:amelia.hanrahan@juneauschools.org)

\*Refer to page 11 for more info about supportive adults

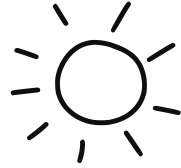
# NATIONAL RESOURCES

## The Trevor Project

24/7 call, text, and chat support for LGBTQ+ youth

[thetrevorproject.org](http://thetrevorproject.org)

1-866-488-7386



## Trans Lifeline

24/7 Trans peer support, by/for Trans people

[translifeline.org](http://translifeline.org)

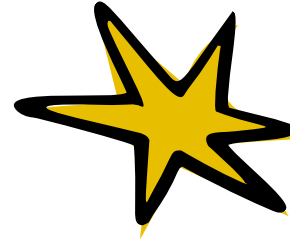
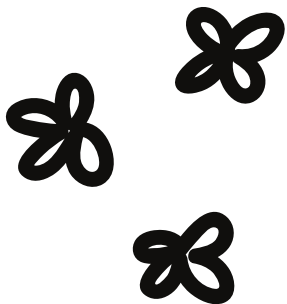
1-877-565-8860

## TransFamilies

Virtual support groups for Trans youth and their families

[transfamilies.org](http://transfamilies.org)

855-443-6337



This resource was created by Ty Shae (ZGYC) and Meryl Connelly-Chew (NAMI Juneau). If you have questions about the resource or any information in it, feel free to contact us.

**Ty:** [ty.shae@juneau.org](mailto:ty.shae@juneau.org) 907-586-2635  
**Meryl:** [meryl@namijuneau.org](mailto:meryl@namijuneau.org) 907-463-4251

