

## Don't do this Work Alone! Connect and Collaborate with Others to Promote Gender Inclusion

Refinement of practice—and all social transformation more generally—is best accomplished by collaborating with others engaged in the same pursuit. The following resources and guidance highlight how to collaboratively take up this work.

- Staff and faculty training and professional development organizations: <u>Gender Diversity</u>, <u>Trans Youth Equality</u> Federation, Gender Spectrum
- Join a science content-specific equity group to find a thought partner for planning gender-inclusive lessons, like SEEDS and STEM Equity.
- Read about how other teachers have navigated discussions about gender in biology including <u>Ariel Heyman</u> and brief authors <u>Sam Long</u>, <u>Lewis Steller</u>, and <u>River Suh</u>. Read about how LGBTQ scientists navigate their identities within their professions at 500 Queer Scientists.
- Seek professional judgment and guidance before offering age-appropriate, trauma-informed examples of how to redress the history of science in erasing complexities of gender and sex in humans and in broader biology.
- To respond to curricular limitations, develop allies in your school and community. Look beyond other teachers to nurses, counselors, food services staff, etc. Administrators can also support educators to respond to any community concerns regarding teaching about gender, sex, and sexuality.
- Partner with teachers unions and legislation-focused groups like <u>Transgender Law Center</u> and <u>National Center</u> <u>for Transgender Equality</u>. Several examples of model policies, best practices, and support forms are available online.
- Share what you learn and do to support gender inclusivity with colleagues, friends, neighbors, and through your professional teaching organizations.
- Highlight the National Science Teaching Association, National Association of Biology Teachers, and Next Generation Science Standards statements on gender-inclusive instruction.
- Know your rights if you are an out LGBTQ+ staff member.
- Prepare yourself to respond to common concerns.