

McConville, Mindy

From: Rachael
Sent: Tuesday, November 27, 2018 8:03 AM
To: Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education
Cc: education@aclu-md.org
Subject: Fwd: Public Comment on "Kirwan" Commission

> Hello,

> While considering free equitable education in Maryland, I would like you to consider expanding your focus to the LGBTQ+ and disabled community. Currently my oldest child is a member of both and most definitely sees discrimination on a daily basis. They see teachers who refuse to use their correct pronouns, who haven't received education on how to address the needs of my child and providing them an equitable safe and free public education. My child's physical disability required them to use a wheelchair for long distance walking or on bad pain days. The school my child attends is not accessible which means on bad days I need to carry the wheel chair upstairs to their classroom on the second floor. My child cannot use a restroom on the second floor because there is no gender neutral restroom up there, they are only allowed to use the restroom in the nurses office. There are so many factors affecting equity in education. I beg if you to not forget about the disabled and LGBTQ+ when writing your recommendations.

> You can call me or email with any questions or concerns.

> Rachael Martin

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