LGBT Youth: Recognizing and Removing the Barriers To Academic Success

1. Safety First
2. Is the student “out” yet? If so, to whom/not?
3. Does the student have a safe environment in which to live?

Does the student have a safe environment in which to speak/be?

1. Are YOU an Ally?
2. Check your level of openness/affirmation. Are you in a safe/affirming environment?
3. Do you use terminology safely?
4. What if a student “comes out” to you, are you prepared?

* Do you know what to do? What not to do?

1. What is your role as an educator?
2. What is your Action Plan?
3. Know Your Student
4. Know your avenues for referral/resources
5. Safe Space Kit
6. Visit www.GLSEN.org to download your Safe Space Kit. This will ensure to your students that your classroom is a safe, open and affirming environment in which to learn/be. (English/Spanish)
7. Display Safe Space Kit to:

* Create meaningful spaces
* Be visible (as an Ally)

Creating Your Own Action Plan in Four Simple Steps:

1. What can I do to support LGBTQ students in my school?
2. What can I do to educate other students/staff in my school?
3. What can I do to advocate for changes within my school? (i.e. what conversations can I have with others to create an environment of diversity and inclusiveness?)
4. What further resources, information, or help do I need to make me a more effective Ally?