

Medford High School GSA host Gender and Sexuality Identity Workshop

On Thursday, May 14th, Medford High School's Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) hosted a gender and sexuality identity workshop featuring three members from PFLAG (Parents & Friends of Lesbians and Gays). These three trans-identifying individuals from PFLAG held an open panel tackling issues and stereotypes regarding transgender topics and how Medford High can become a better environment for individuals of all genders. It began with educational lessons on terminology used within the spectrum of sexuality, gender identity, and expression. Afterward, a discussion-based forum opened where the PFLAG representatives demonstrated their charisma and shared their personal stories, graciously entertaining everyone's questions and comments.

Considering the relatively large number of members of the Gay Straight Alliance at Medford High that identify outside of the societally constructed gender binary of "male" and "female," their stories and advice were very well received and respected by our audience of more than thirty students.

Hearing their struggles and successes reinforced the urgency for our continued efforts for change here at Medford High School. The GSA has high hopes to enact change to benefit non-binary individuals in the upcoming academic school year. The GSA would like to thank Bloomberg Philanthropies for the donation that made this educational and unforgettable experience possible, as well as for their continued generosity and support.

By Devin Bombino and Simona Miller