From:	Bekka Boster
To:	Shane McFarland
Subject:	[EXTERNAL]- Boro Pride Ban
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Attachments:	2.PNG 1 - Copy.PNG

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I heard about the decision that was made recently to ban the Boro Pride event indefinitely for "conduct and speech of an inherently sexual nature".

I am appalled at this gross misuse of power to target an already marginalized and underrepresented group such as the LGBTQIA+ community. Pride events are absolutely essential to our community to allow people to express themselves and their identity in a safe, controlled environment.

The existence of gay, bi, lesbian and other LGBTQ peoples is not inherently sexual and it is not fir for any goverment to limit our right to assembly. I hope you all will reconsider the choices you made as they have the potential to severely and negatively impact these vulnerable populations. Nearly 50% of LGBTQ youth seriously contimplated or attempted suicide last year. This is a direct result of feeling unaccepted, unapproved, or that they are viewed as "shameful" and should stay hidden. For these youth, having an accepting community, the risk of suicide was greatly reduced. For those even taught of LGBTQ existance, their risk of suicide droped by 23%! It is quite literally a matter of life and death that the LGBTQ community has reason to believe that their community supports their existence. (https://www.thetrevorproject.org)

Those in positions of political power should not let their religious morality come into play when making judgements that affect their community.

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Bex Boster
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