FAQs WSD Practices for Interacting with Transgender Students

Disclosing Preferred Name and Pronoun

• Q: If a student tells me to please use the student's preferred name and/or pronoun, what should I do?

A: You may want to ask the student if the administrator is aware of the request and encourage the student to speak to the administrator or a counselor so they can address any other concerns that may arise due to the student's gender identity.

- Q: If student tells me to please use the student's preferred name and/or pronoun, do I have to disclose* to parents? (*Separate and apart from getting consent, this question is about disclosure)
- A: No. Let the administrator handle this.
- **A:** You are not to disclose this information to anyone but the principal/administrator. Administrators have been trained to work through this legally.
- A: If the student is willing, they may speak to a counselor and you may disclose the information to the counselor at this point.

Confidentiality is HUGE

- Students have disclosed this information to you because they feel safe with you. Please be aware of this and honor this.
- They are looking for your reaction to this information. Make sure you smile and be supportive. Do not make a judgement based on this information. Body language, facial expressions speak volumes.
- Do not "out them" to anyone. Report it to the principal/administrator/counselor.
- In this moment, you are this student's champion.