

Proclamation



- WHEREAS,** The City of St. Petersburg prides itself in being a welcoming, affirming, and inclusive city for all residents, including all members of the LGBTQ+ community; and
- WHEREAS,** In St. Petersburg, our LGBTQ+ community and allies unite to celebrate, advocate for, protect, educate, and empower residents who've historically been marginalized; and
- WHEREAS,** This includes our city's youngest residents, who deserve to grow up in a community that is free of racism, transphobia, homophobia, sexism, ableism, and all forms of hate and oppression; and
- WHEREAS,** Our community's schools should be safe learning environments that include and affirm all children, including LGBTQ+ students; and
- WHEREAS,** Young people who develop in positive school climates, free of bullying, harassment, and discrimination, report higher levels of physical and psychological safety, greater mental well-being, and improved educational and life outcomes; and
- WHEREAS,** In St. Petersburg, we intentionally work for the best possible future for all young people in schools, including those who identify as LGBTQ+, without exception; and
- WHEREAS,** We are united in our commitment to make St. Petersburg an even more welcoming and inclusive community and to continue the work to ensure that every resident in our city feels equally valued and equally protected and has equitable access to opportunities to help them thrive;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kenneth T. Welch, Mayor of the City of St. Petersburg, hereby do share my support of

GLSEN's RISE Up CAMPAIGN

and the efforts to ensure that every student, including those who identify as LGBTQ+, can learn in an uplifting, supportive environment that is free of hatred and discrimination.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official Seal of the City of St. Petersburg, County of Pinellas, and State of Florida to be affixed this 28th day of April 2023.

Kenneth T. Welch

Kenneth T. Welch
Mayor