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Rachel Fitzpatrick & Jessica Dziobecki | buckscountypflag@gmail.com | 215-396-7865



HEADLINE: CBSD Community Against Book Bans Press Conference

Subhead: PFLAG Bucks County leads with love and we cannot allow a vocal minority to make decision for almost 18,000 students

Doylestown, Pennsylvania

Hello, I'm Rachel Fitzpatrick and this is Jessica Dziobecki, we both use she/her pronouns. We are from PFLAG Bucks County. As PFLAGers, we support policies that lead to honest, accurate, and inclusive education to help every child learn and thrive. As parents, we strive to empower our kids to think critically and make informed decisions.

Kids deserve the chance to learn and develop critical thinking skills, no matter where they come from, transgender or not, straight or LGBTQ+. Removing the resources that empower a child to learn and ask questions removes a critical function of education. No single story or a couple of stories suffice to represent the diversity of an entire group. Let's give schools and libraries MORE books about MORE topics and people. Let's empower kids to learn and ask questions.

School is a place where kids can explore their identity, from the activities they choose to the clothes they wear; from their name to the books they read.

Like all parents, whether you have one child or many, you want your children to have the chance to be their best and thrive. These efforts to ban books take that chance away from our children. As parents, the best things we can do to combat the fears these school board members pretend to have -are to vote, to educate, and to lead with love, because all children, no matter their race, color, genders, or what's in their wallet, deserve the freedom to learn.

What's happening now at Central Bucks isn't new and its not only targeting LGBTQ+ people. But no matter how many times throughout history they have threatened us for race, where we come from, who we love, or our genders, we are still here. We belong here and continue to spread love, joy, and to celebrate our communities.

When we remove stories of marginalized people, we send the message that their stories and experiences are not acceptable, which adds to the stigma. This is not okay and we urge Central Bucks School district to do the right thing and vote no to Policy 109.2

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PFLAG is the first and largest organization for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) people, their parents and families, and allies. With over 400 chapters and nearly 250,000 members and supporters crossing multiple generations of families in major urban centers, small cities, and rural areas across America, PFLAG is committed to creating a world where diversity is celebrated and all people are respected, valued, and affirmed. To learn more, visit pflag.org, like us on Facebook ([/pflag](https://www.facebook.com/pflag)), watch us on YouTube ([/pflag](https://www.youtube.com/pflag)), or follow us on Twitter ([@pflag](https://twitter.com/pflag)) or Instagram ([@pflag](https://www.instagram.com/pflag)).

PFLAG Bucks County is one of the counties local chapter established in 2008. We are a support group for adults who have a loved one in the LGBTQ+ community. PFLAG Bucks County offers two meetings a month, one is virtual and the other is in-person in Doylestown. We support each other by listening and offering experiences as advice and support people wherever they are in their journey. PFLAG Bucks County also participates in community advocacy and outreach to support the LGBTQ+ Bucks County Community. PFLAG Bucks County Leads with Love! To learn more, visit pflagbuckscounty.org, like us on ([/pflagbuckscounty](https://www.facebook.com/pflagbuckscounty)), or follow us on Instagram ([@pflagbuckscounty](https://www.instagram.com/pflagbuckscounty)).