John A. Curr III

*Western Regional Office Director*

Here in Buffalo, students must be able to feel safe being themselves. It frankly hurts that at McKinley High School, students don’t feel protected because of who they are.

People like Byshop and Destinee have tried for years to form a gay-straight alliance, where they can come together with their peers and know that they belong. It is outrageous that their attempts to form a GSA have been thwarted at every turn.

I am happy to be here alongside them, my colleagues at the NYCLU and the other advocates gathered here today to say that this senseless discrimination must end now. And schools across Western New York and around the state must understand that this intolerance is completely unacceptable.