

10 Tips for Running an Effective GSA Meeting

1. Opening every meeting with a check-in is important, no matter how many people have expressed a need for emotional support.
2. Take time to wrap up every meeting and bring everyone together one last time. Maybe its a chant, or a plan for next week!
3. Switch the meetings up with games and activities! Take turns suggesting ideas for the next meeting so everyone feels invested in what happens at the meetings.
4. Creating safe space for every student means it's important to remember that students are present in meetings in different ways. Make sure that students feel comfortable participating or not participating, as long as they are respectful of other members.
5. Make sure you are prepared. Have leadership meet or chat before each meeting so everyone is on the same page with what is happening and what is coming up next for the GSA. This will save your group from confusing breakdowns in communication.
6. Establish ground rules for each meeting, and go over them at every meeting so new and returning members know how to add to the safe space!
7. Be sure that your faculty advisor attends all meetings. Your advisor should participate as an equal rather than controlling or dominating the space.
8. Keep notes on your GSAs discussions, activities and meetings.
9. Start and end meetings on time.
10. Provide snacks if you can!



www.IowaSafeSchools.org

Questions about this resource?
Email GSAs@iowasafeschools.org

