

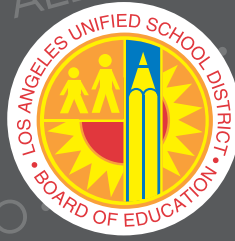
## Besides She, He or They, are there other pronouns?

Yes, there are other pronouns that people use. It's important to respect someone's pronoun even if you've never heard it before. You may make a mistake the first few times, but keep practicing; you will get used to it.

## What if I make a mistake?

If you realize you used the wrong pronoun, apologize, correct yourself, and try your best to use the correct pronoun next time.

For more resources, visit:  
[HumanRelations.lausd.net](http://HumanRelations.lausd.net)



Student Health &  
Human Services



Human Relations, Diversity & Equity

**My Pronouns  
Are...**  
*Campaign*

L.A. UNIFIED

MY PRONOUNS ARE:



LOS ANGELES LGBT CENTER  
POLICY AND COMMUNITY BUILDING

**OUT** FOR  
**SAFE SCHOOLS**

The Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression (SOGIE) Affirming Schools Project is an LAUSD initiative to enhance learning and working environments for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning (LGBTQ+) individuals. The SOGIE Affirming Schools Project and OUT for Safe Schools are proud to share our *My Pronouns Are...* campaign.

## What is gender?

People tend to use the terms 'sex' and 'gender' interchangeably. Sex refers to a person's body parts. A person's gender goes beyond their body parts. Gender identity is a person's deeply held, internal sense of self as male, female, a blend of both or neither.

## Why talk about pronouns?

We tend to assume someone's gender based on external characteristics, such as appearance, clothing or hairstyle. We most often use those external characteristics to decide which pronouns we think are indicated – for example, referring to individuals as 'he' or 'she', or 'Mr.' or 'Ms.'

Accurately gendering people increases acceptance, validation, and connection. We can avoid misgendering others by asking which pronouns each person prefers and express our gender identities by sharing our pronouns. This simple gesture helps show all students, especially our transgender and gender-diverse students, that they are honored and respected.

## What does 'they' mean?

You may be accustomed to using 'they' as a plural pronoun. However, 'they' can also be used as a gender-neutral singular pronoun. For example, "Mariam was excited about solving their math problem today." 'They' is also a good option when you're referring to someone but don't know their pronoun.

## I'm not transgender or gender diverse; why should I wear a pronoun button?

Wearing a pronoun button is a great way to:

- share your gender identity and to learn others'
- normalize talking about gender
- help transgender and gender-diverse people feel more accepted
- avoid making assumptions based on an individual's external characteristics.

