

Jamie Nabozny School Assembly

<http://www.JamieNabozny.com>

Bio –

Jamie Nabozny grew up in Ashland, a small town in northern Wisconsin on the south shore of Lake Superior. His life changed drastically when he was targeted in middle school for being gay. His years of harassment ended with a beating that put him in hospital and required abdominal surgery. Jamie then moved to Minneapolis. After realizing that many other young people endured similar fates he decided to fight back. With the help of Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, Jamie won a Landmark Lawsuit in Federal court that establishes that all young people including those who are Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, or Transgendered deserve a safe educational experience. The Southern Poverty Law Center produced a documentary titled “Bullied” that chronicles his life. Jamie now speaks out for the millions of kids bullied in our schools everyday. He travels the country and shares his story so that no child has to endure what he endured. Jamie was recently named a Defender of Human Rights by the Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights.

Middle/High School Assembly –

Show Film Bullied –38 Minutes

Jamie Speaks –Interactive presentation where students see that the words they use have power to hurt others, they have a responsibility to do something about it, and finally showing them how they individually and as a group can change their school climate. Jamie also discusses the long-term effects of bullying and gives concrete examples of these effects. Jamie ends his presentation by letting them know schools can and have changed and they now need to make a decision if they will be one of those schools or continue with the status quo.

Q&A –Students are free to ask questions. Topics range from details of Jamie’s personal story to questions about what they can do to stop bullying in their own schools. Some students share personal stories and ask advice.

If time allows Jamie is happy to meet with your schools GSA or Diversity Club.

Quote from a School Social Worker in Camden, Maine

The assembly was absolutely amazing! What an experience for our whole school. A number of students ended up sharing their personal experiences with bullying/harassment and encouraging each other to stand up to this behavior. One teacher sent me an email saying that in her 30 years of teaching, this was the most powerful assembly she's ever attended. I think the administration was blown away by it as well. I don't think they had any idea that it would be this powerful. A number of students came up to me afterwards in tears and thanked me for the assembly. Thank you! -Pam Pleas, GSA Advisor, Camden