A “safety folder” is a collection of documents assembled to protect a transgender person and educate others.

The folder will provide the reader with the history and facts needed to understand the transgender person’s gender identity and in some cases their family stability. Should be updated frequently. If a copy is kept at school, should be considered FERPA information.

**SHOULD INCLUDE:**
- Documents from medical and mental health professionals
- Letters from validators (a validator can be an extended family member, a friend, or a member of PFLAG or another LGBTQ organization) about family dynamic
- School documents (i.e. report cards, IEPs, parent-teacher conference notes)
- Letters from a gender therapist, gender clinic, or family doctor attesting to student’s good health and gender identity
- Copies of paperwork showing changes to official documents (i.e. name change, gender marker change)

**OPTIONAL (BUT USEFUL)**
- Pictures/written work by the student, depicting gender-expression
- Published articles about family which family feels offers an accurate and positive representation
- Blog posts or baby book entries of gender non-conformity over the years
- Report cards and letters from teachers indicating student’s general happiness and success
- Photos of student which show their happiness from transitioning
- Letters from community members, religious leaders, close friends or family, describing parenting and child’s gender-expansive behavior over the years
- Other documents based on personal circumstances
- List of prescribed medications

Resources:

http://www.imatyfa.org/safe-folder.html