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ME Project
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Hello, my name is Jaden Croucher and I'm here to talk about bleeding. I am a former SRB student who was without pads more than once, because there weren't even pad machines, to begin with (at least in the intermediate section of SRB). I would have to wrap my underwear in 1 ply toilet paper which makes for raging rashes later. And yet through my period days I would see students taking condoms from the gender-neutral bathroom and filling them up like water balloons. Quick question for all involved, did we chose to have periods?. No, we did not, if we could choose I'd assure you no one would have one. Now follow up question, do we chose to have sex?. Yes, we do. So why do we provide free condoms for the students and not free pads and tampons. Think about that. On top of the mad rashes, there is an insane about of shame. Thankfully now I am shameless about my period but when I went to SRB in middle school I was so so ashamed and going up to someone to ask for a pad or worse going up to a teacher to ask for a pad sounded like hell for me. If we simply had pads and tampons in bathrooms we could avoid so many issues. Another example, imagine sitting in a 75-minute class with toilet paper in your underwear, imagine how you'd worry every time you get up that there would be blood on your seat, distracting right. Thankfully I am blessed to live in a financially stable home but I know many people even in my community who don't have that privilege, having these pads and tampons available would make their school experience so must more comfortable. I personally got my period when I was 10 and in fifth grade, I had to hide my period from every one of my friends, and to make it worse we didn't even have a sanitary waste disposal bin so I had to wrap my pad up and walk in front of all my friends to the garbage can, that sucks right, now amplify that by 1000 for our trans and non-binary students. I can't even imagine the gender dysphoria caused by having to ask someone for a pad or tampon. We here want to make a comfortable or at least bearable school experience and, the way to alleviate some stress from our lives is to provide free pads and tampons. That's why I am here today to ask you to do this one small thing for all your students. Thank you.