



RESOLUTION OF THE ALASKA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT

in support of preserving the opportunity for student athletes
while balancing competitive fairness, inclusion, and safety for all who compete

Resolution 02-2023

WHEREAS, participation in interscholastic athletics is a valuable part of the education experience for all students; and

WHEREAS, policies governing sports should be based on sound medical knowledge and scientific validity; and

WHEREAS, policies governing sports should be objective, workable, and practicable and should be written, available, and equally enforced; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska education regulations govern interscholastic activities through 4 AAC 06.115, authorizing the Alaska School Activities Association (ASAA) to administer and promote interscholastic activities effectively, economically, and fairly; and

WHEREAS, the separation of boys and girls in sports is related to competitive fairness and promotion of broad and equal participation; and

WHEREAS, equal opportunity is determined by the United States Department of Health and Human Services which considers whether the selection of sport and levels of competition effectively accommodates interests and abilities of both sexes; and

WHEREAS, the ASAA historically has governed, promoted, and adjusted competition classes on the basis of safety and fairness in competition; and

WHEREAS, at puberty biological male athletes generally gain physiological advantages such as larger skeletal structure, greater muscle mass and strength, less body fat, greater bone density, larger hearts and greater oxygen-carrying capacity; and

WHEREAS, medically prescribed hormone treatment for the purpose of gender transition is not a best practice recommendation for children under the age of 16; and

WHEREAS, transgender student athletes should have opportunity to participate in sports; and

WHEREAS, the integrity of middle and high school girls' sports should be preserved; and

WHEREAS, the values of competitive fairness, inclusion, and safety are not congruent and at times in conflict;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the

Alaska State Board of Education and Early Development supports the passage of regulations proposed by the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development and reviewed by the people of Alaska to prioritize competitive fairness and safety on the playing field while allowing all students to participate in activities. To ensure the ongoing support of students in athletic competitions Alaska Education Regulations should:

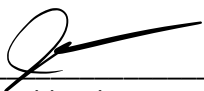
1. Provide a girls' division with participation based on a student's sex at birth, and
2. Provide a division for students who identify with either sex or gender; and
3. Provide a process for appeal for all students.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Board of Education and Early Development supports the Alaska School Activities Association with addressing the above athletic competition divisions in its Bylaws for FY24; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to all Alaska school districts, to all members of the ASAA Board of Directors, and to the House and Senate Legislators representing the families in our State.

ADOPTED by the Alaska State Board of Education and Early Development, at the regular open public meeting thereof, held this 16 day of March, 2023.

ATTEST: Alaska State Board of Education & Early Development:



James Fields, Chair