

Introduced by: Derkevorkian, Cox, Hibbert,  
Elam, Mayor  
Date: 07/11/23  
Action: Adopted  
Vote: 6 Yes, 2 No, 1 Absent

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH  
RESOLUTION 2023-049**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PASSAGE OF ALASKA STATE BOARD OF  
EDUCATION AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT RESOLUTION 02-2023 IN SUPPORT OF  
PRESERVING THE OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENT ATHLETES WHILE  
BALANCING COMPETITIVE FAIRNESS AND SAFETY FOR ALL WHO COMPETE**

**WHEREAS**, at its March meeting, the state of Alaska’s Board of Education and Early Development (“State school board”) adopted resolution 02-2023 regarding competitive fairness, opportunity and safety for all student-athletes; and

**WHEREAS**, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough School Board recently approved an athletic policy affirming that students’ eligibility to play on girls’ or boys’ sports teams is based on their gender assigned at birth; and

**WHEREAS**, the State school board voted unanimously at its meeting in Soldotna on June 8, 2023, to advance a proposed regulation that would afford equal opportunity and competitive fairness for all participants in student athletics by providing a girls’ division with participation based on a student’s gender at birth, and at least one co-ed open to students who identify with either gender; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development is taking public comment on the proposal until July 26, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, student athletics should promote safety and fairness in competition; and

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

**WHEREAS**, the ability of athletes who are males at birth to compete in middle and high school girls’ sports is not congruent and may directly conflict with the goal of providing a fair and safe competitive playing field for all;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:**

**SECTION 1.** That the Assembly supports the state of Alaska’s Board of Education and Early Development proposed regulation to create multiple divisions for student sports in support of preserving the opportunity for student athletes while balancing competitive fairness, inclusion, and safety for all who compete.

**SECTION 2.** That a copy of this resolution will be provided to the Governor of the State of Alaska, the Alaska Board of Education and Early Development, Alaska School Activities Association, the Alaska Legislature, and sent electronically to the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development at [deed.commissioner@alaska.gov](mailto:deed.commissioner@alaska.gov).

**SECTION 3.** That this resolution is effective immediately upon adoption.

**ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 11TH DAY OF JULY, 2023.**

  
Brent Johnson, Assembly President

ATTEST:

  
Michele Turner, CMC, Acting Borough Clerk



Yes: Cox, Derkevorkian, Elam, Hibbert, Ribbens, Johnson

No: Chesley, Ecklund

Absent: Tupper