

Alaska Association of Student Governments Resolution #15 The Continuation of Overwatch Submitted by: Palmer High School Submitted: October 31, 2019

Be it Resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments that:

- 1. Whereas, Overwatch is an online video game played worldwide;
- **2.** Whereas, Overwatch has been included as a viable eSports option for High School eSports programs;
- **3.** Whereas, Overwatch is a team game that promotes team play and communication;
- **4.** Whereas, Overwatch is professionally played collegiately and can offer scholarships;
- **5.** Whereas, Overwatch engages students that may otherwise not be involved in school activities;
- **6.** Whereas, students involved in team sports such as Overwatch tend to have more positive interactions with their peers;
- 7. Whereas, Overwatch is entirely cartoon based and unrealistic graphically;
- 8. Whereas, Overwatch is the second most played game in collegiate eSports;
- 9. Whereas, Overwatch is professionally played throughout the world;

- **10.** Whereas, Overwatch is currently played in over 1,700 US high schools;
- **11. Whereas,** video games, including Overwatch, have the positive health benefit of reducing stress for players;
- **12.** Whereas, Overwatch teaches leadership and strategy;
- **13.** Whereas, Overwatch is not a simulator;
- 14. Whereas, Overwatch shows no realistic blood;
- 15. Whereas, The main objective of Overwatch is not violence, but problem-solving;
- 16. Whereas, Overwatch promotes problem-solving and alternative strategy making;
- 17. Whereas, Overwatch promotes time management and organizational skills;
- **18. Whereas,** there is a viable option for Overwatch players to join the collegiate or professional realm;
- **19. Whereas,** Overwatch encourages adaptation;
- 20. Whereas, Common Sense Media recommends Overwatch for kids 14 and up;
- **21. Whereas,** Common Sense Media's parent's rating recommends Overwatch to kids as young as eleven;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Alaska Association of Student Governments supports the continuation of Overwatch as a playable option for in-school esports.

Action statement: If passed by the general assembly of AASG, it would be recommended that ASAA revisit its previous ruling and allow Overwatch to continue as a high school eSports option in Alaskan high schools.

Sources:

- 1. https://www.commonsensemedia.org/game-reviews/overwatch
- 2. <u>https://www.blizzard.com/en-us/</u>
- 3. https://www.gravitygaming.com/24-esports-scholarships-for-gamers/
- 4. <u>https://www.highschoolesportsleague.com/?gclid=CjwKCAjwusrtBRBmEiwAGBPgE5w</u> <u>63ER9kZQ3BracUvKN703Sz_cgiuvG9W8iMVqgfVaUpns0McYEdBoCx0IQAvD_Bw</u> <u>E</u>

- 5. <u>https://www.nbcnews.com/tech/video-games/high-school-gamers-are-scoring-college-scholarships-can-esports-make-n1056671</u>
- 6. <u>https://www.makeuseof.com/tag/video-game-stress-reduction-need-start-playing-right-now/</u>
- 7. https://www.verywellmind.com/how-video-games-relieve-stress-4110349
- 8. https://playoverwatch.com/en-us/news/23060961/introducing-role-queue
- 9. https://www.lifewire.com/how-to-play-overwatch-4126166
- 10. https://edtechnology.co.uk/Blog/esports-encourges-skills-development-in-education/

Passed unanimously by the 2019 Fall Conference GA at Palmer High School

AASG Vice President, Forrest Davis

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AASG Executive Director, Denise Greene-Wilkinson