

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF BANNING THE CONFEDERATE FLAG ON MSBSD PROPERTY

- WHEREAS: Mat-Su School Board Policy 5137 states “The schools shall not tolerate any comments or gestures which are vulgar or obscene or which denigrate others on account of sex, race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, handicap or disadvantage.”¹;
- WHEREAS: The Second Confederate Flag Navy Jack and the Battle Flag of Northern Virginia are contemporarily known as symbols of the Confederate States of America.²;
- WHEREAS: As outlined in Alexander Stephens’ “Cornerstone Speech”, the Confederate States of America believed that African Americans are “not equal to the white man” and the cause of abolitionism was “attempting to make things equal which the Creator had made unequal.”³;
- WHEREAS: In the case of *Phillips v. Anderson County School District*, the District Court in South Carolina found that a student could not wear a confederate flag jacket and that “school officials are not required to wait until disorder or invasion occurs.”⁴;
- WHEREAS: Mat-Su School Board Policy 5000 states “It is incumbent upon the School Board, district and school administration and teachers to provide for the physical and intellectual welfare of the students in their charge.”⁵;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAT-SU STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD AND THE ALASKA ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT GOVERNMENTS THAT:

- I. We believe that schools in the Mat-Su Borough should remain a safe environment where students may take full advantage of the educational opportunities afforded to them.
- II. We oppose the display of the confederate flag, which symbolizes the Confederate States of America and the values it held.
- III. We support banning the confederate flag on MSBSD property, except in the case of historical or educational purposes.

Alec Burris
Mat-Su SAB President

Kobe Rizk
AASG President

1 "BP 5137 POSITIVE SCHOOL CLIMATE." Mat-Su Borough School Board Policy Manual. Web. 3 Apr. 2016. <http://boardpolicyonline.com/?b=mat_su>

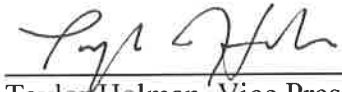
2 Chapman, Roger. Culture Wars: An Encyclopedia of Issues, Viewpoints, and Voices. Armonk: M.E. Sharp, 2010. Google Books. Google, Web. 3 Apr. 2016. <<https://books.google.com/books?id=vRY27FkG-JAUC&pg=PA114#y=onepage&q&f=false>>

3 Stephens, Alexander. "Corner Stone Speech." Teacher American History. Ashbrook Center at Ashland University. Web. 3 Apr. 2016. <<http://teachingamericanhistory.org/library/document/cornerstone-speech/>>

4 "PHILLIPS v. ANDERSON COUNTY SCHOOL DIST. FIVE." Leagle. Web. 3 Apr. 2016. <http://www.leagle.com/decision/19971475987FSupp488_11424/PHILLIPS_v._ANDERSON_COUNTY_SCHOOL_DIST_FIVE>

5 "BP 5000 CONCEPTS AND ROLES." Mat-Su Borough School Board Policy Manual. Web. 3 Apr. 2016. <http://boardpolicyonline.com/?b=mat_su>

Passed by the Alaska Association of Student Governments at the Spring 2016 Conference



Taylor Holman, Vice President