



Resolution #18

Swim and Dive Programs Remain Fully Funded and

Not be Cut from the Anchorage School District FY25 Budget

Submitted by Eagle River High School

Submitted: April 24th, 2025

Be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments that the high school swim and dive programs remain fully funded and not be cut from the Anchorage School District's FY25 budget.

1. **Whereas**, the Anchorage School District, on Tuesday, February 27th, 2024, approved the FY25 preliminary budget¹;
2. **Whereas**, the Anchorage School District has an estimated financial deficit of 100 million dollars¹,
3. **Whereas**, the Anchorage School District proposed to cut Swim and Dive, Boys Hockey; Gymnastics, and all middle school sports from their FY25 budget for the 25-26 school year¹,
4. **Whereas**, high school swim and dive is a longstanding, competitive athletic program within the Anchorage School District (ASD), offering students the opportunity to engage in physical activity, team-building, and personal development;
5. **Whereas**, participation in high school sports such as swim and dive has been shown to improve academic performance, mental health, and time management skills;

6. **Whereas**, swim and dive is one of the few co-ed sports offered in the ASD, promoting inclusivity and a unique environment for athletes of all genders to compete and train together;
7. **Whereas**, ASD's Swim and Dive programs have produced athletes who have gone on to compete at the collegiate and national levels, representing both their schools and the state of Alaska;
8. **Whereas**, if Swim and Dive is cut, ASD wouldn't be represented at the state level in athletic competitions;
9. **Whereas**, the potential elimination of Swim and Dive from the FY25 ASD budget would disproportionately impact hundreds of student-athletes across the district who rely on this sport for scholarship opportunities, athletic identity, and community;
10. **Whereas**, cutting this program would result in the under-use of municipal and school-owned pools, many of which are specifically designed to support swimming and diving events;
11. **Whereas**, there are five municipal-owned pools in the Anchorage School District located at Bartlett High School, Chugiak High School, Dimond High School, Robert Service High School, and West Anchorage High School;
12. **Whereas**, Swim and dive is one of the most cost-effective sports in the district in terms of student-to-coach ratios, facility access, and seasonal duration;
13. **Whereas**, removing the program would limit access to water safety education and reduce opportunities for students to gain life-saving aquatic skills;²
14. **Whereas**, Swim and Dive fosters an environment of discipline, commitment, and perseverance—core values aligned with ASD's mission to prepare students for success in life;

Therefore, be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments that the ASD High School Swim and Dive program remain fully funded and not be cut from the district's FY25 budget.

Action Statement: If passed by the Spring 2025 AASG General Assembly, this resolution will proceed to the Anchorage School District Board and shared with the Alaska School Activities Association (ASAA) as a statement of student opposition to the proposed budget cuts and in support of preserving equitable athletic opportunities for all students.

Sources

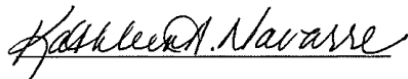
1. "Office of Management and Budget / FY25 Budget Planning." *FY25 Budget Planning*, Anchorage School District, www.asdk12.org/fy25. Accessed 22 Apr. 2025.
2. "Aquatic Facilities." *Division of Safety and Health*, State of Alaska, dec.alaska.gov/eh/fss/public-facilities/aquatic-facilities/. Accessed 24 Apr. 2025.

Resolution passes with unanimous consent

Passed by the Spring 2025 General Assembly of AASG hosted by Sitka High School and Mt Edgcumbe High School

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Francis Myers", written over a horizontal line.

AASG Vice President, Francis Myers

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kathleen A. Navarre", written over a horizontal line.

AASG Executive Director, Kathleen Navarre