



Alaska Association of Student Government

Resolution #5

Support for Maintaining Middle and High School Sports in Alaska

Submitted by: Frontier Charter School, Ian Utic, and Legacy Walker

Submitted: 04/24/2025

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

1. **Whereas**, numerous school districts in Alaska, including the Anchorage School District and Juneau School District, have proposed or already implemented cuts to middle school and high school sports programs due to budget shortfalls;
2. **Whereas**, these cuts have negatively impacted students' physical well-being, extracurricular engagement, and opportunities for scholarships and future sports careers;⁴
3. **Whereas**, programs like middle and high school sports provide students with valuable life skills such as teamwork, leadership, and discipline;¹
4. **Whereas**, it is important for communities to maintain access to extracurricular activities, which help students stay engaged in their education and contribute positively to their communities;⁵
5. **Whereas**, other school districts, such as Kodiak Island have explored alternatives to cutting these programs, ensuring that students continue to benefit from extracurricular opportunities;^{6,7}
6. **Whereas**, preserving sports programs would require increased state funding or the exploration of local fundraising and partnerships with businesses to offset costs;¹

7. **Whereas**, eliminating sports programs in struggling districts would likely exacerbate mental and physical health challenges among students, furthering the effects of existing budget cuts;²

Therefore, be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments that AASG supports efforts to maintain middle and high school sports programs across all school districts in Alaska, advocating for increased state and local funding for these vital programs.

Action Statement:

If passed by the general assembly of AASG, this resolution will be forwarded to the Alaska State Legislature, the Alaska Department of Education, and local school boards to urge them to prioritize funding for middle and high school sports programs.

Works Cited

1. “The Case for High School Activities.” *NFHS*,
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2. Doré, Isabelle, et al. “Years Participating in Sports During Childhood Predicts Mental Health in Adolescence: A 5-Year Longitudinal Study.” *Journal of Adolescent Health*, vol. 64, no. 6, 2019, pp. 790-796,
[https://www.jahonline.org/article/S1054-139X\(19\)30021-7/fulltext](https://www.jahonline.org/article/S1054-139X(19)30021-7/fulltext).
3. Goodykoontz, Emily. “Anchorage School Board makes broad cuts to staff, programs and sports in next year’s budget.” *Anchorage Daily News*, 26 February 2025,
<https://www.adn.com/alaska-news/education/2025/02/26/anchorage-school-board-makes-broad-cuts-to-staff-programs-and-sports-in-next-years-budget/>.
4. Rockey, Tim. “Anchorage residents plead with school board to keep programs and staff slated for budget cuts.” *Alaska Public Media*, 21 February 2025,

<https://alaskapublic.org/news/education/2025-02-21/anchorage-residents-plead-with-school-board-to-keep-programs-and-staff-slated-for-budget-cuts>.

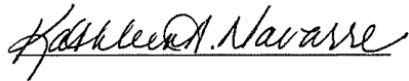
5. Sparks, Sarah D. "Extracurricular Activities." *Education Week*, 20 March 2019, <https://www.edweek.org/education/extracurricular-activities/2019/03>.
6. Venua, Brian. "Kodiak Island Borough increases education funding after KIBSD cuts \$4 million from its budget." *KMXT*, 6 June 2024, <https://www.kmxt.org/2024-06-06/kodiak-island-borough-increases-education-funding-after-kibsd-cuts-4-million-from-its-budget>.
7. Woolsey, Robert. "How far will Sitka's schools dip into reserves next year to save elementary teaching jobs?" *KCAW Radio*, 17 April 2025, <https://www.kcaw.org/2025/04/17/how-far-will-sitkas-schools-dip-into-reserves-next-year-to-save-elementary-teaching-jobs/>.

Resolution passes with unanimous consent

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Francis Myers". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

AASG Vice President, Francis Myers

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen A. Navarre". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

AASG Executive Director, Kathleen Navarre