



ASD STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD

Uniting Schools and Empowering Student Voice

Resolution 2023-02

Allowing for a Counted Vote of the AASG Representative on the ASAA Executive Board

Drafted by Rhiannon Dobbins and Harrison Steeves-Little

Adopted March 21, 2023

Be it resolved by the Student Advisory Board that the Alaska Association of Student Governments (AASG) representative of the Alaska School Activities Association (ASAA) should not have an advisory vote but an enumerated vote that shall appear on the ballot of the ASAA Executive board.

- 1. Whereas**, the AASG representative's vote currently does not count on the ASAA board and is instead counted as the only advisory vote,
- 2. Whereas**, the AASG representative is the only student on the ASAA board,
- 3. Whereas**, not counting the vote of the AASG representative allows for the voice of the students to carry less weight than the voting members of the board,
- 4. Whereas**, including the vote of the AASG representative in the official vote would provide more of a voice to the students,
- 5. Whereas**, it's disheartening for students to know their vote doesn't count,
- 6. Whereas**, including the vote of the student representative would diversify the perspectives accounted for in the votes of the ASAA board,
- 7. Whereas**, the ASAA board specifically expresses their hope for a more diverse board in a meeting on December 5th, 2022,

8. **Whereas**, the ASAA board specifically expresses their hope for more representation of female athletes on the ASAA board and allowing the student vote would increase that chance,
9. **Whereas**, the AASG representative serves a two year term and is then replaced, allowing for the opportunity of new perspectives of representation (i.e. female student-athletes, student-athletes of different ethnicities, student-athletes from military families),
10. **Whereas**, the ASAA board specifically mentioned the possibility of a new voting position on the board during the meeting on December 5th, 2022,
11. **Whereas**, there are currently only eight voting members on the ASAA board, therefore adding another voting position would result in a tie being impossible,
12. **Whereas**, the issue of an uncounted vote is a concern expressed by not only the current ASAA representative, but the former ASAA representative as well,
13. **Whereas**, the State Board of Early Education and Development (SBEED) senior student representative has a counted vote on the SBEED,
14. **Whereas**, the SBEED senior and junior representatives are the only students on a board of ten total members,
15. **Whereas**, a major point of ASAA is to improve sports and activities for students,
16. **Whereas**, utilizing the vote of the student representative would allow for the ASAA board to better understand how to improve sports and activities for students throughout the state.

Action Statement: If passed by the 2023 Student Advisory Board, this resolution will proceed to the spring AASG conference where it will be discussed and voted upon by the student governments of Alaska.