

5051

## Equal Opportunity in Athletics

*Policy 5051*

Original Adoption: (Originally adopted as Policy 6522)12/19/1978  
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Review Dates:

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### **I. PURPOSE**

Minneapolis Public Schools is dedicated to offering equal opportunity to students regardless of sex in athletic activity opportunities. The district recognizes certain past inequities in access to athletic programs or levels of participation previously offered to members of each sex. The purpose of this policy is to establish specific rules regarding athletic activity participation to support the district's dedication to equal opportunity for all.

### **II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

- A. Minneapolis Public Schools shall adhere to all requirements of federal and state law and rule regarding equal opportunity for participation in the district's athletic program.
- B. Unless otherwise prohibited by the Minnesota State High School League Rules secondary aged female students are permitted to participate on teams otherwise designated for male students.
- C. Athletic teams designated for female students may be restricted to female students.
- D. Notwithstanding the provisions of ¶¶ B and C, secondary wrestling teams may be restricted to members of one sex provided that programs or events are provided for each sex to the extent that the school finds that two teams are necessary to accommodate the demonstrated interest of each sex to participate in wrestling.

### **III. DEFINITIONS**

- A. "secondary" or "secondary aged" shall mean programs for students, or students, who are twelve (12) years or older, or who are in the seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) grade or above.
- B. "sex" shall mean the character of being male or female, and shall include persons who have had their birth gender medically reassigned.
- C. "female" shall mean the character of being female including those persons whose birth gender has been medically reassigned.
- D. "male" shall mean the character of being male including those persons whose birth gender has been medically reassigned.

#### ***Legal References:***

Minn. Stat. §121A.04 (Athletic Programs; Sex Discrimination)

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Minnesota Rules §3535.3300 (Biennial Determination of Student Interest)

Minnesota Rules §3535.3600 (Compliance Reports and Submission of Data)

***Cross References:***

MPS Policy 5000 (Equal Education Opportunity)

MPS Policy 5050 (Title IX)

MPS Policy 5560 (Eligibility for Student Activities)

MPS Regulation 5560 A (Definitions: Student Activities)

MPS Regulation 5560 B (Athletic Contests)

MPS Regulation 5560 C (Student Athlete Eligibility Rules)

MPS Regulation 5560 D (Appeals and Requests for Exceptions)