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Section 12

Gender Identity Participation Policy

The Maine Principals Association is committed to providing all students with an equal opportunity to participate in interscholastic athletics regardless of their sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity. In furtherance of this commitment, the MPA has adopted the following policy related to the participation of students whose gender identity differs from the student's sex assigned at birth.

1. Definitions:

a. Gender identity is defined as a student's innate sense of their gender, which may be the same as or different from the sex assigned at birth.

* A transgender student is defined as a student whose gender identity differs from the sex assigned at birth. For example, a transgender person who was assigned female at birth may identify as a boy, girl, a combination of both, or neither.

* A nonbinary student is defined as a student whose gender identity differs from the sex assigned at birth and does not conform to traditional binary beliefs about gender being exclusively either a boy or girl.

* A cisgender student is a student whose gender identity matches the sex assigned at birth.

1. A student who wishes to participate in MPA sponsored interscholastic athletics must declare their gender identity to their member school if their gender identity differs from the student's sex assigned at birth. The member school shall have the sole authority to verify the student's gender identity assignment for the purposes of athletic registration and participation in MPA sponsored events. No medical records or official documents shall be requested or required to establish a student's gender identity.

2. A transgender student shall be eligible to participate in accordance with either their birth sex or in accordance with their gender identity, but not both. For example, a transgender student who was assigned male at birth may play field hockey in the fall but cannot tryout for the boys' basketball team in the winter (assuming they continue to identify as a girl). Similarly, a transgender student who was assigned female at birth may try out for the boys' basketball team but may not try out for the girls' basketball team if they are cut from the boys' team.

3. The existence of boy/girl gender divisions on most teams creates a need for a non-binary student to determine which gendered team they feel most closely aligns with their gender identity. Alternatively, a non-binary student may select the gendered team on which they feel most comfortable participating. Factors that the nonbinary athlete may take into consideration include established camaraderie with fellow athletes, personal safety, and/or privacy concerns.^[SEP] The member school will assist in designating sports team eligibility through discussions with the student regarding their gender identity. Once a nonbinary student decides to participate in a sport different from the student's assigned sex at birth, the student will be eligible to participate in sports offered for the selected gender, following the same rules as a transgender student.

4. If a transgender or non-binary student has not yet declared through communication with the school administration their transgender or non-binary status, this policy shall not apply. If a transgender or non-binary student, at some point during their high school career, no longer identifies as a transgender or non-binary student, this policy shall not apply. In either case, the student will be eligible to participate as a cisgender student.

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Mills claimed the transgender rules are old! This is MPA standards and it is dated 5/6/24 on the bottom! And it is evident that the Maine Principals Association actually doesn't really believe what is happening now either. If they did, then they wouldn't

have felt the need to write in an 'ESCAPE CLAUSE' in the "GENDER IDENTIFICATION POLICY"!!!! It is clear, based on the policy wording, that it is being treated more as a mental illness that can immaculately heal, or simply a choice! Either way, Paragraph 3 of the policy has one line that shows this option clearly! It states in parentheses, "(ASSUMING THEY CONTINUE TO IDENTIFY AS A GIRL)"!! So basically a trans young boy, choosing to identify as a girl can actually choose to play in a girls sport in the fall, turn around and denounce 'his' trans identity at will, and then play boys basketball in the winter, And then choose to re-identify as trans and transition back to a girl status and compete in girls track! All the time working thru 'his' own Gender Dysphoria! And one boys dysphoria should never superseding the rights of every girl/women that participates in Girls/Women's sports! Girls rights are simply being trampled for one persons "assumed rights" because the adults in the room are either silent or just Low IQ, while throwing all Girls/Women's rights out the window! Tossing out the standard that has clearly stood since 1972! And most important of all is that a girls rights to the privacy in a 'female only' locker room and showers should be cut in stone! All 7th grade girls should not lose their rights to "innocence" and "personal privacy" to a boy who even the MPA isn't sure how to deal with! So what's next, maybe Women's Right To Vote in 1920 needs to be abolished too??