

## **District 49 Applauds CHSAA Settlement as Victory for Female Athletes**

**El Paso County, CO** – School District 49 today released a statement following a settlement with the Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSAA) that affirms the district’s ability to protect fairness, safety, and privacy for female student-athletes.

The agreement allows District 49 to maintain biological sex-based policies for sports, locker rooms, and overnight accommodations while continuing to participate fully in CHSAA-sanctioned activities. The district views this outcome as an important step in restoring local control and upholding federal protections for female athletes.

“CHSAA deserves credit for doing the right thing,” **said Peter Hilts, Superintendent of District 49.** “By reaching this agreement, they’ve recognized the need to protect fairness in competition and privacy in school facilities for our female athletes. We appreciate their willingness to engage in thoughtful dialogue and reach a resolution that puts students first. This settlement is a major step forward, but our work isn’t done. We will continue litigation against the Colorado Civil Rights Commission and the Attorney General’s Office to ensure every district in Colorado has the freedom to protect girls’ sports, safeguard student privacy, and uphold the spirit of Title IX. I encourage school boards across the state to follow our lead and adopt similar policies that ensure equal opportunity and safety for all students.”

The CHSAA settlement is the first significant development in the broader legal case and underscores the district’s commitment to student safety and equal opportunity.

District 49 will continue its litigation against other named parties in the lawsuit, including the Colorado Civil Rights Division and the Colorado Attorney General.

### **What This Decision Means**

**This agreement means District 49 and all school districts involved in the lawsuit can now:**

- Maintain separate sports teams for biological boys and girls.
- Keep locker rooms and overnight travel accommodations separated by biological sex.
- Avoid CHSAA-imposed penalties for upholding these policies.
- Comply with Title IX and the U.S. Constitution while rejecting mandates that put student privacy at risk.

### **Timeline of Key Events**

- **May 8, 2025:** District 49 [adopts Policy JBA](#) to classify teams and facilities by biological sex.
- **May 9, 2025:** District 49 [files federal lawsuit](#) against CHSAA, the Colorado Civil Rights Commission, and the Attorney General.

- **December 4, 2025:** CHSAA agrees to settlement, allowing the district to enforce its policies without penalty.
- Litigation continues against remaining defendants to ensure full protection of Title IX and the Equal Protection Clause.

**Colorado Schools Supporting the Lawsuit:**

- District 49 (Lead plaintiff)
- Colorado Springs School District 11
- Academy School District 20
- Education Reenvisioned BOCES
- Monument Academy
- James Irwin Charter Schools
- Montezuma Cortez School District
- The Classical Academy