

Thank you for wisely providing single occupant bathrooms and changing rooms at Coon Rapids Senior High to protect students' modesty. At the February 27th School Board meeting, however, six people testified on behalf of allowing a biological girl to use the boys' locker room, and opening up all restrooms and locker rooms in the district to mixed sexes. They also requested that you, as a Board, write a *gender inclusivity policy*. I know you do not intend to do so at the present time, and I would encourage you not to do so in the future. If you did, this action would prove highly disruptive and would likely lead to a legal challenge.

For the record I would like to review the meaning of Title IX.

In 1972 Title IX was passed by the federal government to ensure equality for women in educational programs or activities like sports. *Sex* meant male and female. Last spring the Obama administration, in an executive order without precedent, expanded the definition of sex in Title IX. The term 'sex' was suddenly changed to mean gender identity—whatever sex you *think* you are.

An Obama 'guidance' letter for interpreting Title IX was sent out to all the states suggesting that all bathrooms, showers and locker rooms must now be open to transgender students—those with a *chosen* gender instead of biological birth. This also included sleeping quarters for traveling teams. School districts were threatened with loss of federal funding if they didn't comply. Two Harvard Law School professors (Jacob Gersen and Jeannie Suk) have called this "bureaucratic sex creep."

This letter turned Title IX on its head. Instead of helping women, it put their privacy and safety at risk. Neither the U.S. Department of Justice nor the Department of Education have lawmaking authority, so neither can change the definition of the word "sex" in Title IX. This change was never passed by Congress and never had the force of law.

Last month, President Trump rescinded the Obama guidance letter. As a result, there is no compelling reason to open the bathrooms and locker rooms to mixed sexes. To pass a *gender inclusivity policy* now would introduce more problems than it would solve and would only violate the safety and privacy of all the other students. Please continue to protect the dignity, modesty, and privacy rights of *all* students by keeping all intimate spaces separated by biological sex. Your responsibility is not to *please* everyone; it is to *protect* everyone—especially their privacy.

Thank you.

Barb Anderson, Champlin