

## Push For Co-op Basketball

Dear members of the Lake and Peninsula School Board,

On behalf of the girls' basketball team, I am writing to respectfully request your consideration regarding the formation of a co-op basketball team.

Whereas the number of eligible girls continues to decrease, making it hard to sustain a complete and competitive team,

Whereas the decline limits restrict student opportunities to engage in athletics and represent their school,

Whereas for years, LPSD players from small schools who love 5-person basketball have been forced to leave their homes to play for schools in other villages, because their own village school did not have enough players,

Whereas having teammates from different villages on the same team for a full season has the potential to build and strengthen inter-village friendships that will last a lifetime, benefitting leadership and service in the region for decades,

Whereas the amount of playing time and games decreases along with the decrease in students,

Whereas hard-working student-athletes are unable to participate in the games they have trained for the entirety of their career,

Whereas motivation for schoolwork decreases when the risk of not being able to participate in a sport because of eligibility is eliminated,

Whereas students from other villages would have the opportunity to participate in competitive five-man basketball,

Whereas the establishment of a cooperation with another nearby village team would provide a practical and ethical solution,

Whereas sports build character, teamwork, discipline, physical health, responsibility, and other valuable life skills,

Therefore, be it respectfully resolved that the Lake and Peninsula School Board approve the formation of a cooperative basketball team, thereby assuring that students are offered the opportunity to benefit from and participate in the sport of basketball.

Thank you for your time and consideration, and continued commitment to supporting student development and athletic opportunities.

Respectfully Submitted,

The Tanalian Lynx Girls' Basketball Team