

Alaska Association of Student Governments Resolution # 2 GPA Rectification Resolution Submitted by: Mat- Su Career Tech

Submitted: 2/25/2019

Be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments:

- 1. Whereas, graded classes hold weight on a student's Grade Point Average (GPA);¹
- 2. Whereas, a standard schedule of classes varies in different schools (e.g., sixperiod school days in the Anchorage School District as opposed to seven-period school days in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District);²
- **3.** Whereas, an Extra-Period Class (EPC) shall be defined as any graded, creditbearing class taken in addition to a standard schedule (school specific);
- **4.** Whereas, EPCs are graded on a 4.0 scale and will always lower a GPA greater than 4.0;
- 5. Whereas, the absence of EPCs holds no weight on a student's GPA;
- 6. Whereas, grades are an incentive for academic excellence;³
- 7. Whereas, a "Pass/Fail" credit input holds no weight on a student's GPA;⁴
- 8. Whereas, the option to set EPCs, upon achievement of an "A" letter grade, to a "Pass/Fail" value would negate the negative effect of the class to a Grade Point Average greater than 4.0;
- 9. Whereas, grade inputs must remain universal for all students;⁴

- 10. Whereas, GPA is the determining factor for class rank;¹
- 11. Whereas, class rank is considered for college admissions, scholarships, and many other post-secondary opportunities;⁵
- **12. Whereas,** non-graded classes, such as off-campus or teacher's assistant periods, taken during the school day hold no weight on a student's GPA;¹
- **13.** Whereas, a student with a non-graded class in place of an elective class will maintain a higher GPA, provided the student's GPA value is greater than 4.0;
- 14. Whereas, a grade input of each individual student's GPA (capped at 4.0 and applied to non-graded class periods) would neutralize the unfair advantage given to GPA values greater than 4.0, while leaving GPA values under 4.0 the same;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Alaska Association of Student Governments supports that the current Grade Point Average system be modified so that Extra-Period Classes allow students the option of a "Pass/Fail" grade inpuin the Matanuska-Susitna Borough School Districtt upon achievement of an "A" letter grade. The organization also supports that non-graded classes taken during the school day be registered under a new weighted input in the grading system, SA (Student Average), which shall be equal to each individual student's Grade Point Average (at the end of the most recent grading period) while being capped at a maximum value of 4.0.

Works Cited:

1. *"High School Program of Studies 2018-2019"* Program of Studies, pg. 3, 11, 15-18, 68. Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District, Office of Instruction, 2018

2. *"The Effects of Block Scheduling."* AASA | Equity, www.aasa.org/SchoolAdministratorArticle.aspx?id=14852

3. "The Role of Grades in Motivating Students to Learn." NeuroImage, Academic Press, 16 Jan. 2013, www.sciencedirct.com/science/article/pii/S1877042812056236.

4. "*Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District Policy Manual*" Policy Manual, BP 5121, AR 5121, Grades/Evaluations of Student Achievement. Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District, 2018.

5. "Class Rank, GPA, and Grading." NASSP, 19 Nov. 2018,

www.nassp.org/policy-advocacy-center/nassp-positions-statements/class-rank-gpa-grading/.

Passed unanimously by the 2019 Spring Conference GA at Bethel Regional High School

AASG Vice President, Kyle Hasse

AASG Executive Director, Denise Greene-Wilkinson