



Alaska Association of Student Government

Resolution # 1

Holiday Absence Resolution

Submitted by: Polaris K-12 Nora King

Submitted: April 24, 2025

Be it Resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments that: A special category of absences would be added for religious and cultural holidays observed outside of existing ASD holidays and not counted against student attendance.

1. **Whereas**, the Anchorage School District (ASD) has a category for unexcused absences and excused absences;
2. **Whereas**, 90% attendance and above is an ASD goal ² ;
3. **Whereas**, perfect attendance is an admirable and desired goal for many students;
4. **Whereas**, ASD offers days off for Christmas, a Christian holiday that falls during the school year ²;
5. **Whereas**, the Christmas holiday does not result in unexcused or excused absences;

6. **Whereas**, ASD takes two weeks off during the school year that is centered around a religious holiday but not all religious holidays are given time off for them to be observed;
7. **Whereas**, ASD's diverse student body celebrates and observes holidays that fall throughout the school year ²;
8. **Whereas**, ASD has some of the most diverse schools in America;
9. **Whereas**, ASD should be a leader for other school districts to be aware of diverse religious and cultural backgrounds;
10. **Whereas**, there are many religions practiced within ASD including Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, and others;
11. **Whereas**, these absences would not count against perfect attendance;
12. **Whereas**, students would still be expected to make up missed work, but will be given grace if it is late;
13. **Whereas**, Polaris General Assembly unanimously supports this resolution;
14. **Whereas**, there would be a form, similar to the pre-arranged absence form specific to holidays stating what dates they would be out and what holiday they are observing;
15. **Whereas**, a student can apply for up to extended additional holiday absences;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Alaska Association of Student Governments, supports a special category of absences would be added for religious holidays observed outside of existing ASD holidays and not counted against student attendance.

Action Statement: If passed by AASG and ASD Student Advisory Board, this resolution will be brought to the Anchorage School Board for deliberation.

Sources:

1. "About." *Lubavitch Jewish Center of Alaska*, <https://www.lubavitchjewishcenter.org/about-us>.

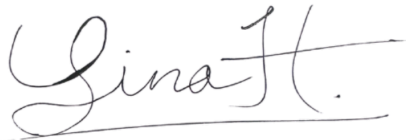
Accessed 19 March 2024.¹

2. "Our District / Cultural Dates of Significance." *Anchorage School District*,

<https://www.asdk12.org/Page/7989>. Accessed 19 March 2024.²

The resolution passes with unanimous consent.

Passed by the Fall 2025 General Assembly of AASG

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lina H." with a horizontal line underneath.

AASG Vice President, Lina Hischer

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cassandra Mirosh" with a horizontal line underneath.

AASG Executive Director, Cassandra Mirosh