

Change to Early Release Friday for Kodiak Island Borough School District Submitted by: Naomi Griffin

April 19, 2022

Be it Resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments that:

- **1. Whereas**: Currently early release for the Kodiak Island Borough School District is on Monday at 2:25pm;
- **2. Whereas:** In the past, early release was on Friday at 2:25pm;
- **3.** Whereas: Elementary administration advocated for moving early release time in order to have the most staff present for building improvement/staff development not taking into consideration the adverse effect this change has on secondary schools;
- **4.** Whereas: Early release on Friday allowed for students to miss less instructional time due to travel for sports or activities;
- **5. Whereas:** With Early Release on Friday, teachers and staff members that travel with sports and activities will miss less instructional time with their students; approximately 17 staff members* are involved with activities and athletics in an entire year of activities. These staff members are required to travel multiple times throughout their season;
- **6.** Whereas: In order to run games, tournament, or other activities staff members who coach, volunteer, or officiate have to miss class time* or have an unreasonable expectation to maintain instructional rigor in the classroom as well as prepare for after school activities;
- **7.** Whereas: Students and staff traveling off-island for medical appointments over the weekends will miss less school;
- **8.** Whereas: It is beneficial for CTE/lab classes to utilize shortened class periods on Fridays for cleanup allowing students a fresh start for the upcoming week. Cleaning up on Mondays is ineffective due to student use of equipment throughout the week;
- **9.** Whereas: Having shortened class periods on Monday impairs teachers planning on introducing new content, and disrupts the continuity of instruction;
- **10.** Whereas: Student engagement tends to be higher on Monday versus Friday, therefore it is more logical to have more instructional time on Monday;
- **11. Whereas:** Generating participation for spirit activities, consistently scheduled for weekends, is disjointed with Monday early release and games on Friday. For example a potential pep assembly would have to be held during advisory time on Monday, but games would not be played until Friday;

- **12.** Whereas: Teachers can utilize the early release time on Fridays to grade and provide timely feedback for students, catch up on work from the week, plan for the upcoming week, and/or meet with students;
- **13. Whereas:** If the district requires teachers to collaborate (a traditional use of early release time), Inservice is optimal for quality cross-curriculum and multi-grade/school collaboration;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Alaska Association of Student Governments supports early release for Kodiak Island Borough School District to be moved from Monday at 2:25 pm to Friday at 2:25 pm.

Action Statement: If passed by the General Assembly of AASG, Kodiak High Student Council will bring this resolution to the Kodiak High School Administration and the Kodiak Island Borough School Board.

*There are 34 certificated teachers on staff at KHS

*Like many districts in our state, we are dealing with an unprecedented substitute teacher shortage

Passed by the 2022 Spring Conference GA hosted by Kodiak High School

AASG Vice President, Kamea VanDeventer

AASG Executive Director, Denise Greene-Wilkinson