



Alaska Association of Student Governments

Resolution #4

A resolution to implement mandatory tutoring for those who are close to and/or failing core classes

Submitted by: Steven Duncan, Madeline Ko, Sandenna McMaster, and Eva Venema

Submitted 10/21/17

Be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Government

1. **Whereas**, core classes are mandatory for graduation yet vary between school districts;
2. **Whereas**, those who fail a core class during their high school career are not permitted to graduate or receive a high school diploma unless it is retaken and receives a passing grade;
3. **Whereas**, those who do not receive a high school diploma are more likely to find themselves either unemployed or at a job with a lesser income in the future;¹
4. **Whereas**, Palmer High School has a 21 minute period Palmer High Academic Recovery Measure (PHARM) prior to the usual lunch, scheduled for teacher/student meetings or study time on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays after fourth period;
5. **Whereas**, current PHARM students are required to stay in their fourth period classroom during PHARM unless they have a note from another staff member to go elsewhere, and may not get the help they need in their failing class;
6. **Whereas**, 50% of students who fail Algebra I usually fail an average of four semesters of core classes;²
7. **Whereas**, during PHARM periods students would be placed into a designated room dedicated to studying the class they are failing the most, where they will work with a teacher(s), student mentor(s), and/or online tutoring websites so as to not add on any additional hours to the teachers work schedule;
8. **Whereas**, Palmer High students are required to complete and pass a total of 4 credits of English, 3 credits of Math, 3.5 credits of Social Studies, 3 credits of Science, 1 credit of Physical Education, 1 credit of Health, and 9.5 credits of Elective classes;
9. **Whereas**, 76% of the teachers at Palmer High are in favor of changing PHARM to follow the format outlined in this resolution and 86% of teachers would be willing to help students in need during PHARM;³

10. **Whereas**, the multitude of core classes needing to be repeated creates a greater probability of failure to graduate high school;
11. **Whereas**, there are ample opportunities for online tutoring through programs offered to Palmer High in a variety of disciplines;
12. **Whereas**, two PHARM periods would be designated for the core class the student is failing most and another would be given to another class they need help in;
13. **Whereas**, students would be assigned their failing class for four and a half weeks, until the PHARM list is updated and they would either stay in the same core class PHARM period or change depending on their new grades;
14. **Whereas**, those who are failing one or more mandated core curriculum classes for over four and a half weeks should be required to participate in their choice of tutoring, either online or in person, to ensure that they pass all of their core classes and receive a high school diploma;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Alaska Association of Student Government supports that Palmer High School students who are averaging a grade point of 2.5 or lower and/or are failing at least one class demonstrate a need for support in their core classes receive tutoring and assistance.

Action Statement: This resolution if passed by the General Assembly of AASG will be sent to the following:

Paul Reid - Principal at Palmer High School
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Works cited

¹https://www.bls.gov/careeroutlook/2015/data-on-display/dod_q4.htm

²<https://consortium.uchicago.edu/sites/default/files/publications/Who%20Needs%20to%20Recover-Apr2016-AIR%20and%20Consortium.pdf>

³https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1jB0A3wO2Oa6mjSicnp-KLwl5YuSEQ_tvhlmN9KLKeQM/prefill

Passed unanimously by the Alaska Association of Student Governments at the Fall 2017 Conference.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kyle Hasse', written above a horizontal line.

Kyle Hasse, Vice President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Denise Greene-Wilkinson', written above a horizontal line.

Denise Greene-Wilkinson, Executive Director