

Resolution #9 Extra Day After Extracurricular Trips For Schoolwork Submitted by: Tri-Valley School Council Submitted: 4/23/2025

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

- 1. Whereas, our school recently removed a policy allowing for assignments to be granted an additional day where work is not due following a school sponsored trip;
- 2. Whereas, we organized a survey regarding students who miss school for extracurricular activities such as sports, music, and student council;
- **3.** Whereas, 33 out of all the 45 students in the entirety of the Tri-Valley high school population participate in sports¹;
- 4. Whereas, according to our survey, when this policy was in effect, 100% of Tri-Valley students who participate in extracurriculars utilized this policy sometimes, often, or always²;
- 5. Whereas, according to our survey, 83% of Tri-Valley students who participate in extracurriculars sometimes, often, or always require additional aid and instruction from teachers in order to finish assignments²;
- 6. Whereas, 66% of students say that Wi-Fi is rarely or only sometimes available on trips, with only a small percentage being able to access the internet through personal hotspots²;
- 7. Whereas, according to our survey, 92% of students are rarely or never able to work while on long trips in vehicles².
- 8. Whereas, the time allotted for makeup work on trips is not equal to the time given to students in school, with 65% of students receiving an average of less than an hour per day, and some extracurriculars do not provide any time at all²;
- **9.** Whereas, Tri-Valley school is very far away from most other schools, and extracurricular trips are usually 3 hours or more of travel one-way;

- **10. Whereas,** long travel times often mean returning home late on Saturday night or Sunday morning and needing to finish work on Sunday;
- **11. Whereas,** free time on the Sunday after a trip is frequently necessary for family commitments, rest, and religious activities, not allowing for adequate time to complete schoolwork;
- **12. Whereas,** 88% of students often, always or sometimes lose sleep because of missing work²;
- **13. Whereas,** for all students, especially high-achieving ones, sleep deprivation is a prevalent problem because of excess homework and it can lead to reduced cognitive function, making learning difficult upon returning to school;³
- **14. Whereas,** some people choose to skip school on Mondays because of work not yet being completed or sleep deprivation from attempting to finish homework²;
- **15. Whereas,** 81% of students return on Monday with incomplete homework²;
- **16. Whereas,** extracurriculars and sports are beneficial because they teach valuable skills, especially social ones, and improve mental health through giving children a sense of belonging;³
- **17. Whereas,** missing schoolwork can lead to being overwhelmed and academic stress can negatively impact mental health by causing anxiety, depression, and burnout;⁴

Therefore, be it resolved that the Alaska Association of Student Governments supports the reimplementation of the policy Tri-Valley School previously had for an extra work day for school work brought back after extracurricular trips.

Action Statement: If passed by the general assembly of AASG, this resolution will be brought to the Tri-Valley principal and the superintendent for consideration.

Sources:

- 1. Tri-Valley Athletic Director, Breanna Mayo and School Secretary, Sarah Walker
- 2. Survey of Tri-Valley Students, March 24, 2025.
- Boelens M, Smit MS, Raat H, Bramer WM, Jansen W. "Impact of organized activities on mental health in children and adolescents: An umbrella review." *Prev Med Rep*, 2021 27;25:101687, doi: 10.1016/j.
- Duncan, M. J., Patte, K. A., & Leatherdale, S. T. "Mental Health Associations with Academic Performance and Education Behaviors in Canadian Secondary School

Students." *Canadian Journal of School Psychology*, 2021, 36(4), 335-357. https://doi.org/10.1177/0829573521997311.

 Parker, Clifton B. "Stanford research shows pitfalls of homework | Stanford Report." Stanford University, 2024.

https://news.stanford.edu/stories/2014/03/too-much-homework-031014.

Resolution passes with noted opposition

Passed by the Spring 2025 General Assembly of AASG hosted by Sitka High School and Mt Edgecumbe High School

thances

AASG Vice President, Francis Myers

Kathleen A. Navasse

AASG Executive Director, Kathleen Navarre