



NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Nancy Rock, President
Members of the School Board

FROM: Rich Carlson, Superintendent

DATE: October 21, 2021

SUBJECT: **2021-2022 School Calendar Revision**
Ałak School

Memo No. SB22-038 RV1
(Action Item)

DocuSigned by:

Richard Carlson

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NSBSD Strategic Plan Goal:

2.0 Community Engagement: Foster collective responsibility, commitment, and trust between the school and community.

Issue Summary:

During the September 9, 2021 Board meeting, an action item was presented to approve the calendar revision for the Ałak School in Wainwright. The opening of school was delayed from August 12 to Aug 19th due to the maintenance issues and COVID concerns. It should be pointed out that the teachers were at work during the week delayed, preparing for the opening of school. At the time, the proposed change was to add two instructional days to the calendar to make up for the days lost. The two instructional days were both Saturdays (November 6th and November 20th). While the proposed change had been discussed and agreed to by the staff and the School Advisory Council (SAC), no formal vote occurred. For that reason, Joel Antes, President of the North Slope Borough Education Association, objected because of the lack of formal participation by NSBEA members. The proposed action item was tabled until a formal discussion and approval can occur by the teachers and SAC.

Background:

Since the September meeting, Joel and I have been working together to try to reach an agreement on how to move forward. He expressed concerns that Saturday school fails to respect the private time of the teachers and that adding days to the contract would need to be voluntary and not required. President Antes suggested asking the State for a waiver of those two days. I pointed out that the State only requires 180 student contact days therefore, this calendar would not require a waiver from the state but, would require a waiver from the NSBSD Board of Education, which requires 182 instructional days under Board Policy (BP) 6111.

The calendar presented today, for your consideration, was presented to the Wainwright staff and SAC on October 1st (see the attached minutes). Both the staff and the SAC voted to approve the attached calendar. It fulfills the 180 instructional day requirement of the State, the 191 teacher contract days and requires no additional funds.

Given the very unusual circumstances surrounding the beginning of school in Wainwright, and the fact that State instructional day criteria is met, total number of teacher contract days is adhered to, and the NSBEA supports the proposed change. The proposed calendar does not

require a budget change or any additional funds. In addition, Ałak SAC voted unanimously to support the proposed calendar change. Therefore, NSBSD administration recommends approval of the proposed calendar which waives the two additional instructional days required in BP 6111.

Proposed Motion:

“I move that the NSBSD Board of Education approve the proposed Ałak School Calendar, which waives the two additional days required in BP 6111.

Motion by: _____ Second by: _____

Vote: _____ Advisory Vote: _____