



# NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Robyn Burke, President  
Members of the School Board

**FROM:** David Vadiveloo, Superintendent DSV  
DSV

**DATE:** May 10, 2024

**SUBJECT: Approval of Holiday: Juneteenth**

**Memo No: SB24-162  
(Action Item)**

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**NSBSD Strategic Plan:**

N/A - Operational

**NSBSD Policy Manual:**

BP 6115, Ceremonies and Observances: District Schools shall be closed in observance of Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, the day immediately following Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Memorial Day, and the Fourth of July.

AS 14.03.050: School Holidays –

- (a) Public schools may not be in session on school holidays, which are Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, the day immediately following Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, New Years Day, Memorial Day, and the Fourth of July.
- (b) The public schools shall be in session on all other holidays falling upon school days and shall conduct appropriate exercises in recognition of the day.
- (c) The governing body of the school district may declare additional holidays.

BP 6111, School Calendar: Each school site calendar shall show the beginning and ending school dates, legal and local holidays, orientation and teacher inservice days, number of teaching days, vacation periods and other pertinent dates. Each school site calendar shall include 191 days, designated as follows:

- 182 student/teacher days, including up to 9 inservice days
- 6 Holidays: Labor Day; Inuit Day; Thanksgiving – 2 Days; Christmas Day; New Year's Day
- 3 workdays

**Issue Summary:**

Juneteenth, officially Juneteenth National Independence Day and historically known as Jubilee Day and Emancipation Day, is a federal holiday in the United States celebrating the emancipation of African American slaves. Juneteenth will be held on Wednesday, June 19, 2024.

As this holiday is outside of the school term and the Board may declare additional holidays, Administration is recommending the Board declare Juneteenth as a paid holiday with the understanding that:

- a regular employee must work the last regularly scheduled workday preceding the holiday and the first regularly scheduled workday following the holiday, must be on approved paid leave, or be a school-term employee whose school vacations precedes or follow a Holiday;

- A school-term employee on non-pay status for summer months will not be eligible for holiday pay on holidays that fall during the time of non-pay status; and,
- If an employee works on a holiday a defined above, the employee shall receive for the holiday worked, the employee’s regular pay plus an additional amount equal to the holiday pay. The employee shall not be entitled to any overtime wages for the actual hours worked solely because the work is on a holiday.

**Background:**

Juneteenth was recognized as a federal holiday in 2021 by President Joe Biden.

AS 44.12.090 states the governor will issue a proclamation to commemorate Juneteenth for the third Saturday in June each year, however, Juneteenth is annually celebrated on June 19th. Governor Dunleavy proclaimed June 17 as Juneteenth in 2023.

Currently, Senate Bill 22 would establish Juneteenth as a paid legal state holiday.

AS 44.12.010: Legal Holidays –

(a) The following days are legal holidays:

- (1) First of January, New Year’s Day;
- (2) Third Monday of January, Martin Luther King, Jr’s Birthday;
- (3) Third Monday of February, President’s Day;
- (4) Last Monday of March, Seward’s Day;
- (5) Last Monday of May, Memorial Day;
- (6) Fourth of July, Independence Day;
- (7) First Monday of September, Labor Day;
- (8) 18<sup>th</sup> of October, Alaska Day;
- (9) 11<sup>th</sup> of November, Veteran’s Day
- (10) Fourth Thursday of November, Thanksgiving Day;
- (11) 25<sup>th</sup> of December, Christmas Day
- (12) Every Sunday
- (13) Every day designated by public proclamation by the President of the United States or the governor of the state as a legal holiday;

**Proposed Motion:**

“I move that the NSBSD Board of Education declare Juneteenth a paid holiday.”

Moved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by: \_\_\_\_\_

Advisory Vote: \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: *Ds Vadiveloo*  
Ds Vadiveloo (May 11, 2024 09:18 AKDT)

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