



NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
MEMORANDUM

TO: John Hopson Jr, President
Members of the Board

THROUGH: David Vadiveloo, Superintendent DsV

THROUGH: Caitlin Santos, Director of Curriculum & Instruction *CS*

FROM: Kim Neakok, Assessment Coordinator *KN*
Ranel Gandia, Student Records Manager *RG*
Ian Acuna, Data Manager *IA*

DATE: March 14, 2025

SUBJECT: Instructional Minutes Proposal

Memo No. SB25-183
(Action Item)

NSBSD Policy Manual:

BP 6112, School Day: The School Board shall fix the length of the school day subject to the provisions of law. The school day shall be arranged and scheduled by the administration so as to offer the greatest return educationally for the time spent, within the limitations of school facilities and requirements of state law and regulations.

NSBSD Strategic Plan Summary:

Culturally Responsive Instruction

Goal 2: All students perform at or above grade level

Issue Summary:

Instructional minutes vary by site and grade level throughout the district. At the winter board retreat, the NSBSD Board of Education directed the administration to provide a summary and proposed minimum to align instructional minutes more closely throughout the district.

Factors such as staffing and bussing must be considered at each site individually, however, the present range, specifically in elementary school is up to 100 minutes per day between the longest and shortest school days. We know that time in class matters, specifically for our youngest students.

To meet the conditions of our literacy and math plans, instructional minutes need to be at least:

- Kinder - 3rd Grade Literacy: 120 minutes plus 30 minutes for intervention/extension
- Grades 4 and 5 Literacy: 90 minutes plus 30 minutes for intervention/ extension
- Kinder - 5th Math: 20 minutes for Number Corner (Calendar) and 60 minutes for core instruction

In addition, below you will find the suggested instructional minutes for Iñupiaq Language by grade level.



Suggested Iñupiaq Language Instructional Minutes			
Grade Band:	# of Minutes	Frequency:	Total Minutes per Week:
K3/K4	Required: 20 minutes Preferred: 30 minutes	5x / week	Required: 100 minutes Preferred: 150 minutes
Kindergarten	Required: 30 minutes Preferred: 45 minutes	5x / week 4x / week (Ipalook)	Required: 150 minutes 120 minutes (IPK) Preferred: 225 minutes 180 minutes (IPK)
Grades 1-5	Required: 45 minutes	5x / week 4x / week (Ipalook)	Required: 225 minutes 180 minutes (IPK)
Grades 6-8 *Recommended class size no more than 18 students enrolled*	1 full period per semester (as access allows)	Aligns with daily schedule	
Grades 9-12 *Recommended class size no more than 18 students enrolled*	1 full period per semester (as access allows) equaling 2 full credits total	Aligns with daily schedule	

Below, you will find State minimums, our present schedule, as well as our proposed instructional minutes by grade band. This is exclusive of breaks, lunch, and recess. It is inclusive of intervention time, and PE/ specials. Please note that this is for Regular Instruction days, and not the Wednesday minimum day which allows teachers to participate in Professional Learning Communities, School Improvement teams, and attend professional development sessions throughout the school year.

We have also included a proposed unified bell schedule for secondary allowing for Dual Credit courses to be offered across the slope, distance classes to be offered as staffing and student need requires, and including a designated time for advisement, TSP work, and intervention/extension.

Background

Instructional Minutes Policy: State of Alaska

Per [AS 14.03.040](#), the day in session in every school shall be at least four hours long (240 minutes), exclusive of intermissions, for the first, second, and third grades and five hours (300 minutes), exclusive of intermissions, for grades four through 12.

STATE OF ALASKA INSTRUCTIONAL MINUTES (MINIMUM)		
Pre-K	K - 3rd	4th - 12th
120	240	300

In supporting student instruction, including maximizing instructional time in alignment with the Teacher's CBA, we recognize that only performing the minimum is not in the best interest of our students and their learning.





CURRENT INSTRUCTIONAL MINUTES REGULAR SCHOOL DAY												
	K3	K4	K	1ST	2ND	3RD	4TH	5TH	6TH	7TH	8TH	9-12
AIN	150	180	330	360							345	
AKP	165		300		315		330	345				
ATQ	180		315		330		345	360		345		
KAK	195	330		360					345			
NUI	180		360							343		
PHO	150	180	330			360				336		
PIZ	180		330				385			367		
IPK	140	150*	405									
HMS									360			
BHS												365
KLC												370**

*IPK K4 IMMERSION: 405

**KLC FRIDAY SCHEDULE: 390

Proposed Unified Bell Schedule for High School:

CLASS PERIOD	M, T, TH, F	W
1 ST	9:00 - 9:53	9:00 - 9:53
2 ND	9:56 - 10:49	9:56 - 10:49
3RD	10:52 - 11:45	10:52 - 11:45
	LUNCH: 11:45 - 12:15	LUNCH: 11:45 - 12:15
4TH	12:18 - 1:11	12:18 - 1:11
5TH	1:14 - 2:07	1:14 - 2:07
6TH (Distance Offering)	2:10 - 3:03	2:10 - 3:03
SKINNY PERIOD	3:06 - 3:55	
INSTRUCTIONAL MINUTES	367 MINUTES	318 MINUTES

Recommendation:

The administration recommends that the Board adopt the Regular Instructional minute minimums outlined below.





PROPOSED INSTRUCTIONAL MINUTES (MINIMUM) REGULAR SCHOOL DAY			
	PRE-K	K - 5TH	6TH - 12TH
ALL SCHOOLS	180	360	365

Proposed Motion:

“I move that the NSBSD Board of Education approve the regular school day instructional minutes guidance as described in this memo and related attachments.”

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

Vote _____

Signature: DSVadiveloo
DSVadiveloo (Apr 21, 2025 23:53 AKDT)

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