



ASD STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD

Uniting Schools and Empowering Student Voice

Resolution 2024-02: Support of South Anchorage High School's Student Government Remaining a Class During the School Day

*Drafted by South Anchorage High School Student Government Officers,
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Adopted 4/16/24*

Be it resolved by the Anchorage School District Student Advisory Board that South Anchorage High School's Student Government class remain during the school day instead of becoming a zero-hour class for the 24-25 school year.

1. **Whereas** South Anchorage High School has the largest student activities participation rate per capita in the Anchorage School District;
 - a. Over $\frac{3}{4}$ of South Anchorage High School students participated in a fall sport.
 - b. South Anchorage High School has one of the largest dance participation rates in the district.
 - c. Over $\frac{1}{3}$ of South's students are participating in a spring sport this spring.
2. **Whereas** Student Government is the largest representation of the student voice in the school
 - a. The main representations of student voice are Student Government, Peer Mentorship, NHS, and Key Club. Of all these groups, Student Government is the largest group of students giving back to the school and communicating with our administration the most.
3. **Whereas** historically, Student Government has been a class during the school day for the entirety of the school's twenty-year history
4. **Whereas** Student Government has a vital role in building a positive school community and excitement in the student body
 - a. Student Government puts on almost all of our school-wide events. These include Dances, Assemblies, Spirit weeks, etc.
 - b. Student Government organizes student sections and game themes to promote attendance at various sporting events and show positive school spirit and support.
 - c. Student Government makes sure to reflect and include all students at South groups, which helps build community and involvement.
5. **Whereas** having Student Government outside of school limits the student leaders' ability to access different resources due to time constraints

6. **Whereas** if Student Government is a zero-hour, it would only meet before school or after school, which would limit student participation due to scheduling conflicts
7. **Whereas** Student Government currently puts on four dances, five to six spirit weeks, and four and five assemblies a year, with over thirty people helping plan them.
8. **Whereas** it takes several hours each week to plan school assemblies, dances, and other events with a class of roughly 30 students. If Student Government were a zero-hour class, hosting this many events would not be feasible due to a loss of time and students.
 - a. Almost every student in Student Government is an athlete, which means that they have limited time outside of school. Additionally, with this change in school start time, practices are expected to move to the morning (which would conflict with a zero-hour class time).
 - b. Student Government students are some of the most involved students in the entire school.
9. **Whereas** Student Government class officers already spend anywhere from 10-25+ hours outside of school planning and preparing for school-wide events
 - a. Homecoming: ~25 hours in-class planning, ~15 hours outside of class for construction of floats, set up of dance, and activities during the game
 - b. SOBOSS (South Olympic Battle of School Spirit): ~20 hours in-class planning, ~15 hours outside of class for preparation, practices with the teams, and roster building.
 - c. Prom: ~30 hours of focused prom planning by the junior class, ~10 hours outside of class for venue visits, set up, and delivery of decorations.
 - d. Other events such as the Sadie's Dance, game organization, extraneous spirit weeks, ticket sales, and service projects take additional time both inside and outside of class.
10. **Whereas**, if Student Government is a zero-hour Student Government members would have to be pulled out of class more often to help set up events, hindering their academic performance
11. **Whereas** making Student Government a zero-hour limits student voice and leadership in the school and community
12. **Whereas**, making Student Government a zero-hour decreases inclusion and diversity as only those who can afford to drive every day or have parents who do not work and can drop them off would be able to participate

Therefore, be it resolved by the Anchorage School District Student Advisory Board, South Anchorage High School Student Government has full support in keeping the Student Government a class during the school day.

Action Statement: If passed, this resolution will proceed to the SAHS Administration, the ASD Secondary Director, the Superintendent, and the Anchorage School Board for immediate consideration.