



EXPANDED LEARNING

ALVORD UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

EXPANDED LEARNING: EARLY RELEASE POLICY

Alvord Unified School District's EXPANDED LEARNING HALFⓈTime (elementary) and PRIMEⓈTime (middle school) programs are a place for children to participate in additional learning opportunities, have fun, and develop self-confidence in a safe environment. We want to help students do better in school and learn to cooperate with others!

- *It is recommended and encouraged for your child to remain for the entire duration of the program (until 6PM) in order for your child to receive the full benefits of the program.*
- *All early releases must have an EARLY RELEASE REASON clearly marked on the child's STUDENT DISMISSAL LOG.*
- *During California Standard Time, walkers release twenty-five (25) minutes before sunset.*

Please review the following information carefully.

Expanded Learning programs take place on each school day, from dismissal until 6PM, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Student participation in quality afterschool programming improves school attendance, academic achievement, graduation rates, and attitudes toward learning; as such, students are encouraged to attend the full program every day the program is in operation.

From time to time, we understand that a student may need to be released from the program early, for routine appointments such as doctor, dentist, or court-mandated meetings, which cannot be made during another time of the day.

Expanded Learning programs have multiple sign-out times available. Parents/guardians will need to pick a designated sign-out time for their child during registration, times vary by site. Parents/guardians must pick up their child at their designated assigned time ONLY; gates will open promptly and programs will maintain a ten (10) minute window for pick up.

Furthermore, any dismissal before 6PM REQUIRES an early release reason; parents/guardians provide a reason for any early release before 6PM by marking a box on the STUDENT DISMISSAL LOG, using following criteria:

- **ALTERNATE ACTIVITY:** attending an alternate activity in a school or community center such as sports, dance, religious studies, or other activity that would become the child's enrichment component.
- **FAMILY EMERGENCY:** emergencies such as unexpected hospitalization of family member, death in the family, or catastrophic incidents.
- **FAMILY NECESSITY/NEED:** unusual situation such as a parent/guardian attending school or work in the late afternoon/evening, no transportation, or interference with the regular family routine.
- **RECURRING MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS:** ongoing medical appointments such as counseling or physical therapy.
- **PROGRAM REQUESTED PICK-UP:** program personnel will call and release to parent/guardian for:
 - **Extreme Weather Conditions:** only applies to days with heavy rains or strong winds, especially if family walks home, to be determined by school district.
 - **Student Accident/Illness:** child reports to program not feeling well, has a bathroom accident, or has sustained an injury during the program hours.
 - **Student Behavior Release:** student released early due to misbehavior.
 - **Other conditions** based on a case-by-case basis as determined by Program Administration.

Additionally, beginning in the autumn and lasting until near the beginning of spring, California is on Standard Time. As a result, sunset can be as early as 5PM. During Standard Time, the following policies are observed:

- Students who walk home with their parent/guardian will be allowed to leave the program twenty-five (25) minutes before sunset.
- PRIMEⓈTime ONLY: Students with permission to walk home will be released twenty-five (25) minutes before sunset.
 - *Sunset in December may be as early as 4:45PM, yet in February; sunset may come around at 5:30PM.*
 - **PRIMEⓈTime parents/guardians agree that if they wish for their child to be released early from the program, neither the school district, nor any officer or employee thereof, shall be liable for the conduct or safety of any pupil during such time as the pupil has left the school grounds.**

Students found in violation of the EARLY RELEASE POLICY are subject to dismissal from the Expanded Learning programs. Students may be dismissed from the program when an individual student's record is reviewed and found to have an excess of unexcused absences and/or repeated early releases without an early release reason.

Alvord Unified School District is an Equal Opportunity Agency and does not discriminate against employees, job applicants, students/parents or community on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, national origin, ancestry, religious creed, age, marital status, pregnancy, physical or mental disability, medical condition, veteran status, gender, sexual orientation, or any other basis protected by law. District programs and activities shall be free from unlawful discrimination (BP 4030)

All Students will realize their unlimited potential.