August 4, 2023

MEMORANDUM

TO:        City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM:      Eric G. Mackey
           State Superintendent of Education

RE:        Early Release

In the state of Alabama, the only early release options during the prescribed school day must be for students who are released to a planned and supervised educational or Work-Based Learning experience, i.e., Cooperative Education, Apprenticeship Programs, Internships, Dual Enrollment, Early College Enrollment, Extended Learning Opportunities, or other programs approved by the Alabama State Department of Education. There are numerous scheduling options currently in place across the state (block scheduling, seven-period day, and six-period day).

Please know that I support innovation in its broadest sense, as long as we are addressing the needs of our students with a focus on college and career readiness, while fulfilling the regulations and laws as they apply to public education. Additionally, when considering early release for students, please ensure they are on track to meet all graduation requirements. For questions or more information, please contact Dr. Jimmy Hull, Assistant State Superintendent of Education, Career and Technical Education/Workforce Development, by telephone at 334-694-4876 or by email at jimmy.hull@alsde.edu.

EGM/JH/CF

cc:        City and County Counseling Coordinators
           City and County High School Principals
           City and County Career and Technical Education Directors
           City and County Secondary Curriculum Directors
           Mrs. Angela Martin
           Dr. Jimmy Hull
           Dr. Melissa Shields
           Ms. Dawn Morrison
           Mr. Sean J. Stevens
           Mr. Tony May
           Mr. Ken Sealy
           Dr. Mikki Crenshaw

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