

## **Student Early Release Program**

The Jackson County School System Early Release Program allows students to leave school early providing they meet the following criteria:

- Student must be a senior
- Student's course needs must fit the current local school master schedule.
- Student must have sufficient Carnegie units to graduate without carrying a full load.
- Student must take four classes during the senior day, two first term and two second term. Student must be in school for half the day. Any exceptions must be approved by the Superintendent
- The Counselor and principal must conduct a review of the student's transcript with the student and parent/guardian before requesting Superintendent approval for participation.
- Student's parent/guardian, principal and counselor must sign the early release approval form before the Superintendent signs.
- Student's under the age of eighteen must have a work permit and abide by the child labor laws. A copy of the work permit will be on file with the principal.
- The principal or his/her designee will contact the employer weekly to verify employment.
- If a student becomes unemployed, the student is to return to school immediately. The principal/counselor will make a schedule for the student. Student may return to the early release program upon securing employment. The process for participation must be completed again.
- Student must leave campus immediately following the student's final class. A student may return to the school campus for extracurricular activities only.
- Student must check in at the office at the appropriate time if having release time in the morning half of the school day.
- Student code of conduct will be in effect of early release students while on campus and attending extracurricular activities.
- Student may be removed from participation in the early release program when deemed necessary by the principal and/or Superintendent.

In order to assist students in meeting the rigorous academic and extracurricular demands of high school, offering them community service opportunities, providing university course offerings, and work apprentice education options, Jackson County School District will allow students to participate in our Early Release Schedule Program. In order to participate in the Early Release Schedule Program, students must strictly adhere to the following requirements:

- 1). No more than 6 unexcused absences from the previous school year. (May be re-examined at the end of 1st semester to qualify for 2nd semester).
- 2). Discipline requirements- No alternative school.

- 3). Complete ALL course requirements for graduation to date.
- 4). Be a senior upon application.
- 5). In general, students attend consecutive periods during the school day. Students SHOULD NOT be on campus except for those class periods in which a course is assigned.
- 6). For those students taking Dual Enrollment courses, the 12th grade counselor and principal will make scheduling arrangements to ensure that all required coursework is completed.
- 7). For those students participating in the community service/volunteerism portion of the program, each student must complete a minimum of 15 hours of community service each 9 week grading period. Each student is responsible for submitting verification of completed service hours. The student's high school will provide for 2 hours of volunteer work each week if a student wishes to volunteer. Any civic, church or community volunteer work will be acceptable.
- 8). For those students participating in the workforce, an apprentice program will be in place. Any student that leaves early for a job, must document the weekly hours worked. The hours will be checked by the school administration each grading period. If a student quits or is dismissed from their job, they must complete hours in community service/volunteerism program.

Any deviation from the aforementioned program and its requirements must be approved by the student's principal prior to implementation.