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ALTERNATIVE ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Notifications

At the beginning of each school year, the "Notice of Alternative Academic Programs" shall be sent to all parents/guardians as set forth in Education Code 58501.

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

Proposals

All proposals for the establishment of an alternative academic program or class group shall:

1. Address district program goals and academic standards

(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)

(cf. 6010 - Goals and Objectives)

(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)

2. Demonstrate that the number of students interested in enrolling in the alternative academic program is sufficient to meet desired student/teacher staffing ratios

(cf. 6151 - Class Size)

- 3. Demonstrate that teachers are willing to work within the program
- 4. Demonstrate that the proposed operational plan conforms with district timelines and makes equitable use of district staff, facilities and resources
- 5. Provide a statement of the specific anticipated costs of implementing the proposal as well as funding sources, including outside funding sources and/or district support
- 6. Include a comprehensive plan for a yearly evaluation of the program to be carried out by the district

(cf. 0500 - Accountability)

(cf. 6190 - Evaluation of the Instructional Program)

Enrollment

Students enrolled in alternative academic programs shall be selected entirely from volunteers. (Education Code 58503)

The district may establish alternative academic programs on a districtwide basis, with enrollment open to all students districtwide. (Education Code 58505)

(cf. 5116.1 - Intradistrict Open Enrollment)

Previous classroom performance shall not be a criterion limiting any student from the opportunity to attend an alternative academic program. (Education Code 58504)

A parent/guardian may request that a student's enrollment in an alternative academic program be rescinded at any time. Such requests shall be effective at the end of the school year in which they are received unless an

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earlier date is agreed upon by the principals of the schools involved or by the principal and teachers of the class groups involved.

Operations

The district shall maintain and fund alternative academic programs at the same level of support as other district educational programs for students of the same age level. (Education Code 58507)

To the extent possible, teachers employed in alternative academic programs shall be selected entirely from volunteers. (Education Code 58503)

Students who have satisfactorily completed the prescribed course of study for high school graduation in a district alternative academic program and have passed the state high school exit examination shall be awarded a diploma.

(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements) (cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)