

### **Alternative Education Notification**

The district will notify students and parents of the availability of alternative educational programs annually in the parent handbook and when students meet one of the following conditions:

1. A second or subsequent occurrence of a severe disciplinary problem within a three-year period. A severe disciplinary problem is defined to be that which results in a student's suspension for a full five-day period;
2. The district finds a student's attendance pattern to be so erratic that the student is not benefiting from the educational program. Erratic attendance is a degree of absenteeism greater than the statutory definition in ORS 339.065, "eight unexcused one-half day absences in any four week period," and greater than that allowed by the district's attendance policy definition of 85 percent attendance. Student attendance may be erratic with the student still benefiting from the educational program;
3. The district is considering expulsion as a disciplinary alternative;
4. A student is expelled pursuant to ORS 339.250 (3);
5. An emancipated minor or parent notifies the district of intent to withdraw.

This notification of alternative educational program availability shall be hand delivered or sent by certified mail and shall include:

1. A description of the student action which is the basis for consideration of the alternative educational program;
2. A list of alternative educational programs (two or more) available for this student for which the district would provide financial support (conditions 1 through 4 of the above paragraph). Condition 5, withdrawal under ORS 339.250 (7) of a student at least 16 years of age, does not require district financial support;
3. The program recommended for the student based upon the student's learning styles and needs;
4. Procedures for enrolling the student in the recommended program;
5. When the parent or guardian's language is other than English, the district will provide notification in a manner that the parent or guardian can understand.

Programs offered must be realistic and available to the student. They must maintain learning situations that are flexible with regard to environment, time, structure and pedagogy. Programs may include any of the following or a combination of the following: tutorial instruction, small group instruction, large group instruction, personal growth and development instruction, counseling and guidance, computer assisted instruction and supervised independent studies.

If a student, 16 years or older, voluntarily withdraws from school, the district must provide the same documentation of alternative educational programs. However, the district has no obligation to pay for such programs.

The district shall pay the actual cost of the alternative educational program or an amount that is at least equivalent to 80 percent of operating expenditure, whichever is less.

An annual evaluation of alternative educational programs and student performance will be made.

A district parent may request the establishment of a particular alternative educational program by making a written request to the appropriate school principal.

Notice will be given on an annual basis to all parents of the law regarding alternative education, alternative educational services available to students and district funding of alternative educational programs. This notice will be included in the student/parent handbook of each school in the district.